

The Gospel reading, with the author’s typical brevity, here describes the 40-day retreat of Jesus in the desert and the temptations by the devil. The Lord’s first preaching is the call of the New Covenant. This preaching is our programme for Lent and life: to reform our lives and believe the Gospel.

***This weekend’s response to the Responsorial Psalm is:***

***Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love***

***For those who keep your covenant.***

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| **First Sunday of Lent 18/02/2024** | | |
| Please pray for Sean Diggins, Dublin; Hannah O’Neill (née Reen), Lissivigeen; Sheila Mitchell, Currow. May they rest in peace. | | |
| Priest on duty this weekend: Fr. Sean Jones 064 6631014/087 6501998 (for emergencies only). | | |
| **Masses for the coming week** | | |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Sat 17th Feb** | **7.30pm** | Maureen McCarthy R.I.P. Toremore  Pat & Ciss O’Connor R.I.P. Milleen | | | |
| **Sun 18th Feb** | **11.30am** | |  | | --- | | Memorial mass for Breeda McCarthy R.I.P.  Midleton | |
| **Tues 20th Feb** | **9.30am**  **10-6pm** | Mary Murphy & John Walsh, R.I.P. Co. Clare  Adoration |
| **Thur 22nd Feb** | **7.00pm**  **7.30pm** | Stations of the Cross  Private Intention |
| **Fri 16th Feb** | **8.00pm** | |  | | --- | | Life in the Spirit | |
| **Sat 24th Feb** | **7.30pm** | Denis O’Sullivan R.I.P. Glounacopple  John Joe & Mary Healy R.I.P. Clashnagarrane Timmy & Abbey O’Sullivan R.I.P. Knockreagh |
| **Sun 25th Feb** | **11.30am** | Jerome O’Connor R.I.P. Cloonteens (Months Mind) |

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| **24th & 25th February** | **Readers** | **Eucharistic Ministers** | **Altar Servers** |
| **Vigil 7.30pm** | B.Fleming | M.O’Connor  B.Fleming | M.O’Connor A.Murphy  C.O’Sullivan |
| **11.30am** | M.Janot | A.Murray  M.O’Sullivan | F.McCarthy  C.Lenihan R.Kiely |

**Offertory Collection:** €1,350. Second Collection: €720. Míle Buíochas.

**Parish Office:** Open: Tues, Wed & Fri 10.00am – 12 noon. Tel: 064

6643176 / Mobile: 087 1339732, e-mail [kilcummin@dioceseofkerry.ie](mailto:kilcummin@dioceseofkerry.ie)

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| **Lenten Calendar 2024:** This Lent, you are invited to pray with a line of God’s word each week and to express that word in action each day.  **1st Sunday of Lent:** Your ways, Lord are faithfulness and love.  ***Mon:*** *Thank God for the gift of love in your life, wherever you find it.*  ***Tues:*** *Pray for those who have forgotten how to love.*  ***Wed:*** *Fast from jealousy- love the giftedness in others.*  ***Thurs:*** *Remember those who have been betrayed.*  ***Fri:*** *Fast from water wastage-many live in places of drought.*  ***Sat:*** *Be a loving presence to all you meet today.* |

**Trocaire Boxes or Envelopes** are available in the church porches.

**The Stations of the Cross** will be said @7pm before Thursday evening masses during Lent.

**Life in the Spirit Seminars Kilcummin:** Continuing on Friday nights @ 8pm in Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Prayer, talks, testimonies and music. Everyone welcome, refreshments afterwards.

**Parish Gathering:** In his Pastoral Letter, "Moving Forward in Hope”, Bishop Ray invites all parishioners to participate in a consultation process to shape the future of pastoral areas and parishes. A consultation gathering will be held in our parish on March 4th at 7.30pm in the Recreational Hall. As preparation for the gathering, you are invited to reflect on the following three questions:

**1.** Without the presence of a priest to lead and coordinate, what aspects of parish life could we, the laity, take responsibility for and organise ourselves?

**2.** Where do we see scope for cooperation with neighbouring parishes in our pastoral area?

**3.** Given what Bishop Ray has said about reducing numbers and increasing age, what do we want to say to priests?

Many thanks for your support and assistance for this consultation.

**St.Pio’s Glove:** Blessing with St.Pio’s Glove will take place next Monday 19th February in the Church of the Resurrection @7.30pm.

**Life in the Spirit Seminars Kilcummin:** Continuing on Friday nights @ 8pm in Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Prayer, talks, testimonies and music. Everyone welcome, refreshments afterwards.

**Kilcummin Community Alert:** Our Annual Church Gate collection will take place on Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th February. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

**The Diocese of Kerry** will host a webinar, First Holy Communion – Journeying with your Child, on Wednesday, Feb 21st, for all parents and guardians of children preparing for First Communion. The guest speaker is Dr Patricia Kieran, parent and lecturer at Mary Immaculate College, Limerick. Register for the webinar on [www.dioceseofkerry.ie](http://www.dioceseofkerry.ie)

**Coolick National School** is delighted to launch its first online school lotto with a jackpot up to €2,000 to be won. 1 line €2.00, 2 lines €4.00 or 3 lines €5.00. To play, click on the following link [www.fundraiser.ie/org/coolickns/](http://www.fundraiser.ie/org/coolickns/)

**The Franciscan Friary Office & Bookshop** will close each day at the earlier time of 5.00pm from Monday the 19th February.

**St. Brigid’s Crosses:** A huge thanks to all the staff and students from our three schools who crafted beautiful St Brigid’s crosses for her special day. All offerings have been given to St. Vincent de Paul in Killarney which amounts to €605. This includes the Christmas Crib. Míle Buíochas.

**Killarney Ladybirds:** Enrolment for girls (5-7 years) Monday 26th February from 6-7pm in the Old Mon School, New Rd. For more information please contact Erika 086 1715549 or Jennifer 087 7918130.

**Reflection**

Lent is a time to learn to travel light,

to clear the clutter from our crowded lives,

and find a space, a desert.

Deserts are bleak; no creature comforts,

only a vast expanse of stillness, sharpening awareness of

ourselves and God.

Uncomfortable places, deserts.

Most of the time we’re tempted to

avoid them, finding good reasons to

live lives of ease; cushioned by

noise from self-discovery,

clutching at world’s success

to stave off fear.

But if we dare to trust the silence

to strip away our false security,

God can begin to grow His wholeness in us,

fill up our emptiness, destroy our fears,

give us new vision, courage for the journey,

And make our desert blossom like a rose.

