

Castleconnell - Ahane - Montpelier

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The Ascension of the Lord

The feast of the **Ascension** is not a commemoration of the Lord's departure from this world or his friends but of his presence in a new way. The resurrection was not simply the reversal of his death and a return to old times. It was a radical transformation of his existence. By asking **Mary** not to cling to him when they met near the tomb, the risen Lord was not repudiating her love and concern but indicating that since he was changed there would have to be a new way of relating to him. The new way of relating to him is faith in his resurrection.

Mass Intentions Next Weekend

Castleconnell

Sat May 19th - 7.30pm - The Fitzgibbon Family (Woodpark)
Sun May 20th - 9.30am – P.I.
Sun May 20th - 11.30am - Tim, Bridie & Noel Collins (Ann)

Ahane

Sat May 19th - 6.00pm – Margaret Fitzgerald (Ballyvarra).
Sat May 19th - 6.00pm - Joan Kelly (Ann)
Sun May 20th - 11.00am. - Curly & Eileen Connolly (Ann)

Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday from 10am -10pm.

Rest in Peace

Pray for the repose of the soul of: Patricia Meaney, Clooncommons, who died during the week.

1st Holy Communion – Lisnagry N.S.

Next Saturday, **May 19th** the children of Lisnagry N.S. will celebrate their 1st Holy Communion in St. Joseph's Church, Castleconnell, at 11am. We extend our prayers and blessings to each of the children on this very special day in their lives. Our thoughts and best wishes to their families, class teachers and assistants and all who in any way encouraged the children along their journey of faith.

Milford Hospice 5km Memorial Walk - May 20th

Milford Hospice 5km Memorial Walk will take place next Sunday **May 20th** at University, Limerick @ 12 noon. This event is suitable for those of all levels of fitness & ability. It is necessary for everyone to register for the event on www.eventmaster.ie alternatively contact fundraising Dept. at **061-485859**.

Exam Mass – Saturday - 19th May

The Annual Exam Mass will be celebrated in Castleconnell Church next Saturday, the **19th May 2018 at 7.30 pm**. The Pastoral Committee of Ahane, Castleconnell and Montpelier Parish would like to take this opportunity to wish all who are sitting exams every success in their endeavours in the coming months.

Killaloe Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Bishop Fintan Monahan will lead the 62nd Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes from Shannon Airport on **Tuesday 26th June returning on Sunday 1st July. €695** full board for online booking at www.ioewalstours.ie or (**€705** for paper booking). Special section for sick or assisted pilgrims at a reduced price. Early booking advisable. Full details from **Fr. Tom Ryan Pilgrimage Director 061-364133**.

Lough Derg 2018:

Season opens for **One Day Retreats from May 6th - May 28th**. Advance booking is essential. Tel +353 (0) 71 9861518 or email info@loughderg.org
Why not take some time and space for yourself on Lough Derg this May?
(**Three Day Pilgrimage Season begins on Friday 1st June.**)

The 8th Amendment to the Constitution

By proposing the repeal of the 8th Amendment to the Constitution and the effective abolition of rights for boys and girls in the womb up until the age of 12 weeks the Oireachtas Committee is being shamefully regressive. When human rights are violated, there is usually a predictable process. One common step is dehumanisation, referring to humans in ways that obliterate their humanity. Regarding abortion, we use a medical term for a stage of development instead of the simple word baby. Yet no one I know has yet been greeted by a friend with these words. Congratulations when is the foetus due.??

A few words from the Parish Priest

When the first disciples were sad and fearful, trying to discern how to carry on the mission of Jesus, they thought long and hard about the gifts they would need. This might be a timely moment to think about the gifts that each of us need for our vibrant Christian life. Certainly we would be blessed with the gifts of **reverence, wonder and awe** as we think about the incredible power and love of God. We will need some **discernment** and **Wisdom** to help us renew our lives and our Church. We can all use some of the **Peace** in our hearts that Spirit brings and lastly some of that incredible **Joy** allowing us to rejoice that God is with us day by day. Do try and give some time in your personal prayer this week to ask for a **renewal of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in your life, in the parish and in the Church.**