

## 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Parish of Ardfert

4 October 2026

### ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH, ARDFERT & SACRED HEART CHURCH, KILMOYLEY

Parish Priest: Fr Pat Crean-Lynch: 087 2200114

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Priest on duty this Sunday: Fr Jerry Keane: 087 2844649

#### Masses for week commencing Sunday 4 October – St Brendan's Church, Ardfert

|       |                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun   | 11.00 am           | Harvest Mass of Thanksgiving - Paddy (20 <sup>th</sup> anniv) & Nancy Kelly, (14 <sup>th</sup> anniv), Abbeylands, Ardfert; Pat Joe Dowling, Banna South, Ardfert (2 <sup>nd</sup> anniv); John & Mary Ellen Nolan, Ardahan, their daughter Mary, son Brendan, daughter-in-law Ciss and deceased family members |
| Mon   | 10.00 am           | Special Intention                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Tues  | 10.00 am           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Tues  | 11.00 am – 12 noon | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Weds  | 10.00 am           | Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Thurs | 10.00 am           | Mass for All the People of the Parish                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Fri   | 10.00 am           | May Barker née Griffin, Knockenaugh (8th anniv)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Sat   | 10.00 am           | Maureen Morley (20th anniv) and her husband William, Sackville                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Sun   | 11.00 am           | Mary & Florence McCarthy, Banna East; Paudie Boyle, Killeacle                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

#### Masses for week commencing Sunday 4 October – Sacred Heart Church, Kilmoyley

|     |         |                                                                                                                              |
|-----|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat | 7.00 pm | Harvest Mass of Thanksgiving                                                                                                 |
| Fri | 7.00 pm | David Twomey, The Ranch House, Ballymacquin (6 <sup>th</sup> anniv)                                                          |
| Sat | 7.00 pm | David Fenton, Waterford; D J Flaherty, Baltovin (3 <sup>rd</sup> anniv); Christina McGowan, Baltovin (4 <sup>th</sup> anniv) |

- ❖ We welcome into the Christian community Nia and Molly Mulrennan.
- ❖ Last Sunday's offertory collection: €1245; Capital Envelope Collection: €210.
- ❖ **October – A Month of Prayer for Priestly Vocations** (see leaflets and posters)

#### **The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary: 7 October**

The tradition of  **blessing roses**  on this day is an old one. Fr Pat will bless roses this coming Wednesday 7 October at the 10 am Mass in Ardfert and at all Masses the following days and next weekend. Anyone who would like to have roses blessed should bring them along to one of these Masses. It is recorded in the Annals of the Rosary that many favours have been obtained, both spiritual and temporal, through the virtue of these blessed roses. Indeed, we are told that thousands of sick persons have been cured by using them devoutly.

This feast was established by **Pope Saint Pius V** to commemorate the victory of the Christian naval fleet of the Holy League, which contained the Papal States, against the Muslim Turks of the Ottoman Empire at the **Battle of Lepanto** off the

coast of Turkey on **7 October 1571**. The Christian fleet was commanded by Don Juan of Austria. The Christian victory in that sea battle was a hugely significant one for the future of Christianity in Europe, in that if the Christians had lost that battle, much of Europe would probably be Muslim today. Saint Pius V, who was a Dominican and Pope from 1566 until 1572, credited Our Lady with the victory since on the eve of the battle he had recited the Rosary as he led a Rosary Procession, praying for success the following day. The Rosary was revealed to Saint Dominic (1170 – 1221) by the Blessed Mother about the beginning of the thirteenth century and is one of the most beautiful of all devotions. After the victory Pope Saint Pius V declared that "The Feast of Our Lady of Victory" would be celebrated on 7<sup>th</sup> October the following year (1572). He himself died earlier that year on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1572. His successor, Pope Gregory XIII, changed the title of the feast to "The Feast of the Holy Rosary". In 1960 Saint Pope John XXIII changed the title to "The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary". The feast is a celebration of the great prayer which the Rosary is, as we meditate on key events or moments in the lives of Jesus and his mother Mary.

This weekend we honour in particular Saint Francis of Assisi (1182 – 1226). Saturday (3 October) is the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death or passing from this world to the next while Sunday (4 October) is his Feast Day. After living a pretty carefree life and being known as a great 'party animal' in Assisi, Italy, in his teenage years and very early twenties, he experienced a great change of heart and started to live a poor and simple life characterised by great humility. Many people were attracted by his way of life and he gathered several followers around him with the result that he founded a new religious order called the Franciscans in 1209. He went on to become a very holy man who had the stigmata or wounds of Jesus Christ in his body for the last two years of his life on earth. He also had a wonderful love for all of God's creation and so he is the patron saint of the environment and ecology and of environmentalists and ecologists. He put in place the very first crib in Greccio near Assisi on Christmas Eve 1223, using live people and animals. He was canonised in 1228, just two years after his death.

After their foundation, the Franciscans quickly spread throughout Europe and came to Ireland in the first half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Among other places they came to Ardfert where Thomas Fitzmaurice, First Lord of Kerry, built a friary for them around the year 1253. We are very proud to have the ruins of this magnificent building in our parish.

We ask the Lord's blessing at this very special time on all Franciscans and other followers of this great saint and of his friend Saint Clare of Assisi (1193 – 1253). **Saint Francis of Assisi, pray for us.**