

Parish of St. Ultan

BOHERMEEN –CORTOWN- BOYERSTOWN

Fr. Andy Doyle. P.P.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

26th February 2023

e-mail:bohermeenparish1@gmail.com

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'.

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**Jesus was led by the Spirit** by Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap. *The Irish Catholic*

**40 days of Lent** On Ash Wednesday we commenced our 40 days of preparation before Holy Week. The ashes remind us of our mortality and the need to repent and believe in the Gospel. Lent brings a challenge to take an honest look at our life, where are we heading, where we can improve, what should we give up? Where do we compromise on our ideals? Are we half-hearted Christians who settle for the minimum?

If you are addicted to any of the i-gadgets ... the iPhone, iPod, iPad ... why not set aside one day each week as a Digital Detox Day. It might become an 'i-opener' in your life! Take on more time for prayer or good reading. Do something to raise funds for some charitable organisations.

**Be part of the synod** Pope Francis has asked us to go beyond ourselves so as to recognise that we are part of the body of the Church. Anybody can see that the Church is seriously wounded and in need of reform. We are invited to take part in a synod, literally meaning to walk together. To walk with whom? With one another, prepared to meet, listen and discern. To discern what?

Like the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, coming to know that the stranger on their journey was the Risen Lord. Returning to the opening line of today's Gospel: "Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness."

The synod is not about gathering opinions, counting votes, majority rule or making new rules, much less new doctrines.

This walking together is ultimately about discerning where the Holy Spirit is leading us.

**Ezechiel** I feel guilty that I am not involved in any group meetings. But I am consoled by remembering that the Legion of Mary has active members and auxiliary members whose task is to pray. My prayer is inspired by the prophet Ezechiel (Chapter 37). He consoled the exiled Israelites who said, "Our bones are dry, our hope is gone; we are done for".

Sounds a bit familiar, doesn't it? Perhaps our greatest temptation today is to lose hope. Ezechiel encouraged his people with a vision he had. He saw a valley strewn with dry bones. The breath (or spirit) of God entered them and they came back to life. "You will know that I am Yahweh, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, and put my spirit in you, and you revive." Jesus was led by the Spirit. So are we, but we must walk with the Lord to discern the presence of the Spirit.

### **Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

*Come, O Holy Spirit, breath of life. Come to us in our valley of dry bones. Come and renew the heart of the Church and the face of the earth. Enkindle within us the fire of your love*

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Special Collection for those affected by earthquakes in Turkey and Syria: The Bishops are taking up a special collection in all Dioceses in response to the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria. The collection will take place at all Masses on the weekend of **March 4th and 5th March.**

St Loman's Hospital Cemetery – Remembrance Mass:

Annual Mass of Remembrance will be held on Tuesday, 28th February 2023 at 3pm in St. Paul's Church, Delvin Road, Mullingar, in memory of people buried in St. Loman's Hospital Cemetery from 1907 to 1970 and to remember deceased patients and staff. Mass will also be livestreamed on www.mullingarparish.ie

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**Bohermeen Bog Committee** will hold a meeting on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 8.30pm in the Parish Centre. All welcome.  
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Mass Intentions Sat. 25th to Sun. 5th Mar. 2023

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

Sat. 25th Feb

Boyerstown at 6.00pm

-For dec'd residents of the Old Athboy Rd,
Adrian Bartley, Ultan Meehan, Michael Kerrigan,
Hugh Murtagh, Joan O'Sullivan & Noel Kerrigan

Bohermeen at 7.15pm

-MM-Jane Boland

Sun. 26th Feb.

Cortown at 10.00am

-Anna Cooney 7th Ann. & dec'd family members

Bohermeen at 11.30am

-James & Bridget McMahon

-James, Elizabeth, James & Shane Keenan

-Brendan Ryan

-Francis Mallon

-Raymond & Nora Clarke

Mon. 27th Feb.

Bohermeen at 9.20am-St. Joseph's Young Priests
Mass

Sat. 4th Mar.

Cortown at 6.00pm

-MM-Vincent Battersby

Bohermeen at 7.15pm

-Keith Smyth-7th Anniversary

Sun. 5th Mar

Boyerstown at 10.00am

-for the people of the parish

Bohermeen at 11.30am

-MM-John Monaghan

Ministers of the Word:

Sat. 25th Feb: Kevin McCormack

Sun. 26th Feb: Terry Connolly

Sat. 4th & Sat. 11th Mar: Helen Mallon

Sun. 5th Mar: Ray/Michelle Finnegan

Sun. 12th Mar: DTiM Parent

Eucharistic Ministers:

Sat. 25th Feb: Jennifer Reilly

Sun. 26th Feb: Julie Yore & Kathleen Keating

Sat. 4th Mar: Tracy Mulvany-Cahill

Sun. 5th Mar: Joe Murtagh & Cathal O'Reilly

PRAY for Andy (Sonny) Bennett, Neilstown who died recently. May he rest in peace.

Bohermeen AC Half Marathon will take place on Sunday 12th March from 11.00am. Further details to follow.

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 €572.00 Priests Offerings €140.00

Offertory Collections: Bohermeen – €373.00

Cortown –€140.00 Boyerstown – €198.00

Thank you to all who contribute, collect and count.

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**Accord Navan's Marriage Preparation Course**

**2023.** We are pleased to let you know that our course dates up to the end of June 2023 are now available for booking on the Accord Website. Couples can book here: <https://www.courses.accord.ie/booking/listing/meath> We are delighted to welcome couples back to in-person courses from 10/11 March 2023, at our Centre here in Navan. Dates for September – December 2023 will be posted once they are finalised.

**Congratulations** to all the boys and girls in our three primary schools who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Thursday.

**Thank you** to the boys and girls from 6<sup>th</sup> class in our three schools for their donations towards the flowers for the Confirmation Ceremony.

**Thank you** to Boyerstown Parents Association for providing refreshments after the Confirmation Ceremony.