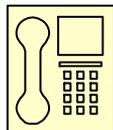




**CHURCH OF ST. COLMCILLE KELLS  
CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION GIRLEY**



**SUNDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2021**



**PHONE LINES**

Fr. David & Parish Office: 046/9240213; Email: [info@kellsparish.ie](mailto:info@kellsparish.ie)  
Fr. John: 046/9240842 Email: [jplowebyrne@gmail.com](mailto:jplowebyrne@gmail.com)



**PARISH OFFICE - OPENING HOURS - COVID RESTRICTIONS**

The Parish Office is open from  
Tuesday to Friday - 10am - 1pm  
Phone & Email queries we can deal with outside these hours.



**INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE ON KELLS WEBCAM**

Fr. John will continue his introduction to the Bible. This time he will introduce the Gospel of Mark. (If people do not have a full Bible or a New Testament, a number of copies of Mark's Gospel are available, free of charge, in the Parish Office). The webcam sessions will be on Mondays and Thursdays at 12 noon. Each session will last 20-25 minutes.  
You can access the talks as you would the Mass each day on [www.kellsparish.ie](http://www.kellsparish.ie)

**Recently Departed**

Julia Therese Maddison (nee Quinn), The Deaconry  
Paul Tormay, Climber Hall

**Mass Intentions for Kells**

- Sat (Feb 6) 6.30pm - 3rd Ann - Tony Friary, Loyd  
- 4th Ann - Johnny Madden, Cakestown also Gerry Madden  
- 2nd Ann - Carl Gibney, Bective St  
- 9th Ann - Bridie Lang, Suffolk St  
- Anniv - Kevin McAuley  
- Anniv - Sean Campbell
- Sun (Feb 7) 11.00am - MM - Alice Doyle, Cross St  
(GIRLEY) - Anniv - Donie, Peter & Kathleen Smith & Greta Lynch, Drewstown
- Mon (Feb 8) 9.30am - Deceased members of Shine & Haughey Families
- Tues (Feb 9) 9.30am - Private Intention & Holy Souls
- Wed (Feb 10) 9.30am - Anniv - Ann & James Coyne, Allenstown
- Thurs (Feb 11) 9.30am - Intentions of Pope Benedict
- Sat (Feb 12) 10.00am - MM - Martin Lawrence, Swords & Headfort Grove  
- Anniv - Rose Grant, Columba Terrace
- Sat (Feb 13) 6.30pm - 2nd Ann - Philip O'Connor, Townparks Manor
- Sun (Feb 14) 11.00am - MM - Paddy Doyle, Canon St  
- Anniv - Mary Clarke & Deceased members of Clarke Family, Navan

**Anniversary Masses:**

James & Mary Casserly, Springville  
Stephen Tormay, Climber Hall  
Joan Horgan, Kells  
John Horgan, Toronto  
Mary Farrelly, Maperath  
Owen Farrelly, Grangegodden  
Christopher, Annie & Michael Rourke, St. Patrick's Terrace, Maudlin Road

Offering Envelopes



**CANDLEMAS OFFERINGS - TODAY SUNDAY FEBRUARY 7TH**

Kindly use the WHITE envelope from your Box

**COLLECTIONS**

Weekly Envelopes: €1,287.50 ; Plate Collection: € 225.00  
Thank you to all those who have sent in their weekly envelopes and  
all those who continue to pay by standing order.

**LOTTOS**

Kilmainham - €4,300  
Gaeil Colmcille - €12,000

## ST. BRIGID—MARY OF THE GAEL

February the first is the feast day of St. Brigid who, with St. Patrick and St. Columcille, forms the Trinity of Patron Saints of Ireland. She has been called the Pearl of Ireland.

The strength and sweetness of Brigid's personality has radiated through 14 centuries and inspired thousands of Irish nuns, especially our magnificent missionary Sisters, with a blend of piety, practicality, cheerfulness and courage, largeness of heart and broadness of outlook.

The daughter of a chieftain named Dubhtach and a bondswoman named Brocessa, Brigid was born in the village of Faughart, two miles north-west of Dundalk, in or about the year 450.

Before Brigid was born, her father had sold her mother into bondage to a druid, who placed her on his farm somewhere near the present Dundalk. Slave-girls, as we know from the confessions of St. Patrick, had to endure many hardships and indignities, especially when they chose to become Christians against the will of their parents or masters.

By sheer nobility of character the little Brigid overcame all the handicaps of her situation. She seems to have been of a most generous and exuberant nature, especially loved by the poor for her many acts of kindness. Many legends, which must have had some foundation in fact, tell of her remarkable kindness to animals and their fondness for her.

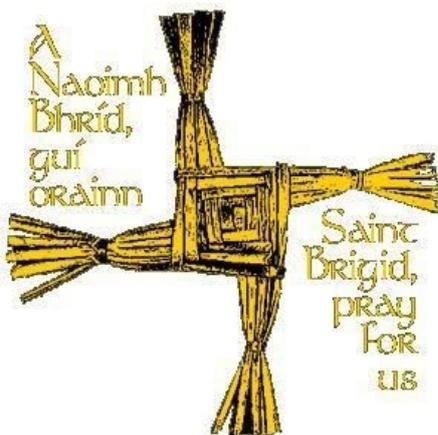
As a young woman her beauty resulted in many offers of marriage but Brigid wished to give her undivided attention to God in committing to religious life. Brigid took the Beatitude "Blessed are the merciful" as an area in which she wished to excel.

Her first religious settlement appears to have been Westmeath. From then she passed to Magh Aor, but at the request of the men of Leinster, she established a community at Drum Craith, or Crioich, about the year 470. "There", says the chronicler, "under a great oak tree, which she loved, she built her cell, round which she wattled huts of her community. Hence came the name Cill Dara, or Kildare, the Church of the Oak."

It must be remembered that St. Brigid's "convent" was not one large building in the modern sense, but like the monasteries and the early Franciscan communities, it was a collection of hut like cells, whose members came together only for community exercises.

Brigid's convent at Kildare soon developed into a religious centre of great renown. It's school of metal-work was famous, and it supplied bells and croziers and sacred vessels to many monasteries throughout the country.

After a long and fruitful life Brigid died on February 1, 523, and in accordance with her own wishes, she was buried at the right hand side of the main altar of her own church in Kildare.



### *Prayer to St. Brigid*

Lord, you inspired in St. Brigid  
Such wholehearted dedication to your work  
That she is known as Mary of the Gael;  
Through her intercession  
Bless our country,  
May we follow the example of her life and  
be united with her and the  
Virgin Mary in Your presence,  
Through Christ Our Lord,  
Amen.