

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

GREETING

In the name of the Father.... **Amen.**
The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit**

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you have given us the consolation of the truth:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd, leading us into everlasting life:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
May almighty God have mercy on us....

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we, who believe that your Only Begotten Son, our Redeemer, ascended this day to the heavens, may in spirit dwell already in heavenly realms. Through our Lord Jesus Christ

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1: 1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked

him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, "Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 46:2-3. 6-9

R. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. or Alleluia!

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. **(R)**
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. **(R)**
3. God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. **(R)**



SECOND READING

Ephesians 4:1-13 (or*4:1-7.11-13)
A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

* I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Each one of us, however, has been given his own share of grace, given as Christ allotted it.* It was said that he would:

When he ascended to the height, he captured prisoners, he gave gifts to men.

When it says, 'he ascended', what can it mean if not that he descended right down to the lower regions of the earth? The one who rose higher than all the heavens to fill all things is none other than the one who descended. And *to some, his gift was that they should be apostles; to some, prophets; to some, evangelists; to some, pastors and teachers; so that the saints together make a unity in the work of service, building up the body of Christ. In this way we are all to come to unity in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God, until we become the perfect Man, fully mature with the fullness of Christ himself.*

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Go, make disciples of all the nations; I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 16:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

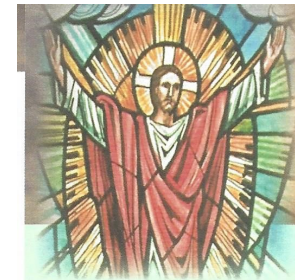
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

All bow for following two lines:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.



focus on sunday

Jesus has taken his place at the right hand of the Father. His entry into glory is a cause of hope for us: that when our time comes, we too, will follow Jesus into the glory of heaven.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters,.....
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS
We offer sacrifice now in supplication, O Lord, to honour the wondrous Ascension of your Son: grant, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we, too, may rise up to the heavenly realms. Through Christ our Lord.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

SANCTUS
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

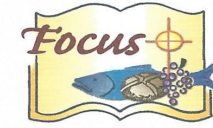
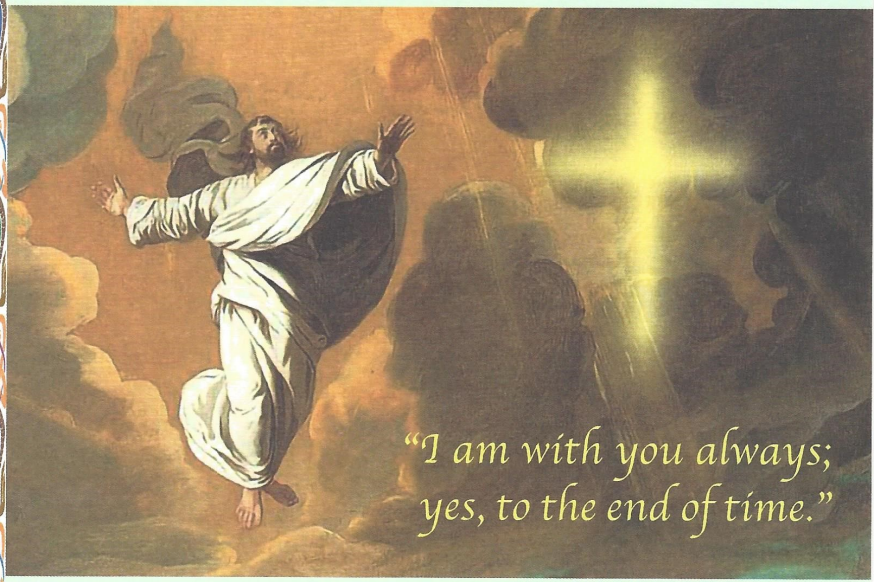
AFTER THE CONSECRATION
The mystery of faith.
We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Behold the Lamb of God,
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON
Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Almighty ever-living God, who allow those on earth to celebrate divine mysteries, grant, we pray, that Christian hope may draw us onward to where our nature is united with you. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.



I know some people whose work is never finished. They always seem to have something more to do – more tidying the house, more cleaning, more office work brought home. Sometimes we long for the day St John Newman talks of: 'when our work is done'. Jesus was something like that. He says that 'the work you gave me is finished' and ascended to heaven. But the gospel around Ascension time shows that it is not finished. He will be with us all days, still helping, consoling, and the centre of our faith community. Another way of the unfinished work is that he prays for us: he will pray for his apostles and later for 'all those who will believe through their work'. We are constantly in his thoughts and prayers, the one who is our lifelong companion.

Prayer is a work of Jesus now, and of the church. The apostles prayed after his going to his Father with Mary and several others. In bad times we have turned to prayer in confusion, almost going off the path of trusting in God. As we await the coming of the Spirit, we value prayer, the gift of the Spirit to us. If we have taught anyone to pray, or helped them to pray, we have given a great gift, as prayer is one of the sources of life of God and our neighbour.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger

Jesus' Story Fr. Liam Hickey
Long ago there was no Radio, TV, Computers, Ipods or Skype. Today people can talk and see each other even though they are miles and miles away. Jesus promised to come to us in a new way, when HE was going home to The Father in Heaven. He would send us His Spirit, to be with us. His Spirit is in every human heart now, and in every breath of wind.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, BALLYHAUNIS

PARISH NEWSLETTER 16th MAY 2021

Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Farragher, 094-9630006 / 087-9210305

Email: ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com Parish Office: 094-9630006

PARISH WEBSITE: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie>

PARISH RADIO: 105.2FM Newsletter on line: Parish website & www.mcnmedia.tv

Web-cam: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie> or www.mcnmedia.tv

Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) Jacinta Flynn, (contact the parish office)

Emergency numbers:

Knock: 094-9388100

Fr. Feeney, Ballinlough: 094-9640155

Fr. McGuinness, Bekan: 094-9313937

ANNIVERSARY MASSES 17th - 23rd MAY 2021

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am. Saturday 7.30pm.

Nan, Jack & Thomas Regan, Killinaugher

Susan Keane, Crossbeg, Tooreen

Pado Moran, Ballindrehid

Michael & Mary Delia Waldron, Andrew & Delia Greally, Ballindrehid

Ted, Delia, Etta, Kieran & Siobhán Healy, Holywell, & decd. of the Grogan family

Gerald Cleary & decd.

Julia & Robert Lilly, Tully

Bernie Joe Lyons & decd.

Val, Sharon & Anita O'Dowd, Station Rise

Pat & Hannah O'Dwyer, Abbey St.

T.J. & Mary O'Dwyer, Tallow, Co. Waterford

Mary & William Burke, Abbey St.

Jarlath Kelly, Derrynacong

Michael Murray, Doctor's Road

Anthony Coyne & decd. Leenane

Timothy Lavin, Lavallyroe

Patrick & Nell Winston, Ballinlough

Paddy & Ita McCormack, Gurteen, Cloonfad, & decd. of the Glynn family, Bushisland

Bridget & Andrew Devine, Derry

Bertie Mulligan, Hazelhill

Mamie & Michael Curley, Main St., & decd. of the Curley family

Leoncio Neves da Costa, Brazil

Sunday 10.00am. Month's Mind: John Cleary, Johnstown

17th - 23rd MAY	READERS	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST
Monday	Martin Fitzmaurice	Joe Byrne, Mary Sykes
Tuesday	Mary Donnelly	Teresa Healy, Helen Freeley
Wednesday	Tommy Caulfield	Margie Gallagher, Margaret Byrne
Friday	Christina Concannon	Willie Broderick, Mary McGuire
Saturday 7.30pm.	Brendan Donnellan	Tim Byrne, Seamus Mulrennan
Sunday 10.00am.	Maura Murphy	Miriam Judge, Aileen Burke

Recently Deceased

We remember in our prayers

Muriel Sweeney (née Higgins), New York & formerly The Square

Ann Coyne, Carrmack, Logboy, sister of Alice Ruane, Bargarriff

Matt Gilligan, Claremorris, uncle of Anne Freeley, Ballindrehid

Morgan O'Connell, Tuam, brother of Fr. Conal O'Connell

Offertory Collection

9th May 2021

€1,280

All weekday and weekend Masses, and the daily rosary at 9.00pm continue to be broadcast on parish radio 105.2FM and streamed on the parish webcam: <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-patricks-church-ballyhaunis>

Please use the lighters for lighting candles as the hand sanitiser is highly flammable.



MASSES:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am.

Saturday Evening Vigil: 7.30pm.

Sunday: 10.00am.

CONFESSIONS:

Before Saturday Vigil Mass

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday: 10.30am. - 1.00pm.

BAPTISMS

Saturdays & Sundays 11.00am.

Minimum of two weeks' notice required. Contact the parish office, 094-9630006, for updates due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions.



RE-OPENING OF OUR CHURCH FOR MASSES:

Now that restrictions have been lifted up to fifty people are permitted in our church for Masses. We are very grateful to all who have volunteered to resume or take up duty as ushers, sanitisers, etc. and we would welcome more new volunteers who are in a position to help out. Please contact Fr. Stephen or the parish office and we will include you in the roster for duty.

While the church building and ancillary buildings (toilets and sacristy) will be sanitised before and after each Mass or ceremony, we want to stress that if you manifest any of the symptoms of Covid-19, if you have any underlying health issues, or feel that you might be endangering your health by entering a church building, then we encourage you to continue to join us on parish radio 105.2FM or on the parish webcam:

www.ballyhaunisparish.ie/webcam

Again we want to stress that:

- The main door of the church will open half an hour before each Mass/ceremony.
- The limited available seating will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. If you find that on your arrival at the church all the available seating is full, and you wish to receive Holy Communion, we encourage you to return to your car and join in the Mass on your car radio. You are asked to avoid congregating outside the church. At the end of Mass, follow the directions of the ushers and line up outside the south wall (Super Valu side) of the church.
- The available pews on both side aisles will be reserved for family groups (3 - 6 persons).
- Ushers will be available to direct people and to ensure social distancing. We ask that Mass goers co-operate with the ushers and avoid confrontation.
- Please avail of the hand sanitisers on entering and leaving the church.
- You are obliged to wear some form of face covering while in church - even if you have received the vaccine.
- The distribution of Holy Communion will take place at the end of Mass. The celebrant and two Eucharistic Ministers will take up positions at the back of the church. Those inside the church will receive Holy Communion first and exit by the main entrance and the side door on the north side. Face coverings should be removed prior to receiving Communion.
- Communion will then be distributed to those outside the church. Ushers will direct you through the side door on the south side (Super Valu). You will receive Communion and exit by the main entrance or north side door (sanitising your hands as you leave). Eucharistic Ministers will remain on for a short time after Mass to distribute Communion.
- Because the Sunday obligation has been dispensed with for the present, we encourage those of you who can attend weekday Mass to do so and to stay away at weekends in order to facilitate those who are unable to attend during the week.

"Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation." May Christ be asking you to discern a vocation to proclaim the Gospel as a priest or consecrated religious, speak to your local priest or Diocesan Vocations Director, or email the National Vocations Office: email: info@vocations.ie

Letter from Archbishop Michael Neary on Updated Government Advice on First Holy Communion and Confirmation Ceremonies

Dear Father,

Further to my letter of 30th April, I write today to bring to your attention updated advice on First Holy Communion and Confirmation ceremonies published on the government website gov.ie. The latest advice, in the section entitled "From 10 May" reads as follows:

Resumption of in-person religious services. It is advised that other religious ceremonies such as First Holy Communion and Confirmations should not take place in May and June. Further advice will follow on resumption of these ceremonies when it is safe to do so.

You will note that this is much more specific than what was published on 29 April, and what was given by the Minister for Health by way of written response to parliamentary questions on Tuesday, 11 May:

However, the public health advice remains that other religious ceremonies such as Communion and Confirmations should not take place at this time.

I am very conscious of the confusion this has generated, and the debate among people with sincerely held, but differing interpretations on the best way to proceed. I am grateful to those who have contacted public representatives and others in order to resolve the confusion, and for communicating these efforts to me. While some people contacted the Diocesan Office and respectfully asked that no such ceremonies would take place in June, an unusually high number of callers who were following the media debates, pleaded that they would proceed. I know that the latest advice from government will be a cause of disappointment for them, and to many of you who have begun to make plans. However, nobody wants to cause harm to or put others in a situation where they may become infected with the coronavirus.

Therefore, in light of the latest public health advice, I feel it is prudent to suspend all plans for First Holy Communion and Confirmations until further guidance is issued.

I thank you for your patience and understanding in what is a challenging and uncertain time. As soon as any further advice comes to hand, I will share it with you.

With the Lord's blessing and the protection of Our Lady of Knock. Yours sincerely, Michael Neary, Archbishop of Tuam

WEEKLY ENVELOPES: Sincere thanks to all who are returning their weekly contributions either by envelope or by direct debit. Envelopes can be returned at any of the daily Masses or otherwise can be dropped in the letter box of the Parochial House. If you wish to set up a direct debit, the account details are as follows: Ballyhaunis Parish Church. BIC: ULSB IE 2D IBAN: IE69 ULSB 9852 7005 5200 31

COMMUNITY (PAROCHIAL) HALL RENOVATION PROJECT:

Ballyhaunis Community Council is delighted to announce that work has commenced on the renovation project and will be ongoing throughout the summer. The main hall is available in a limited capacity in the short term while work is under way on the new extension. The Community Council regrets any inconvenience this may cause to regular users of the Hall but looks forward to having a modern community venue when works are complete. Contact details: ballyhauniscommunitycouncil@gmail.com Website: www.ballyhauniscc.ie