

PARISH CENTRE: 22229/22779; CATHEDRAL PRESBYTERY: 22505

BÓTHAR-NA-NAOMH PRESBYTERY: 22688.

PARISH WEBSITE: www.thurlesparish.ie

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Bóthar na Naomh: Saturday 6.30 p.m.; Sunday: 9.30 a.m. & 11.30 a.m.

Cathedral: Saturday 7.30 p.m.; Sunday 8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m. & 12 noon.

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER: Sunday @ 7.00 p.m. in Bóthar na Naomh Church.

MASS TIMES FOR LENT 2017: Usual Daily Mass Times.

LENTEN GARDEN – a visit to the Cathedral Apse will afford the opportunity to reflect prayerfully on our journey through Lent towards Easter.

TRÓCAIRE BOXES Available at the back of both churches. With your support, Trócaire will deliver humanitarian aid to up to one million people in crisis this year.

HEARING HAPPENING HOPING – PRAYING THE SCRIPTURES FOR LENT will continue on next Monday evening at the later time of **7.30 p.m. in Lámh Chúnta**. All are welcome to this prayerful reflection upon next Sunday's Gospel.

POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARD: Closing date for the 2017 Pope John Paul II Awards is March 31st 2017. Return to Diocesan Office or contact Fr. Vincent @ 22688.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES: Dublin August 22 – 26 2018 – National Collection will take place 1st/2nd April 2017 to help fund this occasion.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) – THE NEXT STEP:

Our series of talks during Lent continue on **Thurs. March 23rd in Lámh Chúnta**. You are most welcome to join with us as we gather in **Lámh Chúnta @ 7.30 p.m.** (concluding @ 9.00 p.m.) on:

- **Thurs. Mar. 23rd: Noirín Lynch – Christ alive in us today.** Noirín is a pastoral worker with Limerick Diocese. She also works as a Cross Professional Supervisor, facilitator and occasionally sings a few songs.
- **Thurs. Mar. 30th: Sr. Betty Baker – Clarifying how People and Priests work together using a PPC Model.** Sr. Betty, a Salesian Sister, has engaged with parishes of the Diocese of Limerick in the setting up of PPC's.

We look forward to having you with us.

FATIMA APOSTOLATE & HOUR VIGIL: Pallottine Chapel, Fri. March 24th @ 7.30 p.m.

URSULINE ASSOCIATES: Meeting Monday March 20th @ 8.00p.m.

EARTH HOUR: Cathedral bells will ring to announce Earth Hour (8.30 to 9.30pm) Sat. March 25th. You are invited to turn off all non-essential lights during this hour.

ORDER OF MALTA: Table Quiz, Arch Bar, Fri. March 24th, 8.30 p.m. €20 per table.

ACTIVE RETIREMENT: Wed., March 22nd, 11.00 a.m., Order of Malta Rooms.

UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS: PARISH CENTRE:

Tues. Mar. 21st 2.30p.m.: 'Stations on the Square' Planning Group.

Tues. Mar. 21st 8.30p.m.: Parents Baptism Preparation Meeting.

UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS – LÁMH CHÚNTA:

Mon. Mar. 20th 7.30p.m.: Reflections on the Scriptures for Lent.

Thur. Mar. 23rd 7.30p.m.: Parish Pastoral Council Evening Three.

NEWLY BAPTISED: *Cole Shane Melvin Beatty, Desmond Tce., Kickham St.*Fabian Michalowski, Bohernanave. *Emelia Rose & Jim Bear Dalton, Dublin. *Frankie Matthew Walsh, Kilkenny.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION March 11th & 12th 2017.

Cathedral: €2,472.00; Bóthar na Naomh: €2,323.00.

Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2016

	2016 €	2015 €	Variation %
Income			
Offertory collection	240,694	241,247	-0.2%
Shrines/candles	55,035	54,150	1.6%
Charity tax refund	51,016	25,123	103.1%
Parish Centre	11,310	12,279	-7.9%
Other income (including donations etc.)	11,237	13,622	-17.5%
	<u>369,292</u>	<u>346,421</u>	6.6%
Expenditure			
Salaries	106,465	108,640	-2.0%
Requisites, candles	37,381	40,163	-6.9%
Maintenance, repairs, cleaning, decoration	32,010	32,104	-0.3%
Heating, lighting, phone, postage & stationery	53,302	53,272	0.1%
Parish insurance, rent (2015 Rent €7,200)	19,795	26,995	-26.7%
Other expenses	34,052	32,336	5.3%
Common fund shortfall (collected €161,847)	0	0	0.0%
Other collections shortfall (collected €35,027)	21,522	26,274	-18.1%
	<u>304,527</u>	<u>319,784</u>	-4.8%
Surplus / (Shortfall) for year	<u>€64,765</u>	<u>€26,637</u>	

The Parish is showing a surplus of €64,765 for 2016 compared with a surplus of €26,637 for 2015 with the gross income up 6.6% to €369,292 (2015 €346,421), and reflects the benefit of increased charity tax refund claims facilitated by envelope contributions to the Offertory Collection.

The net spend on maintenance, repairs and decoration of €32,010 is consistent. The 2015 figure of €32,104 is after credits of €24,585 for insurance claims.

The collections for the support of Priests (active and retired) go directly to the Common Fund. Our Parish reached its target of €161,847 for 2016, (2015 target was €165,700) reflecting the generous response of Parishioners, to our special appeal before Christmas.

We also had targets for the other collections (Diocesan Needs Appeal, Education of Priests, Peter's Pence and Missions) on which there was a net shortfall of €21,522 (2015 €26,274). All collection shortfalls must be funded out of Parish income.

Funds raised under the Parish Development Plan (Building Fund) are accounted for separately and periodically reported (monthly) in our Parish newsletter.

We thank sincerely all Parishioners for their generous support in so many ways during the past year.

Rev. Martin Hayes

Rev. Tomás O'Connell

28th February 2017

Accountants: Patrick C. Horan & Co.

RECENTLY DECEASED: †Ellen Lennon, Cluain Airne. †Maura McCullagh, née Small, Ballinahow, Ballycahill & Tarmon Drive. †Josie Molumby, née Gooney, Fertiana, Holycross.