

Cill Aodáin

Anois teacht an earraigh
beidh an lá ag dul chun
síneadh,
Is tar éis na Féile Bríde
ardóidh mé mo sheol.

Ó chuir mé im' cheann é
ní stopfaidh mé choíche
Go seasfaidh mé síos
i lár Chontae Mhaigh Eo.

I gClár Chlainne Mhuiris
A bheas mé an chéad oíche,
Is i mballa taobh thíos de
A thosós mé ag ól.

Go Coillte Mách rachad
Go ndéanfadh cuairt mhíosa
ann
I bhfogas dhá mhíle
Do Bhéal an Atha Mhóir

Translation:

Now with the coming of the
Spring
the day will be lengthening,
and after St. Bridget's Day
I will raise my sail.

Since I put it into my head
I will never stay put
until I will stand down
in the centre of County Mayo.

In Claremorris
I will be the first night,
and in Balla below it
I will begin to drink.

To Kiltimagh I will go
And I would make
a month's visit there
two miles close to Aghamore.

*by Antoine Ó Raifteirí
(Anthony Raftery 1779-1835)*

Sunday/An Domhnach.

Sunday, an Domhnach Mór, is the day
we pray: Céad fáilte romhat, a Rí an
Domhnaigh bheannaithe.

Christ is King of creation, of the days
of the week, and especially of the day
sanctified by his Passion and
Resurrection.

Sunday is a holy day and a holiday, a
day of rest, of prayer and worship.

Lá breá aoibhinn chun Críost a
agallamh.

Therefore, stir your feet and make
your way to Mass.

Féach suas ar Mhac na Banaltran,
Christ, Son of the blessed Nurse,
Mary.

Fáilte roimh toil Dé.

We bid you welcome, blessed
Sunday, a fine and lovely day after the
week, a fine and lovely day to speak
to Christ.

Stir your feet and make your way to
Mass.

Stir your heart and drive from it all
spite.

Stir your lips and speak words of
blessing.

Look up and see the son of the blessed
Nurse, the Son of the Virgin, for it
was he who redeemed us, may we be
his in life and in death.

(Pádraig Ó Fiannachta and Desmond Forristal,
Saltair, Vincent Ryan OSB, The Shaping of
Sunday. Intercom, Feb. 2024. P.33)

St. Mary's Parish Dungarvan

February 2024

Bishop William Lee, RIP (1941 – 2024)

**Bishop of Waterford and Lismore,
1993 – 2013.**

Motto: Remain in My Love

(Manete in Dilectione Mea)

Died, 5th January 2024.

**Buried in the Cathedral Grounds,
Waterford.**



William Lee was born in Newport, County Tipperary on 2 December 1941, the eldest of five children to John and Delia Lee. He attended primary school at the Convent of Mercy Boys' National School and secondary school at Rockwell College. He entered the seminary of St Patrick's College, Maynooth and was subsequently ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Cashel-Emly on 19 June 1966. Following ordination, Fr. Lee returned to St Patrick's College, Maynooth, where he completed a doctorate in canon law in 1969. He subsequently received his first pastoral assignment, as curate in Finglas West Parish, Dublin, before moving to Rome in 1971 to complete further studies in canon law at the Pontifical Gregorian University.

Fr. Lee returned to Ireland in 1972, where he was appointed professor of philosophy and bursar at St Patrick's College, Thurles, and subsequently as its president between 1987 and 1993. He also served as director of the Catholic Marriage Advisory Council (later Accord) for the Archdiocese of Cashel-Emly, and subsequently on the Cork Regional Marriage Tribunal. In 1993 he was appointed Bishop-elect of Waterford and Lismore by Pope John Paul II on 27 May and later consecrated by his predecessor, Bishop Michael Russell, on 25 July at the Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity, Waterford. Bishop Lee was appointed as Episcopal Secretary of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference in 1998, a demanding post.

He also served on the Commission for Clergy, Seminaries and Vocations, the Commission for the Laity and the Bishops' Department of Planning and Communications of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, as well as President of Accord. He was a conscientious shepherd and gave of himself and his time with commitment and generosity.

On 1 October 2013, Pope Francis accepted Bishop Lee's retirement on medical grounds. Cardinal Seán Brady, the then President of the Irish Episcopal Conference, paid tribute to him: "I understand the decision by Bishop William Lee to retire due to ill health and I am pleased for Bishop Lee's own sake and for his health. But, on a personal level, I do genuinely regret his retirement – his warmth, wisdom and compassion will be missed, especially at meetings of the Bishops' Conference. Bishop Lee served his diocese and the Irish Episcopal Conference faithfully since his ordination as Bishop of Waterford and Lismore just over 20 years ago in July 1993..... I want to acknowledge his loyal, faithful and outstanding support of the work of the Conference during that time."

Bishops expressed good wishes and prayed for the health for Bishop William Lee who has been battling with illness for some time and has retired this week as Bishop of Waterford and Lismore. Bishop Lee was appointed bishop in 1993 and served as Secretary to the Irish Episcopal Conference from 1998 for fifteen years until this summer. Bishops warmly acknowledged Bishop Lee's positive nature, high work rate, exemplary organisational skills and attention to detail in the service of the Episcopal Conference.

(Statement from the Autumn 2013 General Meeting of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference 02 Oct 2013)

Bishop Lee died peacefully on the morning of 5th January 2024, at the age of 82.

(From the Funeral Mass booklet, 9th January 2024)

His successor, Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan concluded his homily at Bishop Lee's Funeral Mass, in the Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity, Waterford on Tuesday 9th January 2024, saying: '.....And so it is with sincere love, and profound thankfulness, that we present Bishop Willie back to You, O Lord, to attain the fulfilment of his original 'Yes' to your will in the great hope that You will, as the Gospel states today, allow Bishop Willie to remain forever in your love, a phrase which he chose as his motto. May you, O Lord, overlook any of his sins and shortcomings and raise him up on eagle's wings to hold him in the palm of Your hand eternally.'

Thursday, 1st February: Feast of St. Brigid.

St. Brigid's Icon (on display in St. Mary's Parish Church).

This icon in honour of St. Brigid shows some of the details from the legends about her. She was born in Faughart, near Dundalk, Co. Louth. She received the veil from St. Mel under the oak tree, which gives Kildare its name, (Cill Dara), the Church of the Oak. Her halo is of leaves. She wears the veil, symbol of her consecrated life. The snowdrops at her feet remind us that her Feast Day is February 1. As "Mary of the Gael" she is wearing blue, the colour associated with Our Lady. In her left hand she carries the staff, denoting her office as Abbess. And in her right hand she carries a little church representing the church she founded in Kildare. She died on Feb. 1, 525.



Friday, 2nd February: Feast of the Presentation of the Lord.
February 2nd is also Candlemas Day and World Day for Consecrated Life.

Candlemas Day, the Christian festival of lights marks the midpoint of winter, halfway between the shortest day and the spring equinox.

Candlemas is the traditional Christian festival which commemorates the ritual purification of Mary forty days after the birth of her son Jesus. On this day, Christians remember the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

Forty days after his birth, a Jewish boy was taken to the temple in Jerusalem to be presented to God by his parents.

Candlemas Day is traditionally the day on which all candles to be used in church during the year were blessed. Blessed candles were also taken home for use there.



On World Day for Consecrated Life last year (2023), Pope Francis said: **'Today we celebrate the feast of the encounter: may the Virgin Mary obtain for us the grace that our life as consecrated persons always be a feast of the encounter with Christ; and in this way, like her, we will be able to bring the light of his love to everyone: his light, not ours! Bring him, not ourselves!'**