



The Baptism of the Lord.

Come to the water. Today we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus, the moment when God reveals who Jesus is. Our readings are rich with water imagery. Water is a powerful symbol throughout the Scriptures, from the story of creation and the crossing of the Red Sea, to the wedding feast at Cana and Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well. It is a symbol of life and newness, an opportunity for God to reach out to us, be present with us and teach us something, as well as an opportunity for cleansing and a fresh start.

Our gospel today tells of Jesus being baptised by John in the river Jordan. This immersion in water marks the beginning

of Jesus' ministry. By approaching John for baptism, along with all the others, Jesus is identifying with the people and allowing himself to be counted among sinners. It is a sign that he is submitting to God's will. At this crucial moment, as soon as he emerges from the Jordan, Jesus sees the heavens open and the voice of God confirming him as 'Beloved Son'. It is a moment of divine approval, confirming Jesus' identity and launching him on his new mission.

The baptism of Jesus is a reminder of our own identity and mission. We are beloved daughters and sons of God, sisters and brothers of Jesus, members of God's family. In today's first reading we are invited: 'Come to the water all you who are thirsty'. We are called to the water, to that moment when we recognise who Jesus is, who we are, and our mission to live as children of God. 'In order to live a life of holiness, we must first receive new life from God — we must be born from above.'

All Masses in Kilronan Parish will be on Local Radio and on Facebook on Kilronan Parish until further notice. No congregation can be present. Churches may remain open for private prayer.

Sacraments and devotions: All other ceremonies cease for the duration of Level Five including Baptism and the Sacrament of Penance.

Funerals: With effect from 24th December up to 10 mourners may attend at a funeral service.

Weddings: From Sunday 3rd January 2021 the number of guests permitted to attend is reduced to 6. Hand sanitising, social distancing on entry and exit and all other regulations are to be followed.

Anointing of the Sick and First Friday Calls: anointing of the sick may take place when invited by the family and taking all the necessary precautions of hand sanitising, social distancing, face covering and anointing with a cotton bud. First Friday calls **are not to take** place under Level 5.

St. Ronan's Lotto Results. There was no winner of the lotto jackpot when the draw was held at the weekend. The numbers drawn were 4,10,22 and 26. Consolation prizes were won by the following €70 John Reynolds, Arigna, €30 Tommy Lynch, Arigna. €20 Margaret Gaffney, Arigna, €20 Rebecca Flanagan. Ballyfarnon, €20 Tommy Lynch, Arigna. The jackpot next week will be €9,900 and the draw will be held on Sunday evening. Our lotto tickets are now available online. Visit www.stronansгаа.com or St. Ronan's GAA Club Facebook page for further information.

Weekend Masses Saturday Vigil in Ballyfarnon at 7p.m.
Sunday at 10a.m. in Arigna and In Keadue at 11.30a.m.

Weekdays: Keadue Monday 10a.m. Pro. Populo. **Arigna** Tuesday & Wednesday at 10a.m. **Ballyfarnon;** Thurs. 10a.m. (only)

Ballyfarnon Anniversary Masses

Sat. 9th: Peter Joe & Elizabeth McDonagh.
Anna Gaffney, Cashel.

Sat. 11th Nuala Sheeran.

Keadue Anniversary Mass

Sun. 10th Tony McCabe

Arigna Anniversary Masses

Sun 10th Kevin & Margaret McLoughlin,
Seltanaveeney.
& Leo Wynne.

Tues. 12th Francie Leydon
& Liam Leydon, Kilkenny.

Sun 17th John Thomas Flynn, Cartron.
Claire Guihen, Knockadrynan.

