

Granaghan Parish News

Sunday, 11th October 2020 – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH OUR PARISH
PRIEST FATHER CHARLIE KEANEY WHO WILL
BE TURNING THE BIG 70 ON 11TH OCTOBER,
A VERY WONDERFUL AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

GOSPEL: St Matthew 22:1-14: PARABLE OF THE WEDDING BANQUET: 'Many are called but few are chosen'

In today's Gospel, Jesus compares the kingdom of God to a royal wedding banquet. Just as there are invited guests to the banquet in the parable, we, God's children, are invited guests in His kingdom, through the sacrament of Baptism. We are all familiar with receiving invitations of one sort or another. An invitation is not a demand: we can accept or decline. Even in accepting, we can make a choice – to accept half-heartedly or to enter into the spirit, purpose and joy of it. Today's parable calls us to reflect on the *quality* of our response to God's invitation to us: does it reflect a positive yes to the building of His kingdom? Is it sometimes half-hearted, reflecting the response of the man in the second part of today's parable, who attended the wedding banquet but did not wear a wedding garment?

We pray today that the quality of our 'yes' to God's invitation will be such that it will inspire others in their response and, one day, having played an active part in building His kingdom, we will be invited guests in God's heavenly banquet.

DEATH

We offer our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of **Christopher Stewart**. May he rest in peace.

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to Dervla McMaster and Seamus O'Neill and Ciara McNicholl and Kevin Mulholland who celebrated the Sacrament of Matrimony recently.

SPECIAL MASS

Pregnancy and Infant/Child Loss Awareness Week 9th-14th October. Mass of the Angels will be Monday 12th October at 7.30pm. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be no lighting of candles this year.

GENERAL NOTICES

LESLEY'S ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING FUNDRAISER FOR MACMILLAN.

Due to COVID-19 Lesley was unable to host her annual coffee morning to raise vital funds for Macmillan. However there was a collection box in place for anyone in the community wishing to donate. The total raised this year was £245 bringing the grand total of Lesley's 6 years of fundraising to just over a staggering £5,500. This will pay for 28 days of Macmillan Specialist Cancer Nursing. Thank you all for your generous contributions over the years.

OCTOBER - MONTH OF MISSION

'TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE' (Theme for Mission Sunday 2020, which we celebrate next Sunday, 18 October)

"Understanding what God is saying to us at this time of pandemic represents a challenge for the Church's mission. Illness, suffering, fear and isolation challenge us. The poverty of those who die alone, the abandoned, those who have lost their jobs and income, the homeless and those who lack food challenge us. Being forced to observe social distancing and to stay at home invites us to rediscover that we need social relationships as well as our communal relationship with God.....And prayer, in which God touches and moves our hearts, should make us ever more open to the need of our brothers and sisters for dignity and freedom, as well as our responsibility to care for all creation. The impossibility of gathering as a Church to celebrate the Eucharist has led us to share the experience of the many Christian communities that cannot celebrate Mass every Sunday. In all of this, God's question: "Whom shall I send?" is addressed once more to us and awaits a generous and convincing response: "Here am I, send me!" (Is 6:8)." **Extract from Pope Francis' Message for Mission Sunday 2020 'Here am I, send me'**. The full text of the Pope's Message can be seen on the World Missions Ireland website, www.wmi.ie

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH (MISSION SUNDAY) COLLECTION: There is a special envelope in your box for this collection which is due next Sunday. The proceeds of the Mission Sunday collection are channelled through World Missions Ireland, which is the official support organisation for the overseas mission of the Irish Catholic Church, bringing the prayers, solidarity and financial help of the Church in Ireland to Christian communities in countries in other parts of the world, who are in much need of our help. **St Thérèse of Lisieux**, pray for us. **St Francis Xavier**, pray for us.

OCTOBER is a month of special devotion to Our Lady and, in particular, to praying the Rosary. The Rosary invites us to reflect on the great mysteries of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, whose Mother, Mary, said 'Yes' to God's will and, in so doing, became a model in faith for all of us. You are encouraged to make special effort to recite the Family Rosary in your homes during this month. Parents, in particular, are encouraged to teach and pray the Rosary, or a decade of the Rosary, with their children. ***Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.***