

Dunleer Parish Bulletin

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Sun Jan 10 th 11 30	Frank and Mona Cavanagh Michael and Jean Logue Mal Browne Benny and Paddy Carrie Brigid Mackin and Dec'd of Caffrey family Michael and Mary Keaney. Thomas Keaney Michael Dowd Brian Carroll Josie Reynolds 1 st Av
Mon 11 th 10 a.m.	Oliver Pluck
Thurs 14 th 10 a.m.	Philip Grogan
Fri 15 th 10a.m.	Nancy and Paddy Simpson and dec'd of family.
Sat 16 th 10 a.m.	Nellie Fitzpatrick
Sat 16 th 7 30 p.m.	Eoin Carney Teresa and Thomas Landy
Sun 17 th 11 30	Patsy Patricia, Joe and Kathleen Meehan Michael McCabe and Dec'd of Cunningham family Rose Dowd Thomas and Brigid Flynn and Kathleen Farrell.

Pray For Amy Mallon, mother to Vivienne Hand Paughanstown, died in Co Armagh and for Chris Bonar, Donegal, mother to Barry Bonar Rathescar. R.I.P.

There are important moments in a person's life which change the direction or character of that life. There are moments of choice and celebration or of destiny or tragedy, moments which change our lives into 'befores' and 'afters'. The baptism of Christ is such a moment. It is a time when his identity is once again revealed and his commitment to his mission is chosen and celebrated after thirty years of hidden growth. He had matured. He had grown in wisdom and in obedience to the will of his Father.

At his baptism the vocation of Christ is revealed as that of the Suffering Servant. He is to be the Messiah that has been revealed in the Scriptures, the Suffering Servant foretold by Isaiah. Christ is to be both King and servant. He announces a kingdom yet he comes on earth to serve God and to lay down his life before and for his people. He is revealed as champion of the poor; preacher of justice and mercy; teacher of love and faithfulness and restorer of life to a people in thrall to sin and in slavery to death.

Each of us is grafted onto Christ through our own baptism. The common water of baptism ensures that we all share in the promises of Christ and of the Gospel. We remind ourselves of this fundamental sacrament and commitment when we sprinkle ourselves, or when we renew our vows or profess our faith and particularly in the rites of baptism itself and in the sprinkling of Holy Water at the funeral rites. We try to unfold our baptism in the course of our discipleship and to take the privileges and the responsibilities of the sacrament seriously in the context of the society we live in.

The call of Christ invites us to renew our own free choice and to decide our mission once again. The commitment of marriage or of priestly life are not chosen just once and then forgotten except on anniversaries. The hard decisions and choices have to be renewed by most people over and over again in the decisions we make and in the way we behave day to day. To love God is to keep the commandments and to know God's favour is to be true to our freely-chosen commitments and promises. There is no point in professing faith and living otherwise.