

**St. Mary's Cathedral
17th January 2021**

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Recently Deceased

Eileen Lennon, Dominic St.

Anniversaries

11 – John Dowling, Fr. Murphy Sq.
5.30- Sr. Marie Bray, Presentation Convent
Maureen Murphy, Poulgour.

Mary Leahy, William and Catherine Maher,
Jim Cashin, Arthur Connick, Christy
Mahony.

Did you know?

There is a great Facebook page called *St. Mary's Parish*. Check it out.

Website Donate Button

A word of thanks and appreciation to those who have used the Donate button on the website to support St. Mary's Cathedral Parish. We encourage others to use this facility to financially support the Parish and Cathedral at this time.

Parish Office Hours

In accordance with Government Guidelines the Parish Office will remain closed at this time. Please contact Fr Scriven.

Funerals in Church

10 people are now allowed to attend funerals in accordance with government guidelines

Celebration of Baptisms

There will be no celebration of Baptisms at this time.

Communion for the Housebound

Arrangements can be made for a family member to bring Holy Communion – please contact the Parish Office.

Statement of Archbishop Elect Dermot Farrell

I welcome the publication of the report into the Mother and Baby Homes. This report, and those like it, which explore our painful past make for extremely disturbing reading. They reveal deep wounds, and bring to light the profound injustices perpetrated against the vulnerable in our society over a long period of time—against women and children whose lives were regarded as less important than the lives of others. The silence which surrounded this shameful time in the history of our land had long needed to be shattered. The pain of those who were hidden away must be heard; those, once largely without a voice, now can speak clearly to our world, and we need to listen, even when what we hear pierces to the heart.

I welcome, therefore, the actions of our Government and of the Commission that has made this possible. These voices must be heard, but hearing, while important, is not enough. The grievous failures of our past have been laid bare. A genuine response is required: ours—as a Church and a society—can only be a full apology, without any reservation. There should never have been a time for avoidance and facile solutions. This country, the Church, our communities and families are better places when the light of truth and healing are welcomed. May the Lord's compassion be the touchstone of our response. May the light of Christ bring healing to all.

The 17th Century – over 30 years without a bishop!

The time in between 'bishops' is called an interregnum. Inter being the Latin word 'between' and Regnum being the Latin word for 'reign' the word literally means 'between reign'. In our context the word describes the period between bishops. Generally,

there is an interregnum between appointments; their length varies. The 17th century was a period of a number of interregnums...though the plural for Interregnum is Interregna! In the later years of the 16th century **Thomas Strong** was appointed bishop of Ossory after a vacancy of 17 years – due in part to the spread of Queen Elizabeth's reign. Strong was ordained bishop in Rome on April 5, 1582. Due to the political upheaval, he slowly made his way home to Ireland; in the summer of 1583 he is in Lisbon and later in that year he succeeded in landing, in disguise, on the Munster coast. A year later he fled Ireland and spent the remaining years of his life in Compostela, where he ministered as an auxiliary bishop of the diocese. He continued to govern Ossory from Spain through his Vicars General. He is buried in the cathedral church dedicated to St James – a reason to go back to Compostela!

In Strong's absence **George Power** was Vicar General. In 1598 Power was taken to Dublin as a prisoner and endured a lingering martyrdom in 1599. He has the merit of being the first martyr – at least the first on record – of the Church of Ossory since the Reformation. Power was succeeded by William Brennan.

William Brennan was Vicar General from 1599 until he resigned in 1609 when he joined the Franciscans. During Power's years Elizabeth I died (24 March 1603) and news of her death reached Kilkenny on the 9th April. Succeeded by James, the son of the martyred Queen of Scots, the Irish Catholics reclaimed churches. Dr White, the Apostolic Administrator of Waterford, travelled to Kilkenny for the celebration of Corpus Christi "to celebrate that festival with all possible solemnity, because of the immense number of Catholic in that town, and the crowds that flocked thither from all

parts of Ireland, to reverence the word of the Holy Cross on that day". Rev Thomas Woodlock reconciled the church in Thomastown.

Brennan was succeeded by **Laurence Reinaghan** until his death in 1613. He appears to have been PP of St Mary's – there is record of him celebrating baptisms in 1610 and 1611 for Nicholas Lanigan.

In 1613 **Luke Archer**, Abbot of Graiguenamagh, was appointed as Vicar General. He was also appointed VG in Leighlin in 1614. In September 1618 he became VG of the Cistercian Order in Ireland and on the 1st October **David Rothe** was appointed bishop of the See. On the death of Bishop Rothe the diocese remained without a bishop for 19 years. It was governed by Vicars or Administrators. **James Phelan** was appointed in 1669 as bishop. Phelan was forced to leave Ossory two years later and lived in exile in France. He died in 1712 and is buried in the choir of the Abbey of Couture in the town of Le Mans. Phelan was succeeded by **William Dalton** in 1696.

Mass Cards

A variety of Mass Cards (Sympathy, Get Well and Mass Bouquet Cards) are available in the Parish Office. Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral each Thursday morning for those who ask to be remembered in the shared masses. Individual Mass Cards are also available.

Cathedral Bookshop

The Cathedral Gift Shop is closed at this time. Supplies etc will be available though the Parish Office: please contact Fr Scriven.

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