

Church of the Holy Spirit Ballyroan

17th of March 2024

Fifth Sunday of Lent



Patrick- An ordinary man who lived an extraordinary life. Patrick was born about 389 and died in 461 AD. The main source of our knowledge of Patrick is from his own words, written toward the end of his life in his 'Confessio. We think Patrick's mother was called Concessa, and his father Calpornius, who was a deacon of the Roman Church, his grandfather Potitus, was a priest in his village in Britain (when the rule of celibacy was not widely enforced).

At a time of crisis for the Roman Empire, when soldiers had to leave Britain to return to Rome, Patrick, aged 16 was taken captive by pirates to the Kingdom of Connaught, to serve a master in Mayo for six years on Eagle Mountain and we refer to it today as Croagh Patrick. He worked as a shepherd, and it was during this time that he wrote about how often he prayed each day and that he heard a voice while he slept, telling him that he will return home as there was a ship waiting for him. Patrick made his way to the port in Wicklow and eventually persuaded the crew of a ship to take him on board as hired help. It was Gaul or France as we know it today, that the ship sailed to, and Patrick found refuge in an island cloister of Honoratus, a monastic settlement. Patrick in a dream heard the voices of the Irish asking him to return. There is a view that Patrick was concerned for the spiritual well-being of the unbaptised children in Ireland. Patrick returned to Gaul to prepare for his missionary work in the town of Auxerre, and to win the support of Church authorities for the work. Patrick had an understanding that he would need resources and the support of fellow workers to achieve his goals. He was ordained a deacon, but it would be 14 years later that he would set out for Ireland.

He was ordained a deacon, but it would be 14 years later that he would set out for Ireland. While preparing for his mission to Ireland in 432, he became the successor to bishop Paladius on his death and he was consecrated a bishop. Irish society at that time was primitive, land was divided into small districts, each owned by a tribe and at the head of each tribe was a king. So, when Patrick came to Ireland, King Laoghaire was on the throne of Tara, Patrick knew that any new bishop needed to secure the favour of the King, and it was an important success for Patrick's missionary work, when King Laoghaire decided to recognise the new Christian communities. Patrick made wonderful progress building up the Christian Church in Ireland as he was passionate, a man of deep faith conviction but also had great organisational skills. He founded the Church of Armagh, fixing it as the primatial church in Ireland as it remains today.

By Deacon Frank



Fr Michael and the parish team would like to invite anyone who would like to go to Knock on the 27th of April this year. We will be taking part in the Dublin Diocesan pilgrimage. We will be renting our own bus and there are other details to follow. It is a lovely opportunity to spend time together in a beautiful sacred place. If you are new to the parish and want to make new faith connections or for others it'll be memories made with old friends. All are welcome. Mary McDade will be officially taking names after mass next Tuesday and Wednesday. We look forward to seeing you all.



Active retirement singers meet

Sunday 24TH March in the Ruah Centre

@ 7.30

All are welcome to what is sure to be a fun night of music, laughter, tea and coffee!!!



Mass Intentions 16th March — 22nd March

Sat 7pm Conrad Murphy (M.M.) Roisin Borland (A)

Sun 10am: Thomas Boland (A) Mary Gleeson (R.I.P.)
Moife Dungan (A)

Sun 12pm: Special Intention (L) Mary Gleeson (A)

Monday : Pauline Meehan (R.I.P.)

Tuesday: Freda O' Sullivan Coyne (R.I.P.)

Wednesday : special Intention (L)

Thursday: Maureen Duffy of Ballyroan Heights who would have celebrated her 100TH birthday today (R.I.P.)

Friday: special Intention Deceased



Huge congratulations to all the girls who made their Confirmation from Scoil Naomh Padraig Last Friday. You did us all so proud. We hope you enjoyed the day filled with the love of the Holy Spirit. Thank you to all who made it such a special day. Especially the teachers and church Volunteers. Thank you

Parish Information

Parish Priest: Father Michael Murtagh

Deacon: Frank Browne

Parish Secretary: Mary McDade

Email: ballyroanparish@gmail.com

Parish Office: 01 4947303

Parish Office Opening hours:

Monday - Friday: 10.00am – 12.00 noon

Mass Times

Monday - Friday: 10am

Saturday: 7pm

Sunday: 10am & 12am