

Parish of St. Ultan

BOHERMEEN –CORTOWN- BOYERSTOWN

Fr. Andy Doyle. P.P.



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

(Divine Mercy Sunday)

27th April 2025

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Office Tel: 046 907 3805.

Mon-Fri 9.30am-1.00pm

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

Statement from Bishop Tom Deenihan, Bishop of Meath on the death of Pope Francis.

The announcement of the death of the Holy Father on Easter Monday morning was a cause of sadness and shock, given his appearances over the past few days during the various ceremonies. At this time, I join with the priests, religious and people of the Diocese of Meath in praying for his soul, confident that the God of Mercy will welcome this faithful servant.

Many of the tributes written in the past hours emphasise his humility, compassion and courage. Humility came to the fore in rejecting many of the Papal vestments and the Apostolic Palace itself. One of my earliest memories of him as Pope was of his return to the guesthouse in Rome where he stayed before the conclave to pay his bill. I think that he may have felt to some extent imprisoned in the Vatican -his trips to a music shop near the Pantheon to select some CD's, his trips to an Optician near the Spanish Steps to get new glasses and his various trips to prisons, hospitals and parishes give a sense of a man who wished to be among the people. Pope Francis was before all else a pastor.

Being a Pastor informed many of the quotes that he is best remembered for, including 'Who am I to judge'. Above all, he was a prophet of mercy. Mercy, he said, was the 'air that we breath'. That sense of mercy was also communicated to the Confessors in Saint Peter's recently when he told them not to ask questions, to say they understood even if they did not and to grant absolution. The confession box was, he said, not to be a torture chamber! In 2014 he said that God forgives not with a decree but with a caress. It was interesting that he publicly professed

his own devotion to the sacrament of reconciliation frequently, even going to a confessor in Saint Peter's after being released from hospital recently. As well as advocating mercy, he also championed the virtue of joy. Christians, he said, should not look like people coming from a funeral!

Perhaps less commented on is the simple holiness of Pope Francis. Which of us were not moved in the early days of the COVID pandemic when he appeared in an empty and wet Saint Peter's Square holding the Monstrance in the shadow of the Icon of Mary from Saint Mary Major's Basilica that Romans have great devotion to and the Cross from the Church of Saint Marcello that Romans, since 1519, believe could save the city from fire and plague? The only acknowledgement of his presence in that empty and wet Square was a police car outside that turned on its siren. He was, essentially, the world's priest interceding for his people. That will be one of my stronger and more moving memories of him.

His embracing of the synodal path and his call to Catholics to 'enlarge their tent' is also an important catch cry for our time.

He also faced difficult challenges. The issue of dealing with child abuse continued in his papacy and his demands on bishops and superiors were clearly outlined in *Vos est Lux Mundi*. Failures in dealing with those complaints would, and have, result in deprivation of office. Indeed, that issue arose again during his visit here in August 2018 and saw him seeking forgiveness for the churches failings during the Mass in the Phoenix Park. I think that he was always mindful of the burden that accompanied his election, hence the regular call to 'pray for me'.

There was something appropriate in his passing on Easter Monday. The Church celebrating the Resurrection and a drive through Saint Peter's Square the day before to give the blessing to the church, the city and the world and him greeting the people of the world who saw him as a father, an inspiration and a man of holiness.

As we mourn him, may we be mindful of his challenge to us to care for the marginalised, the poor, our common home, the need to see beyond our own reality, the need to enlarge our tent and the call to holiness and the joy of the gospel.

Pope Francis certainly undertook that office of shepherd and was continually praying for peace in the Ukraine, Gaza and other places, all too many, where ordinary people found their lives upended by conflict. I think of the parish priest in Gaza that he rang nightly, even on Holy Saturday. They surely feel a great loss today.

I commend the Soul of Pope Francis to the Priests and People of the Diocese of Meath and ask that prayers be included in all Masses in the Diocese during the *Novendiales*, the nine day period of mourning a Pope.

A Mass will be offered for the repose of Pope Francis in the Cathedral in Mullingar at 7.30pm on Tuesday, April 29th.

May he rest in Peace.

Most Reverend Tom Deenihan. Bishop of Meath.



1936-2025 Rest in Peace.

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.
- Tap to donate machine located in the Church
- 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 €577.00 Priests Offerings €1381.00
Offertory Collections: Bohermeen –€650.00
Cortown –€308.00 Boyerstown – €216.00
Tap to Donate €20.00

PRO LIFE CAMPAIGN CHURCH GATE COLLECTION
26th & 27th APRIL 2025. The Pro Life Campaign promotes and defends human life at all stages, from conception to natural death.

TROCAIRE BOXES can be left in the baskets provided in the Churches or dropped off at the Parish Office. Converting the coins to notes would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

COLLECTION for the HOLY LAND will take at all Masses next weekend, Sat. 3rd and Sun. 4th May.

Ministers of the Word:

Sun. 27th April : Pat Farrell

Sun. 4th May: Rachel McCormack

Eucharistic Ministers:

Sun. 27th Apr: Joe Murtagh & Paul Murray

Sun. 4th May: Julie Yore & Trish Henry

Mass Intentions Sat. 26th Apr. to Sun. 4th May

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

Sat. 26th April

Cortown at 6.00pm

-John Casserly-3rd Anniversary

-Martin & Teresa Hogan

Sun. 27th April.

Boyerstown at 10.00am

-for the people of the parish

Bohermeen at 11.30am

-James Conway-1st Ann.

-Ann McManus-1st Ann.

-Deirdre Byrne

-Jim, Philomena & Sr. Marion English

-Elizabeth & Bernard McCabe

-Bridget, Patrick, Noel & Johnny Fitzsimons & Caroline Harten

Mon. 28th Apr.

Bohermeen at 9.30am

-St. Joseph's Young Priests

Thurs. 1st May at 9.30am

-Kathleen, John, Colm & Jim Kavanagh

Fri. 2nd May

Bohermeen at 9.30am

-First Friday

Sat. 3rd May

Boyerstown

11.00am-First Holy Communion

6.00pm-Mary & John Dolan and dec'd mem.
of The Dolan and Leonard families

Sun. 4th May

Cortown at 10.00am

-for the people of the parish

Bohermeen at 11.30am

May & Ronnie Lawlor

-Margaret Donaghy-5th Anniversary

