ST MARY’S PARISH NEWSLETTER - TARBERT



**Parish Office Opening Hours:**

 **Mon. 10.30am -2.30pm. Wed. 10.30am-1.30pm Priests :**

 **Fri. 10.30am-2.30pm Phone ; 068-36111.** **Fr. Sean Hanafin 087-8341083**

### Email: tarbert@dioceseofkerry.ie Fr. Michael Hussey 087-2386084

**Notices for Parish Newsletter have to be in on Safeguarding Children: 087-6362780 Wednesday by 12 Noon. Defib. Emergency No. 087-3315999**

**Webpage:** [**www.dioceseofkerry.ie**](http://www.dioceseofkerry.ie) **(Outside Surgery Hours)**

**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 5th September 2021**

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| **Day/Date** | **Time** | **Intention** |
| ***Saturday 4th***  | ***6pm*** | ***Connie Mackessy, Tarmons West. Months Mind.******Josie, Tommy, Bartley, John and Timothy O’ Connell,******Carhoona.*** |
| ***Sunday 5th***  | ***11.30am*** | ***People of the Parish.*** |
| ***Monday 6th***  | ***10am*** | ***Mass in Tarbert.******Margaret and Tony Courtney and*** ***Deceased Wallace Family Members, Tarmons.*** |
| ***Tuesday 7th***  | ***7pm*** | ***Mass in Ballylongford.*** |
| ***Wednesday 8th***  | ***\_\_\_\_\_*** | ***No Mass.*** |
| ***Thursday 9th***  | ***10am*** | ***Mass in Asdee.*** |
| ***Friday 10th***  | ***12 Noon*** | ***Funeral Mass*** ***Anna Marie Kearney ( nee Cregan ),*** ***Manchester / Ardmore.***  |
| ***Saturday 11th***  | ***6pm***  | ***Anne Marie McGibney, Tieraclea Park******and Deceased Keane Family Members, Leanamore.*** |
| ***Sunday 12th***  | ***11.30am*** | ***Tom Buckley, Doonard Lower, 1st Anniversary.*** |

**PRIEST ON DUTY THIS WEEKEND*: Fr. Michael Hussey 087-2386084.***

**PARISH OFFERTORY COLLECTION**  August - € 2,356 Maintenance Fund - € 490

 Online Banking - € 115 Míle Buíochas.

 **LIVE SERVICES** – All Masses are now being live streamed from our Church. Just go to the Church website – www.stmarystarbert.com and you can watch on your phone, tablet, computer or smart T.V. When you log in and see the picture of the Altar, just underneath this, click on the mute button and you will then have the audio as well.

**All four of our weekly Masses at St. Mary’s Church, Tarbert**

**can be viewed online at** [**www.stmarystarbert.com**](http://www.stmarystarbert.com)

**St. Mary’s Church will remain open from 9am to 7pm each day for private prayer.**

**CLOTHES COLLECTION –** The Shannonside Women’s Group will hold a clothes collection on Thursday 14th Oct. More details next week.

**Kerry Diocesan Virtual Pilgrimage to Lourdes - September 2nd to 7th 2021**

For the second time in half a century there will be no Kerry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes this year. Using the theme “Bringing Lourdes Home”, we will use these few days to prayerfully bring Lourdes into our hearts and into our homes. The pilgrimage will take place/streamed from different places in the Diocese over five days. The Pilgrimage Programme will be on the Diocesan webpage. It is great to be able to bring people together online for Lourdes 2021. Every member of the organising team and the wider Lourdes Pilgrimage community are hoping and praying they will be boarding flights at Kerry Airport once again this time next year. To join us click on the Kerry Diocesan webpage and there will be a new link each day for that day’s ceremony. <https://www.dioceseofkerry.ie/>

**A MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Normally, the Parish Finance Committee provides an update every quarter of the year, but it was not possible to do so in January and in April this year due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. However, the Audited Accounts for 2020 are available on the parish website www.stmarystarbert.com and they show that we met our goal to break-even. The Annual Income for 2020 was € 69,789 and Expenditure €69,815 , the miniscule deficit of €26 was easily paid from our reserve fund. However, please note that Income for 2019 was €86, 322, so the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has had a serious reduction in annual income in the region of € 16, 533.

The Draft Management Account for the first six months of this year, up to 30 June 2021, though not yet externally audited, indicate that we are on target to break-even again by the end of this calendar year. Revenue was €36, 474 and Expenditure was €31, 454, and so we have a surplus of €5, 020. These figures are good and they take into account the tax refund of 4,657 on the Charitable Donations Scheme for 2020 from the Department of Inland Revenue, and the on-going EWSS support of €7, 500.

Therefore, we have been able to maintain our services to the parish safely and within Covid-19 guidelines. We continue to meet our financial commitments including the payment of €2, 000 for the Rathmore Fund (that supports the sick & retired priests of the diocese), and the Diocesan Levy that we estimate will be in the region of €4, 500 (down from 7,400 in 2020).

The Church Maintenance Fund Collection continues to finance projects like the cleaning and painting of Our Lady’s Shrine in The Square, the purchase of a power-washer for keeping the exterior walls and pathways of the church clean, and it has been used extensively recently.

On behalf of Tarbert Parish, we wish to express our sincere gratitude to Sarah & George FitzGerald-Lennon & family of The Steeple Road, Tieraclea and Chicago, for donating the web-cam facility that enables Tarbert people everywhere to participate in Masses and other ceremonies celebrated here in our church. Also, we wish to thank the anonymous donor who provided the special device that emits a fine disinfectant spray into every nook and cranny in the church and thereby makes it a safe environment in which to pray, reflect, worship and visit.

Last year, the Maintenance Fund enabled us to install a new, safer and more energy and cost-efficient heating and lighting system in the church. This year, it will finance the replacement of a much deteriorated porch door at the main entrance to the church, painting and the elimination of any remaining trip-hazards. Also, it will pay for a Health & Safety Audit (a requisite for insurance purposes) that is planned for later this year.

The Parish Finance Committee will continue to be pro-active in managing the parish revenues and properties carefully, conscientiously and accountably under the guiding

principle of cost containment and reduction where possible. We are most grateful and deeply appreciative to all our fellow parishioners at home and abroad, and to visitors, for your continued generosity in supporting the spiritual heart and central sacred space of our parish.

John McMonagle (Chairman), Kitty Kelly, Paddy Creedon, Mary Holly-Holland, Gabriel McNamara, Amanda O’Sullivan, Séamus Enright, James Lavery, Fr Seán Hannafin, Dr Declan Downey.