DUILLEOG - Paróiste Bhearna & na bhForbacha

3rd / 4th October 2026 Vol. 38 Cycle A No. 39

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ord. Time / An Seachtú Domhnach Fichead Saor

PARISH PRIEST: An tAth. Micheál Ó Braonáin – 'phone 086 8338878 Email: miclbrennn3@gmail.com
PARISH OFFICE: Secretary – Joan Concannon, 'Phone 091 590956 – Mon; Tue; Thurs. and Fri. 10am - 3pm
Parish Email: bearna@galwaydiocese.ie Web: barnafurboparish.ie

***Lectio Divina: Last Sunday monthly at 5pm – Meeting Room in the Mainséar. *Weekly Adoration in Furbo Church: Mondays @ 7pm.**
***Weekly Adoration in Barna Church: Wednesdays @ 3pm. *Gluten Intolerance: Low Gluten Hosts can be received from the Altar.**

Parish Office: Contact by 'phone/email/post box for Mass Intentions and requests for Baptism/ Marriage Queries etc. Various cards for sale.
Please note: The Post Box is on the wall at the right side of the Parish Office door. Please feel free to leave in any weekly envelopes, Messages, Requests etc. There is also a Post Box on the wall on the right at the entrance door to Séipéal Réalt na Mara. Boxes are opened daily.

Our Parish is committed to the protection of all children and young people in our Churches.
Please see Church Notice boards for contact persons.

Live Streaming in Church: Masses and Communion Services are live streamed on the Webcam in both Churches.
When giving an envelope for a Mass Intention, please write the name and the date of the Intention on the outside of the envelope. *Thank You!*

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS – CHURCH OF MARY IMMACULATE QUEEN, BARNA, H91 A2T7 (Teampall Mhuire Banríon gan Smál)
All services available on webcam – church tv.ie/barna – and on local radio 106.6fm

Sat. 3rd October	6.30pm	*Shane O'Flaherty, Barna	Month's Mind
Sun. 4th October	12noon	*Seán Ó Ceallacháin, Woodfield/Milltown *Maureen and Gabriel Murphy, Rahoon/Moycullen	Month's Mind 5th and 27th Anniversaries
Monday 5th October	10am	Communion Service (churchtv.ie/barna) (radio 106.6fm)	
Tuesday 6th October	10am	Communion Service (churchtv.ie/barna) (radio 106.6fm)	
Wednesday 7th October	10am	Communion Service (churchtv.ie/barna) (radio 106.6fm)	
Thursday 8th October	10am	Communion Service (churchtv.ie/barna) (radio 106.6fm)	
Friday 9th October	10am	Mass	
Saturday 10th October	6.30pm	*Ralph O'Malley and his son David, Fothraí Maola Thoir	Anniversaries
Sunday 11th October	12noon	*Tommy Walsh, Doire Crith, Furbo *Breege Kelly, Woodfield and her Son-in-law Eugene McCrossan, Lismore *Mary & Martin Conneely, Cappagh Road	First Anniversary Anniversaries Anniversaries

AIFRINN AGUS INTINNÍ NA SEACHTAINE i SÉIPÉAL RÉALT NA MARA, na bhForbacha, H91 NY09 *(Star of the Sea Church, Furbo)*
Na seirbhísí uilig ar fail ar webcam – churchtv.ie/furbo

An Domhnach 4ú Deireadh Fómhair	10.00rn	*Conor Sheridan, Killybegs/London	Rec. dec.
An Mháirt 6ú Deireadh Fómhair	10.00rn	Seirbhís Eocairsteach	
An Domhnach 11ú Deireadh Fómhair	10.00rn	Aifreann	

AS A PARISH COMMUNITY, WE EXTEND SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF:
*Michael Fallon, Bealadangan/Galway City. Michael's funeral Mass was celebrated on Friday.
*Michael (Mickey) Donnellan, Tulla, Clare/Tuam *(nephew of Mary Magnetti, Aille)*
Give them eternal rest, O Lord – Suaimhneas síoraí tabhair doibh a Thiarna.

27th Season of Creation and Equinox

The Season of Creation comes to an end on the 4th Oct, the feast of Francis of Assisi. A few weeks ago, I posted a statement by Pope Leo in conjunction with the Season titled: *"They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks" (Isaiah 2:4)*

I conclude with A Prayer for Our Earth composed by Pope Fancis. Followed on that same theme and linked with the wonders of creation, Niamh Ní Argáin [Niamh Horgan] has gifted us with another script honouring the movement of our planet with some of our neighbouring planets, and linked with that the seasons and the customs and traditions arising from the Celtic respect for the movement of those heavenly bodies. To date Niamh has provided us with a script on Féile Bealtaine, Féile Lúnasa, The Solar Eclipse 12th August, the Lunar Eclipse 27th/28th Aug, and this weekend a piece of the Equinox 21st Mean Fómhair.

A Prayer for Our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and
forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and
not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognise that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace. *Pope Frances, Laudato Si'*

Equinox refers to mid-autumn, around the 21st September, when day and night are equal, a brief period of rest and pause, inviting us to stop and draw a breath if we choose to do so.
Strictly speaking, 'equilux' comes first, the time of 'equal light,' when daylight and night-time are almost completely equal. Equinox means equal darkness, which occurs a day or so later, and refers to the moment when the sun crosses the earth's equator. In September, the sun enters Libra, the sign of balance, reminding us especially to consider whether our own lives are in balance and how we wish to move into the next phase of the year.

Dates of the equinox can vary slightly year by year. This slightly bittersweet festival of farewell to summer and facing into winter is observed by many different cultures around the world in different ways. Here in Ireland, it was traditionally a break for the busy farmers harvesting crops before the coming winter. Legends of the 'Púca,' ruining the blackberries before Michaelmas remind us to gather our harvest now and not wait until nature deteriorates in the coming cold. The Greeks remember the story of Persephone's annual descent to Hades, leaving her mother Demeter lonely until spring. Native Americans prepare crops for winter, the Chinese observe a mid-autumn festival and Jews celebrate the weekend holiday of Sukkot, a harvest thanksgiving. Some refer to this festival as Mabon and consider it a powerful time for prayer and meditation.

Equinox is also known as Michaelmas, the feast of Archangel Michael, *'he who is like God'*, in which courage triumphs over fear and the ferocious dragon who threatens the town is defeated, not slain by brute force, but brought by the power of inner strength. Traditionally and still in some areas, such as Waldorf schools, children perform pageants about St. George's taming of the dragon by drawing on his inner power and strength under the influence of Archangel Michael. This story is not to say that we need to see the same dragon as evil; rather, it symbolises a difficult part of ourselves or our lives that we can overcome if we have faith in God and draw upon our strength and courage. Children are taught to intone the rhyme 'Brave and true/ Will I be/ Each good deed/ Sets me free/ I will fight/ for the right/ I will conquer the wrong.'

We could choose to celebrate Michaelmas primarily by accepting its invitation to stop and draw breath. We could use our labyrinth as a walking meditation to turn our attention inwards for a spell. We could also go for an intentional nature walk through the autumn landscape, and give thanks for the beauty of the natural world, as well as for the blessings in our own lives. We could also consider preparing feasts with our loved ones using seasonal produce such as apples, pumpkins, blackberries and grains.

As we observed during our recent Lunar eclipse, we could take this time to consider our own 'dragons,' or as Carl Jung would see them, our shadow selves, harmful if left unchecked but potentially a powerful source of goodness if we can control it with our own will.

Fr. Michael

CLUB IOMANAÍOCHTA / CAMOGAÍOCHTA BEARNA / NA FORBACHA. Beidh ár gcluiche cartaí ag tosnú aríst le haghaidh an Geímhreadh ar an gCéadaoin seo chugainn ag a hocht a chlog, i scoil nua na bhForbacha. Cead isteach €10. Our season of annual card games returns on this coming Wednesday at 8pm sharp i scoil nua na bhForbacha. We look forward to welcoming back last year's players and hopefully some additional new players on Wednesday. Admission €10.

BEARNA NA FORBACHA AONTAITHE - 30th Anniversary Dinner Dance - The Club's 30th Anniversary Dinner Dance will be held on Fri. 23rd Oct. in the Connemara Coast Hotel. Tickets are €65 per person and students €55. David Forde Ex ROI and Millwall GK will be the Guest of Honour on the night. Local Frank Greaney is the MC and entertainment will be provided by the Weightless Astronauts followed by a late-night Disco. Tickets will be available in Slemons in Furbo and Online or contact Niall Rooney on 087 2482639. *Niall O'Ruanaigh, Runaí*

EPILEPSY IRELAND have asked us, to hold a gate collection for them at all Masses on the weekend of the 10th & 11th Oct. Could a few parishioners help with the collection? Contact me after Mass this weekend, or Joan in the Office during the week.

HOPESPACE *CHILDREN'S GRIEF SUPPORT SERVICE – Tel. 091 342566/087 4667506 www.hopespace.ie –*
Supporting Grieving Children – Free public talk for anyone who supports bereaved children – family members, friends or professions who work with children and families – Open Meeting on Monday 12th October from 7.30pm to 9pm at Dexcom Stadium, College Road. H91 H340. Keynote Speaker: Liz Gleeson – Psychotherapist and Educator in the field of Grief and Loss.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS: If anyone has been collecting used postage stamps, they can be dropped into the Parish Office and we will send them to Sister Maria for Mission Support.

CROÍ NUA SPIRITUALITY CENTRE Please see the Autumn Programme 2006 on the Notice Board. Many great talks usually on Thursdays. Next talk on Thursday 8th October 7.30pm to 9.30pm "The Life and Teachings of St. John Henry Newman". Facilitator: Bishop Fintan Monahan.

CHRISTMAS TEDDIES The Bearna Knitting Group are again knitting teddies for the **Christmas Shoebox Appeal.** We would be very grateful to receive any knitting wool you have at home hat you no longer need. The wool can be left in the box provided in Barna Church Porch. If you are a knitter, we would be delighted with your help to knit teddies. Patterns will be provided. Many thanks! Further info from Teresa @ 087 7984582.

THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION: For mental health ministry – Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illness.

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