



A NOTE FROM FR. JIM....

About 20 years ago, I began attending a Catholic youth retreat called Youth 2000. These retreats are amazing. The slogan of Youth 2000 is: 'Youth leading youth back to the heart of the Church'. These weekends could see up to a 1000 young people from all over the country and indeed beyond. The age group attending these retreats are between 16-35. The retreats would have obviously the sacraments, guest speakers giving inspirational talks, workshops discussing different faith topics, sporting activities and so on. But for me the highlights were the testimonies. Where young people shared their experiences of how God came into their lives and changed them for the good. I was reminded of one of these testimony's when I read today's Gospel. 'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division'. When I heard this piece of scripture for the first time I was shocked and couldn't understand it, until I heard the testimony given by a young woman at one of these retreats. The young lady was working for Aer Lingus at the time. One of her colleagues happened to be a very happy person who radiated with joy and peace (something this woman lacked even though from the outside seemed to have it all). One day out of curiosity she asked her colleague why was she so happy and at peace? The woman shared how it was when she came back to the faith through an experience in Medjugorje that brought her this peace and joy and took her away from the sadness caused by her old life of hedonism and excess. Our friend eventually ended up going to Medjugorje herself and having the same transformative experiences. When she returned to Ireland filled with the spirit she firstly explained to her boyfriend that she truly loved him but that they could no longer live and sleep together because it wasn't what God desired for them and instead live a chaste courtship together. As you can imagine her boyfriend thought she had lost her mind and dumped her. Her non religious friends also distanced themselves from her. Even her own immediate family told her to cop on and get back to normal. The poor woman instead of finding peace she experienced the full force of truly living the Gospel. 'For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter' This lady discovered very quickly the cost of following Jesus in this dark world and true discipleship means a lot of suffering caused by standing up for the truth. But in the midst of all the upheaval she knew her soul was intact. She knew even though her life was in turmoil, that her inner peace was still there. Later her parents and family recognised that she had something special and they all returned to the faith as well. She made new friends and realised that without Jesus at the centre of her life everything else is meaningless. So today let's remember the words of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati (who will be canonised next month with Blessed Carlo Acutis) 'Peace comes from a clear conscience'. And we think too of the quote from Saint Pope John Paul II - 'Peace isn't the absence of war'. Peace is rooted in justice - He often quoted Isaiah's words, "Opus iustitiae pax" ("Peace is the work of justice"), meaning peace can only exist when people's rights are respected, and wrongs are set right. So if we want true peace in our lives and in the world then we need to be living in God's will. Encourage young people to check out Youth 2000 it will lead them down a path that will lead to true peace and joy.



Local Priest: Fr. Jim Lenihan, P.P.

Parish Office: St. Agatha's Parish Centre, Headford, Killarney. V93 X0C2.

Office Hours : Mon/Tues 10am to 3pm to book Masses, Baptisms, Weddings.

Email: glenflesk@dioceseofkerry.ie **Phone:** 064 7754008 **Mobile:** 087 108 1588.

GBC Radio: 98.6fm for all Masses from Glenflesk Church.

Masses: Saturday 16th to Sunday 24th August

St. Agatha's, Glenflesk:

Saturday 16th	6.00pm	Mass
Wednesday 20th	9.30am	Mass
Friday 22nd	7.30pm	Dan & Anne Murphy & their daughters Geraldine & Eileen, Lisnagrave, Headford

Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonkeen:

Saturday 23rd	6.00pm	Mass
Sunday 17th	9.30am	Tim O'Brien, Inch, Clonkeen (Anni)
Sunday 24th	9.30am	Francie Casey, Frehanaugh, Clonkeen (1st Anni)

Sacred Heart, Barraduff:

Sunday 17th	11.00am	Patrick PA O'Riordan, Annaghmore (Anni) Nora Burke (nee Kelliher), Carrigeen (Rec Dec)
Tuesday 19th	7.30pm	Mass
Sunday 24th	11.00am	Jim O'Sullivan, Barraduff Village (Anni) Kathleen Healy, Old Bridge, Headford (Anni)

PRIEST ON DUTY THIS WEEKEND: Fr. Kieran O'Brien 087 6501998

PRIEST ON DUTY WEEKDAYS: Monday Fr. Kieran O'Brien 087 6501998

Tuesday to Friday Fr. Jim Lenihan 087 1081588

NOTICES

COLLECTIONS: Offertory: €1,285. Thank you.

ADORATION: Every Monday in the Sacred Heart Church from 10 am to 1 p.m.

St. Agathas 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Our Lady of the Wayside 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

PRAYERS & SYMPATHY: To the family of Cormac Williams, Brewsterfield, Headford & to the family of Paudie O'Rahilly, Calmount, Headford who died during the week. May Cormac and Paudie rest in peace.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: For those in our parish who are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary, you are invited to renew your marriage vows at the 6pm Vigil Mass in St. Agatha's Church, Glenflesk on Saturday 30th August. Please contact the parish office with your details before 22nd August.