

**CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, FERBANE**

SATURDAY 22nd FEBRUARY - 7pm

1. Rita Kelly, her husband Paddy and their son Joe.
2. Jim & Betty Ryan.
3. Tony & Ella Kenny.

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY - 11am

1. Jimmy Lowry.

*Mon. 24th: 10am*

*Tues. 25th: 10am*

*Wed. 26th: 10am - People's Mass.*

*Thurs. 27th: 10am*

*Fri. 28th: 10am*

*Sat. 1st March: 10am -*

1. Beatrice Foley (*Months Mind*) and her husband Kieran (*11th A*).
2. John Egan and deceased members of the Egan & McRedmond families.

SATURDAY 1st MARCH - 7pm

SUNDAY 2nd MARCH - 11am

1. Agnes Holmes.
2. Bridie Devery.
3. Bernadette Devery and her parents John & Ellen.

**SS. PATRICK & SARAN, HIGH STREET**

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY - 12 noon

1. Jim & Mary Cox and their daughter Annie, Clononey.
2. Mary Connell.

SUNDAY 2nd MARCH - 12 noon

*Pray & Play*

1. Kathleen & Bernard Corcoran.
2. Thomas & Catherine Shea and deceased family members.

**ST. OLIVER PLUNKETT, BOORA**

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY - 9.30am

1. Joe, Paddy & Dinny Delaney and their parents Joe & Mary.

SUNDAY 2nd MARCH - 9.30am

1. Liam Shanahan.

**PARISH OFFICE** - Open every Wednesday from 9am-1pm and 2-5pm. Tel: 090 6454309 or email parishoffice@ferbaneparish.ie.

**COLLECTIONS** - *Sunday 16th February*  
 Offertory/Shrine €2,660.  
 Bank IBAN: IE39 BOFI 9016 3475 9072 05.

**MASSES** - All ceremonies can be heard on 106.5FM Parish Radio. Parish bulletin is available on www.ferbaneparish.ie.

**BAPTISM** - We welcome into our Christian Community Cody Kenny.

**HIGH STREET / BELMONT WOMEN'S GROUP** - *Monday 24th February:* Elaine Masterson, Chiropodist, Cloghan will deal with all feet problems in High Street Hall at 8pm. All are welcome.

**GALLEN UNITED** - *Lotto Draw* (Prize fund €10,300; Jackpot €2,100; Star Prize €8,200). Winning numbers were 1, 6, 19, 22. Bonus 17. No jackpot winner. Three match 3 winners. Next draw on Monday 24th February.

**FERBANE GAA** - *Lotto:* Winning numbers in last week's draw 7, 9, 13, 31. Bonus 5. No jackpot winner. Three match three winners. Next week's jackpot is €10,200. Next draw on Tuesday 25th February.

**COFFEE MORNING** - Continues on Wednesday 26th February in the Bridge Hall, Ballycumber Road at 10.30am. Bus as usual.

**PROGRESSIVE 25** - Cards every Friday night in Ferbane Heritage Centre at 9pm.

**NIGHT CLASSES in Moate Business College** - Commence on Tuesday 4th March in Moate Business College. Enrol through our website or on Tuesday 25th February from 7-8.30pm and classes will start the following week. Check out our full range of night classes on our website www.moatebusinesscollege.com or our Facebook/Instagram pages.

**BELMONT GAA 131 GRAND CANAL WALK** - Our main fundraiser this year is a Sponsored Walk along the Grand Canal Greenway on Sunday 16th March. It will start in O'Connor Park, Tullamore and finish in Shannonharbour. (*More details later*). Our sponsorship platform is now live, and if you wish to sponsor any of our participants the platform can be accessed through this link <https://belmontgaa.fundmajor.com/>. Our weekly bingo is on every Wednesday eve at 8pm. Books available in Cahill's shop until 9pm every Tuesday evening. Congratulations to all our winners. Thank you for your continued support as always it's very much appreciated. **Celebration Dinner Dance Medal Presentation** of Senior Hurling League, Junior A Hurling Championship and Minor A Football Championship medals on Sunday 16th March in the County Arms Hotel. Music by The LOLs. *More details to follow.*

**PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE: April 30th to May 7th 2025** - *Spiritual Director:* Fr Oliver Devine. *Group Leader:* Amy Guinan. €845 fully inclusive. *Phone:* 087 652453.

**ARDAGH AND CLONMACNOIS LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2025** - Led by Bishop Paul Connell, is open for booking now. May 30th-June 4th; from €969. For more details contact Joe Walsh Tours at 01-2410800 or email info@joewalshstours.ie. Pilgrims who would like to travel with the Special Assisted Section should apply to Margaret McDonald Tel: 086 3918577. **Nursing Staff for the Lourdes Pilgrimage** - Those interested in joining as a Nursing staff member for the Diocesan Pilgrimage are asked

to contact the local parish, or Pilgrimage Matron Margaret McDonald. Tel: 086 3918577.

**EMPLOYABILITY MIDLANDS** - Do you have a disability, illness or injury and would like help to find a job? If the answer is yes, you can contact Liam on 086 387 3047 or Patricia on 086 145 1074 and we will be happy to tell you more about EmployAbility Midlands service.

**FERBANE BELMONT CE** - Are you in receipt of a Social Welfare payment. We currently have vacancies on our scheme for 1 Groundsperson/Caretaker, 1 General Operative and 1 Caretaker Cleaner. Successful applicants will continue with all existing benefits with a scheme top up. All successful participants can also avail of training and upskilling. For more information call 090 6454068.

**SVP** - Confidential helpline 087 9272877.

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

‘Love your enemies’

The desire for revenge is a built-in feature of human nature. Our natural instinct is to strike back in response to some perceived harm or wrongdoing by another party, to give as good as we get, to ‘get even’, but Jesus offers us a radically different approach when He says: ‘Love your enemies’. He doesn't ask His disciples to ‘fall in love’ with their enemies, but to be stubbornly gracious to them. It's probably the most difficult command that He gave them and us. It goes against the grain and challenges conventional wisdom. It calls us to turn away from the path of hatred and revenge, which is ugly, dark, dreary and self-destructive. ‘If you seek revenge you should dig two graves, one for yourself’. (*Confucius*). Hatred and revenge have caused many problems in the human family, but they have not solved one yet. It is love alone that can deliver us a future. The great 16th century Spanish Carmelite mystic St. John of the Cross caught the beauty of the Lord's teaching when he said: ‘Where there is no love pour in love and you will draw-out love’. It's a high ideal. It's not easy to pardon the seemingly unpardonable, to love the seemingly unloveable. Christian love hurts and costs, but the reward is out of this world.