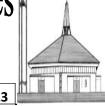


Aughavas & Cloone Parishes

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23rd July 2023

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly

Pray for the happy repose of the soul of Francis O'Neill, Gortletteragh, (brother of James, Drumcauskeen, Cloone), whose funeral took place in Mohill on Wednesday last; Jimmy Mulligan, Mount Ida, Cloone, whose funeral took place in Cloone on Friday last and John Gormley, Luton and formerly Drumhalla, Cloone, whose funeral takes place in Luton on Wednesday next, July 26th.

Masses:

Cloone: Sat. 22nd July. 8.00 pm. Eileen Mitchell, Clooneen and D.F.M. of the

Mitchell & McCabe Families.

10.00 am. Rosemary Creegan, Drumkeeran and Cloone: Sun. 23rd July.

Michael Creegan.

Aughavas: Sun. 23rd July. 11.30 am. Maureen McKiernan, Drumkerrib. M.M.

Mary, Packie & Patsy Moran and Patsy's son-in-law Michael Fallon, Aughalough and Dublin.

Michael & Mary Alice Kelleher and Luke Kelleher, Drumbinish.

Cloone: *Mon.* 24th July. 10.00 am.

Rossan: Tues. 25th July 8.00 pm. Feast of St. James, Apostle.

Aughavas: Wed. 26th July. 10.00 am. Feast of St. Joachim & St. Anne. Pro. Populo.

Cloone: Fri. 28th July. 10.00 am.

Cloone: Sat. 29th July. 8.00 pm. Michael Heslin, Streamstown. M.M.

Cloone: *Sun.* 30th July. 10.00 am. Mel Kelly, Ardlougher and his parents Tom

& Mary Kelly, Paddy Kelly, Marcella Murrin, Malcolm Hale & Katie Canning.

Aughavas: Sun. 30th July. 11.30 am. Patsy McCabe & D.F.M., Carrickavoher.

Tommy & Annie Meehan, Dromore.

Pat Kilkenny, Meiltron and Vincent Cochrane, Meiltron.

Eucharistic Adoration: Aughavas - Monday's from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

Cloone - Tuesday's from 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm.

Confessions: There will be confessions in St. Mary's Church, Cloone on Saturday next 29th July after 8.00 pm Mass.

There will be confessions in St. Joseph's Church, Aughavas on Sunday next 30th July after Mass at 11.30 am.

Cemetery Sunday in Cloone is Sunday 6th August at 11.30 am and in Aughavas on Sunday 13th August at 11.30 am.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival: Join young people between 16 and 35 years this August at the Youth 2000 Summer Festival. The festival takes place in Clongowes Wood College. Clane, Co Kildare from Thursday 10th August to Sunday 13th August 2023. The festival includes inspiring talks, music, prayer, concert, workshops, dramas, share groups, reconciliation and healing service and Mass. Donation only and we have buses going from all over Ireland. For more information and to book your place go to www.vouth2000.ie

Croagh Patrick Climb on next Sunday 30th July 2023 (Reek Sunday). To book your place on the bus, call Gerry Gallogly on 087 6860261 or Peter Casey on 086 1758060 before Monday 24th July.

World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly

On the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, Pope Francis gives us an opportunity to detach from the seemingly new and immediate and to honour those who teach us another way. The celebration falls on the fourth Sunday of July, the Sunday closest to the feast of Ss Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. This day is an occasion for us to slow down, to appreciate the wisdom of years past, and to thank those who have handed down to us the wisdom of years past. Our grandparents and the elderly put things in perspective and teach us that we are not alone. They themselves struggled, suffered setbacks and sorrows, but still found much joy in their lives. By looking back and reflecting, we can see that they are to offer us unparalleled advice and perspective.

Dealing with Weeds

We often live with the assumption that if we do good, work hard, and be nice, everything should work out as we want. That's the illusion with which the slaves in today's parable live. 'Master,' they ask the farmer, 'did you not sow good seed in the field?' Of course he did. That's why they are so surprised when they discover the weeds. The weeds have shattered their illusion. This isn't supposed to happen. 'Where, then, did these weeds come from? They want to know what happened and who is responsible. So do we. That's what we want to know when we discover weeds in our fields. We want an explanation and someone we can blame, hold accountable, and even punish, Jesus, however, seems less interested in this approach than we are. He doesn't give it much time or attention.

'An enemy has done this, he says. That's it. He doesn't explain it. He doesn't identify or name the enemy. He doesn't give instructions to find, drive out, and punish this enemy. Behind our desire for an explanation and the name of the culprit is a truth many of us neither like nor want to accept. It's one of the challenges of today's gospel. It's the challenge to become more than who we think we are. It's a challenge that arises every time we face the weeds of our life and world.

The reality, according to Jesus, is that our lives and our world are a field in which good and evil, life and death, joys and sorrows, that which we want and that which we don't want grow and live side by side. The wheat and the weeds stand together in our world and in each of our lives.

But what about those weeds? What do we do about them? Surely we should do something. Not according to Jesus. 'Let them grow together until the harvest,' he says, Jesus shows more interest in growth than extermination. He is willing to wait and to be patient. If we are his followers we too will wait and be patient amongst the weeds of our life.

Offertory Collection: (16th July) Aughavas € 535.00; (16th July) Cloone € 555.00.