

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sat	07 Jan	7.30pm	Michelle Patchell.
Sun	08 Jan	10.00am	Month's Mind — Billy Dunne. Thomas & Kathleen Armstrong. Mai Murphy, Landenstown. Mary Ennis, Firmount, Clane. Margaret Gannon & remember her husband Noel & their daughter Áine.
Mon	09 Jan	9.30am	Special Intention.
Tue	10 Jan	9.30am	Catherine Rynne.
Tue	10 Jan	10am to 12noon	Eucharistic Adoration after Mass.
Wed	11 Jan	9.30am	Communion Prayer Service
Thur	12 Jan	9.30am	
Fri	13 Jan	9.30am	
Sat	14 Jan	7.30pm	Timmy Brien. Martina McGovern & remember her son Frankie.
Sun	15 Jan	10.00am	30th Anniversary Hugh Cash. Liam William O'Connor & deceased members of the O'Connor family. Mona Casey & remembering also her husband Paddy.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Betty Sheehan, Baldoyle, Co. Dublin (sister of Monica McGrath)

Michael Cash, Naas and late of Maynooth Road, Prosperous

Our sincere sympathy to their families at this sad and difficult time.

## PROSPEROUS PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office is open to the public

Monday / Tuesday / Thursday / Friday from 10am to 12noon.

Mass Intentions can be booked by calling 045-841806 or

Emailing parishoffice@prosperousparish.net

Please remember to leave your phone number with your message.

## May God's Blessing be with You

May God always be present before you to show you the right way.  
May God always be at your side to hold you in His arms and protect you.  
May God always stand behind you and protect you from the evil blows of men.  
May God always be under you to catch you when you fall and to pick you up.  
May God always be within you to comfort you when you are overwhelmed with grief.  
May God always be around you to defend you when others attack.  
May God always be over you and bless you.  
Amen.

PARISH OF CARAGH



## *Church of Our Lady and St. Joseph Prosperous*

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8th January 2023

No. 1272

## Gospel Reflection for Children:

What do you remember from today's reading?

**Gospel reflection:** What do you remember from that reading?

John baptises Jesus in the river, and there is a voice from heaven that says something important. Whose voice do you think it is? What does God say?

Water is very important. It is used in baptism to show that we are starting a new life with God.

But there are many other ways that we use water every day. How many can you think of? Tell me what they are.

That's a lot of water! Are there any ways that we could save water so that we do not waste it? *Eg turning the tap off when cleaning our teeth, using rain water to water the garden etc.*

Fabiano is a boy who lives in a country called Uganda. In Uganda, the weather is often too dry to grow plants and it can be hard to get water.

Fabiano needs water to grow vegetables to eat and to sell. He used to walk to the next village for water, because there were no taps in his own village. Fabiano had to carry the heavy buckets home. It was a long way and hard work.

With CAFOD's support a water pump was built in Fabiano's community, powered by a solar panel that gets its energy from the sun. Now Fabiano can easily fill his watering can. His vegetables are growing very well!

We all need water to live but many people around the world don't have clean water to drink. Or they have to travel a very long way to get any water at all. Can you imagine what that would be like?

**What do you think we could do to help more people like Fabiano and his family?**

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood.”

### PRIEST PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office: **045-841806**

Fr. Bernard Reyhart **085-2325095**

Our Diocesan Website is [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

Our Website is: [Prosperousparish.net](http://Prosperousparish.net)

Parish Email: [parishoffice@prosperousparish.net](mailto:parishoffice@prosperousparish.net)

### Safeguarding children

#### Parish Designated persons:

Máiread Harman & John Dunne

Contact through Parish Office on 045-841806

#### Diocesan Safeguarding Director:

Ms. Kathleen Sherry Tel: 085-8021633

Email: [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Sat **07 Jan 7.30pm:** Kevin Kiernan

Sun **08 Jan 10.00am:** Marie Gordon

Sat **14 Jan 7.30pm:** Caroline Ennis

Sun **15 Jan 10.00am:** Mary O'Mahoney

### MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Sat **07 Jan 7.30pm:** Angela O'Dwyer

Sun **08 Jan 10.00am:** Gay Blake

Sat **14 Jan 7.30pm:** Des O'Doherty

Sun **15 Jan 10.00am:** Siobhan Mullins

### Collections

**24th / 25th December**

**Envelopes €1347.70 Basket €1971.00**

**31st December / 1st January**

**Envelopes € 707.00 Basket €415.93**

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration continues every Tuesday from 10am to 12 noon and is also available via our webcam.

### THE LITTLE WAY

#### 2023 CALENDARS

€5 Each - Available from

**THE PARISH OFFICE PROSPEROUS**

All proceeds go to 'The Little Way'

Cancer Support Centre, Clane

iCatholic Player can be accessed via  
[www.icatholic.ie](http://www.icatholic.ie)

### THANK YOU

**A huge thank you to all who helped make our Masses over Christmas so special.**

### USED STAMPS

Don't forget to drop off all your used stamps to the Parish Office and we will send them on to St. Patrick's Missionary Society, Kiltegan.

### ALONE are seeking volunteers

Would you be willing to provide companionship or make calls to Older People once a week? ALONE are seeking volunteers in your area. Full training and support provided.

If interested please sign up here:

<https://alone.ie/volunteers/>

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We welcome back our young children preparing for First Holy Communion to our Mass this Saturday night. We continue to pray for them and their families.

### HOLIDAYS

Fr. Bernard is away on holidays for the next month. We wish him a well deserved rest, a joyful reunion with his family in Sri Lanka and a safe return to us again in February.

We are very fortunate to have Fr. Kolwani here with us so our mass schedule will remain unchanged. If you need a priest while Fr. Bernard is away please contact the parish office or ring 087-2554908 for the priest on duty.

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

#### Ceremony of light

Wednesday 8th February at 6pm

#### Confirmation

Saturday 25th March at 10am & 11.30am

#### First Holy Communion

Saturday 13th May at 10am & 12 Noon

### The Spiritual Testament of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

The Holy See releases the Spiritual Testament of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, dated 29 August 2006.

#### My spiritual testament

When, at this late hour of my life, I look back on the decades I have wandered through, I see first of all how much reason I have to give thanks. Above all, I thank God Himself, the giver of all good gifts, who has given me life and guided me through all kinds of confusion; who has always picked me up when I began to slip, who has always given me anew the light of his countenance. In retrospect, I see and understand that even the dark and arduous stretches of this path were for my salvation and that He guided me well in those very stretches.

I thank my parents, who gave me life in difficult times and prepared a wonderful home for me with their love, which shines through all my days as a bright light until today. My father's clear-sighted faith taught us brothers and sisters to believe and stood firm as a guide in the midst of all my scientific knowledge; my mother's heartfelt piety and great kindness remain a legacy for which I cannot thank her enough. My sister has served me selflessly and full of kind concern for decades; my brother has always paved the way for me with the clear-sightedness of his judgements, with his powerful determination, and with the cheerfulness of his heart; without this ever-new going ahead and going along, I would not have been able to find the right path.

I thank God from the bottom of my heart for the many friends, men and women, whom He has always placed at my side; for the co-workers at all stages of my path; for the teachers and students He has given me. I gratefully entrust them all to His goodness. And I would like to thank the Lord for my beautiful home in the Bavarian foothills of the Alps, in which I was able to see the splendour of the Creator Himself shining through time and again. I thank the people of my homeland for allowing me to experience the beauty of faith time and again. I pray that our country will remain a country of faith and I ask you, dear compatriots, not to let your faith be distracted. Finally, I thank God for all the beauty I was able to experience during the various stages of my journey, but especially in Rome and in Italy, which has become my second home.

I ask for forgiveness from the bottom of my heart from all those whom I have wronged in some way.

What I said earlier of my compatriots, I now say to all who were entrusted to my service in the Church: Stand firm in the faith! Do not be confused! Often it seems as if science - on the one hand, the natural sciences; on the other, historical research (especially the exegesis of the Holy Scriptures) - has irrefutable insights to offer that are contrary to the Catholic faith. I have witnessed from times long past the changes in natural science and have seen how apparent certainties against the faith vanished, proving themselves not to be science but philosophical interpretations only apparently belonging to science - just as, moreover, it is in dialogue with the natural sciences that faith has learned to understand the limits of the scope of its affirmations and thus its own specificity. For 60 years now, I have accompanied the path of theology, especially biblical studies, and have seen seemingly unshakeable theses collapse with the changing generations, which turned out to be mere hypotheses: the liberal generation (Harnack, Jülicher, etc.), the existentialist generation (Bultmann, etc.), the Marxist generation. I have seen, and see, how, out of the tangle of hypotheses, the reasonableness of faith has emerged and is emerging anew. Jesus Christ is truly the Way, the Truth, and the Life - and the Church, in all her shortcomings, is truly His Body.

Finally, I humbly ask: pray for me, so that the Lord may admit me to the eternal dwellings, despite all my sins and shortcomings. For all those entrusted to me, my heartfelt prayer goes out day after day.

*Benedictus PP XVI.*

### ACDAL

Maynooth University and Kildare Libraries writer in residence Fiona Scarlett will be offering a series of five writing workshops from Monday 30th January—Monday 27th February from 6—9pm in ACDAL, Allenwood Enterprise Park. Each workshop will focus on an element of writing craft and on developing your unique voice as a writer. Absolutely no writing experience is necessary and all are very welcome. Everyone has a story to tell, and only you can write it. Places are limited so please express your interest immediately at [caraclancy@acdal.ie](mailto:caraclancy@acdal.ie)

Bio: Fiona Scarlett is from Dublin's fair city but is now living in Kildare with her husband and two children. Her debut novel Boys Don't Cry was published by Faber & Faber in April 2021 and was an instant Irish Times Bestseller. It was shortlisted for Newcomer of the year in the Irish Book Awards, and the Kate O'Brien First Novel Award. It was selected as NetGallery UK's Literary Fiction book of the year. She holds an MLitt in creative writing with distinction from the University of Glasgow. She is currently working on her second novel.