

# Parish of Trim and Boardsmill 17 - 23 January 2021

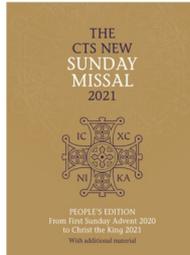
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## Next Weekend Sunday of God's Word

Pope Francis designated the third Sunday in ordinary time (next Sunday) as a day to focus on the importance of the Scriptures. The Catholic Truth Society (CTS) has produced a Sunday Missal at a reduced cost of €3. If you would like us to order a Sunday Missal for you, please let us know. The Missal is beautifully produced and includes all readings for Sunday Masses and Feast Days. We expect to have them before the end of the month.



## Prayer for Vocations

The Gospel today tells us how Jesus called His disciples and that they responded with generosity and faith. Please keep praying for vocations that the Lord may continue to call young people into His service.

## Parish Office

The office will be closed this week. However, the priest on call is available at all times during the week and weekend.



## Meals on Wheels

We want the Meals on Wheels service to reach out to as many people as possible. That's why this service was established in the first place. If you would like to receive this service or if you have any queries, call us at 94 31251. Everyone's privacy is respected. Don't be alone. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

## Mass intentions this week

**Sunday 9am** Michael Cosgrove;

Patrick, Maureen and Jip Connor

**Sunday 11am** Aileen O'Donnell  
Pauline Tully (First Anniv)

**Monday** Sr Carmel Mulligan

**Tuesday** Mass for people's intentions

**Wednesday** Mary Canny  
Olive, Jerry, Elizabeth McEvoy

**Thursday** Janet Fahy

**Friday** Paddy, Peggy, Pat Fay

**Saturday 10am** John, Ellen Deady;  
Jim Healy; Anne, Donal Canty

**Sunday 9am** People's intentions

**Sunday 11am** Edward Duffy  
Rose Heffernan

## We pray for the recently deceased

**Nuala Payne**, Mornington Way

**Ray Dempsey**, Galway

## Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment

receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already  
there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from  
You, Amen.

## Octave of prayer for Christian unity 18 - 25 January

These days of prayer give us an opportunity to unite ourselves spiritually in faith and good works with our Christian brothers and sisters locally in Trim and Boardsmill. For further information on prayer and activities for Christian unity, you may wish to contact the diocesan ecumenical secretary, Fr William Coleman, Parish Priest of Rochfortbridge, Co. Westmeath.



## Statement by Archbishop-elect of Dublin Dermot Farrell on the Report into Mother and Baby Homes



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.

### Excerpt from the Statement by Bishop Tom Deenihan

The publication of the report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes in our country casts a necessary light into a painful episode in our social history. This report covers two such institutions in the Diocese of Meath, one in Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath and one in Dunboyne, Co Meath. What I have read in the report is a cause of great sadness. I know that those sentiments will be shared by many throughout the diocese and country.



While a lack of resources and an intense social poverty go some way towards contextualising the period of this report, the lack of kindness and compassion, as identified by the Commission, is also clear. When Church, state and society lose respect for the individual and forget that we are made in the image and likeness of God, dignity is forgotten and human life is not valued. Like many others, I am saddened and shamed by this report.

I have met with individuals who were either resident or born in these institutions. In addition to what for many were the unacceptable conditions and the inadequate assistance received, they have been unfairly burdened with an unwarranted but enduring sense of shame. There is also a tendency to forget that every child who was born in these homes had a father and that many of the women who gave birth there conceived in tragic or violent circumstances. The report acknowledges this clearly. In many instances, the experiences of these women have been so painful as to prevent them from ever sharing their story with their families. It is a wound that they bear silently. That is profoundly sad and we have an obligation to do what we can to lift this burden.

Those who were adopted are desperate to seek information about their family. One such person that I met, though seeking for some time, located a brother at the time of his death. A missed opportunity and too late. Here much work needs to be done. For this reason, I welcome wholeheartedly the proposal by Government to establish a mechanism to assist those who are trying to establish contact. This is a welcome and practical step which will enable information to be shared, while also acknowledging that many who gave birth in these institutions want to leave the past behind them.

This is a difficult time for all those who lost children to adoption or who were themselves adopted. We should also acknowledge those who provided a loving, kind and supportive home for the children that they adopted. While we look back at the failures in the religious institutions that existed in our country at that time, we must also cast a critical eye on the structures of today to ensure that the mistakes of the past are not replicated. The personal stories contained in the report speak powerfully and starkly to our world today.