

# Parish of St. Ultan

BOHERMEEN –CORTOWN- BOYERSTOWN

Fr. Andy Doyle. P.P.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5<sup>th</sup> February 2023

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www.bohermeenparish.ie

Office Tel: 046 907 3805. Mon-Fri 9.30-1.00

'We are called to be a welcoming caring faith community who bring people to Jesus who sends us out with Good News for all'.

## IF THE SALT LOSES ITS TASTE...

Christians have done everything possible to sterilize the Gospel; you could say that they've drowned it in a neutralizing liquid. They've cushioned all that could impress, challenge or reverse. They have converted it into something inoffensive, this religion has been made prudent and reasonable, and we can't do anything except vomit it out. Where does this unworkable and cushioned Christianity come from?

The Church doesn't seem to be «a living organism of Christ's real presence», but a static organization and a place of self-nourishment. Christians don't have a sense of mission, and the Christian faith has strangely lost its quality of leavening. The Gospel lived out by Christians today finds nothing but complete indifference.

Christians have lost contact with the living God of Jesus Christ and have gotten lost in doctrinal questions.

Thus, they look for a lowered and comfortable Christianity. As Marcel More said: 'Christians have found a way to sit down, we don't know how, comfortably on the cross'. They forget that Christianity isn't a doctrine, but a life, an incarnation. And, when the life of Jesus no longer shines in the Church, there's hardly any difference between her and the world. The Church becomes a faithful mirror of the world, which she recognizes as flesh of her flesh.

Many undoubtedly will react to this blunt assessment, but it is hard not to recognize the base of truth toward which they are pointing: people see a Church that is lacking holiness, living faith, contact with God. We are lacking saints who scandalize because they incarnate

the crazy love of God, we are lacking living witnesses of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

These words remind us of the words of Jesus: 'You are the salt for the earth. But if salt loses its taste, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled under people's feet'.

*By José Antonio Pagola*



**Ministers of the Word** are needed for our three Churches. If you would like to read at Mass in Cortown, or if any readers wish to change their month, please contact Frances at 086 822 3845.

For Boyerstown, please contact Bernie Wall on 087 988 4203.

For Bohermeen, please contact Anne on 046 907 3805

**CANDLEMAS OFFERINGS**-This Sunday is an offering day. Please use the white envelope in your new box of envelopes.

**KINGSCOURT PARISH PILGRIMAGE 2023** will take place from Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> in honour of St. Anticio to Sardinia. The cost, inc. of return flight, half board, 3 day trip and all entrance fees is €1195.00 for all bookings received before Feb 17<sup>th</sup>. Book with Navan Travel at 046 906 8600. All enquiries to Kingscourt Parish office on 042 966 7314.



**Mass Intentions** Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> to Sun. 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2023

**Bohermeen Church**-Daily mass at 9.30am  
*(Funeral replaces Mass)*

**Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> Feb.**

Cortown at 6.00pm  
-Sarah Brady-9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Bohermeen at 7.15pm

-Christopher Bennett & dec'd family members  
-Matthew & Breda Reilly & Miriam McGrath-Ann. Mass

**Sun. 5<sup>th</sup> Feb.**

Boyerstown at 10.00am  
-Patrick Duffy-Ann.Mass

Bohermeen at 11.30am

-Helena Dallas-1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

**Mon. 6<sup>th</sup> Feb.**

Bohermeen at 10.00am

**Tues. 7<sup>th</sup> Feb.**

Cortown at 8.00pm-Divine Mercy Mass

**Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> Feb.**

Boyerstown at 6.00pm

**Bohermeen at 7.15pm-Our Lady of Lourdes & World Day of the Sick**

-Paddy & Cissy Herward-Ann. Mass

**Sun. 12<sup>th</sup> Feb.**

Cortown at 10.00am  
-Ollie & Lily Reilly-Ann. Mass

Bohermeen at 11.30am

-Malachy O'Halloran-6<sup>th</sup> Ann.  
James & Maeve Ward-Ann. Mass

**Ministers of the Word:**

Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> Feb: Sandra Coffey

Sun. 5<sup>th</sup> Feb: Lauren Finnegan

Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> Feb: Sandra Coffey

Sun. 12<sup>th</sup> Feb: DTiM Parent

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> Feb: Jennifer Reilly

Sun. 5<sup>th</sup> Feb: Sheila Kenny & Joe Murtagh

Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> Feb: Carmel McQuaid

Sun. 12<sup>th</sup> Feb: Kathleen Keating & Cathal O'Reilly

**PRAY** for Vincent Battersby, Cortown who died recently. May he rest in peace.

**Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of the Sick** will take place on Sat 11th Feb. Mass to celebrate the feast will take place at 7.15pm in Bohermeen with anointing of the sick.

**Finances - Thank You**

-We wish to acknowledge and thank all those who have sent in their Offerings and weekly envelopes and all those who pay by standing order. This really helps our finances. It is greatly appreciated. Offerings can be made by;

- leaving your weekly envelopes into the envelope boxes in the Churches or into the Parish Office.

- go online and do a weekly/monthly direct debit to **Bank of Ireland, Navan,**

IBAN IE04 BOFI 903509 8059 7424 BIC BOFIE2D

*(please include your box no.)*

**Building Fund €783.00 Priests Offerings €90.00**

**Offertory Collections: Bohermeen – €515.00**

**Cortown –€242.00 Boyerstown – €268.00**

**Thank you to all who contribute, collect and count.**

**Pope Francis want parishes to be 'schools of service' By Ivan Fernades**

A few years ago, Francis told the Italian diocese of Isernia-Venafro: 'Every parish community is called to be a privileged place of listening and of proclaiming the Gospel; a house of prayer around the Eucharist; a true school of communion.'

Listening, prayer, and communion: these are essential synodal characteristics for parish life. But to do this, they need to really be communities, with the people at the center, because we are truly a community when we know each other, know each other's names, needs, and voices.

How often is it the case that parishes have become a group of more or less unfamiliar people, who meet for Mass on Sunday, but without community life? It is a great challenge.

Being a Christian community is a grace, born from shared faith, from the lived experience of fraternity, and from welcoming those most in need; born from a shared spiritual experience, from an encounter with the Risen Jesus Christ.

