

the Faithful Departed on Sunday 3rd August at 11.30 am.

August at 11.30 am.

Mass will be in St. Joseph's Church, Aughavas for the souls of the Faithful Departed on Sunday 10th

Safeguarding Training: Full Safeguarding training for all clergy, Sacristans, Local safeguarding Representatives and all persons volunteering in church activities with children will be provided in July and September. Details of Dates and Location of training are as follows:

JULY, Wednesday 16th–Deanery: CARRICK on SHANNON VENUE: Community Centre, Leitrim Village TIME: 6.30pm–9.30pm (Tea on arrival)

JULY, Thursday 24th–Deanery: LONGFORD VENUE: Temperance Hall (Opposite Cathedral) N39 R9X8 TIME: 6.30pm–9.30pm (Tea on arrival)

SEPTEMBER, Thursday 11th–Deanery: GRANARD VENUE: Sacred Heart Primary School, Granard TIME: 6.30PM–9.30pm (Tea on arrival)

SEPTEMBER, Wednesday 17th–Deanery: Athlone VENUE: St Mary's Parish Meeting Rooms N37 VW35 TIME: 6.30pm–9.30pm

IONA INSTITUTE: The Iona Institute released a major report on the huge demographic challenges facing Ireland. We have a fast ageing population and a shrinking number of young people. The Iona Institute paper: "Religion Marriage and Fertility: shall the religious Inherit Ireland" points out that religious people are more highly motivated than the average to marry and have children. As society ages, this will become ever more important which means, paradoxically, that societies will need religious people very badly in order to survive and prosper. The entire paper can be found at www.ionainstitute.ie.

LOVEBOTH: Join the loveboth 5K your way this summer. Support moms & babies this summer by joining the **LoveBoth 5K Your Way**! Whether you walk, run, cycle, swin, or create your own 5K challenge, every step helps. Go solo or team up with friends , it's your 5K, your way! Spread the word, get sponsored, and help raise funds for women facing unplanned pregnancies and new mothers in need.

All of us

In addition to the inner circle of the Twelve, we are told today that Jesus appointed another 72 (12x6) and sent them two by two to the places he himself would be visiting. That is a good description of our Christian role. We are supposed to go first to prepare the ground, but the it is Jesus himself who comes to plant the seed of faith.

Jesus then goes on to give an instruction to his disciples. We, too, should be listening to his words. First, he points out that the harvest is great and there are very few labourers – few who are willing to do the harvesting work with Jesus.

This is a text that is often thrown at us during 'vocation' campaigns. We tend to hear it as a call for more priests, brothers or nuns. The challenge was being thrown out to all his followers to find more people to join in the harvesting work.

We have to be careful as we listen to these words not to exclude ourselves because we are middle -aged, or married, or already have a career. The words are addressed to all of us and call for some kind of response from every one of us. It is never too late to respond to the call.

It will require some reflection on our part, both as individuals and as communities, on how we should effectively share the Gospel with those around us and the harvesters that are so badly needed. Indeed, let us pray for vocations, but let us remember that every single one of us is being called to work in the harvest field and not just some chosen souls that are totally unknown to us.

Reflection

In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us about mission and vocation. It calls us to be simple and humble as we do our ministry. We should not be discouraged when people do not listen to us. As Pope Francis reminds us in the joy of the Gospel, every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God In Jesus Christ.

Offertory Collection: (28th/29th Jun	e) Aughavas €705.00	(29th June) Cloone €910.00
Pentecost Dues:	Aughavas €1545.00	Cloone €1970.00