

PARISH OF POBAL

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time:

30th August 2020.

Website: pobalparish.com and Webcam - www.churchservices.tv/Tempo.

Priest: Fr. John Halton, Parochial House, Tempo. Tel. 895 41344.

Sunday Masses: **Tempo:** 11.00am **Cradien:** 9.30am

Masses next Week: **Tempo** - Sunday, Tuesday, Friday. **Cradien** - Sunday.

Eucharistic Ministers: **Tempo:** Sunday 6th September – Siobhan McManus & Declan Murphy.

Cradien: Sunday 6th September – Noel Cox.

Anniversaries: Friday 4th September: (8.00pm) Andrew Slevin Edenmore Crescent.

Kathleen & Patrick Droogan, Carnaguiltagh.

Baptisms: We welcome into the Community of Faith; Abigail Grace Love; Crichton Park, Tamlaght, Enniskillen who was baptised in the Church of St Josephs, Cradien on Saturday 22nd August 2020. Also, Isla –Mae Gilfedder, 102 Tullyreagh Rd, Blackhill, Tempo who was baptise in the church of the Immaculate Conception, on Sunday 23rd of August 2020. May their homes be filled with prayer, love, happiness, and joy!

Old Tom's Story: When Old Tom came down from his mountain farm, the people in the Tavern waited with bated breath for his latest story. For Old Tom was the finest storyteller the countryside had ever known. On one of his visits Old Tom began: Once upon a time there was a young man who worked the farm with his father. In the young man's heart of hearts, he knew things could be done better. He saw fields lie fallow too long; old methods used to plough and plant. Every Year was a year of work and bare survival. Whenever he spoke up, he was silenced, "This was how my father did it, and his father before him". If he asked for extra money to spend with friends he was reminded "that there were more important things in life, that laughter, spending time with others of his age was wasted time". Now here and there a young head nodded sadly in the room and here and there an older head nodded at the wisdom of the father in the story. Old Tom continued his story: And then one morning when the father called his son there was no answer. The bed was cold, his bag gone from beneath the bed, his coat no longer hanging from by the kitchen door. "And here some shadows shifted quietly in the gloom; a cold wind swept between the chairs from the open door". And some older heads looked up startled but seeing no one in the darkness turned uneasily again.

Without a word the farmer went to yoke the beast and turned his face to the rocky field. But every hour that passed his heart grew heavier, his muddy boots felt like blocks of stone. At last he turned for home, stabled the horse, his work half done, and sat down in the quiet kitchen. In his mind his own voice echoed, "my way, my farm, always done before". "The empty chair across the table made no reply". And here Old Tom took out his blackened pipe and slowly filled the crusty bowl. And as he filled it, a man slipped out, and then another, and then another, until only one remained, a single man as old as Tom himself. "Will you not finish the story?" he asked. I will not, Tom replied. They have finished it themselves, each in his own way, each according to his own life. Stories are like that. "They pretend to be about other people, but they are really pools of clear spring water where everyone may see his own reflection". "How did you learn this wisdom". His listener asked. Sadly, Old Tom replied by finding a cold bed, a bag missing beneath it, a coat removed from the nail by the kitchen door. My story could be theirs. Please God they have gone home to rewrite it, Good night now". And the storyteller emptied his pipe into the fire and went home.

There can be no love, if there is injustice, dishonesty, or lack of fair play: In the Gospel today, Jesus tells us that he will suffer and die in Jerusalem. We too will suffer. In the first reading today the prophet says: The Word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision all day long. Without Justice we are incapable of love. We develop hardened hearts. If we are unjust, or dishonest we must make retribution. Injustice, and dishonesty, therefore, is a fool's game. We can be unjust as a group as well as individually.

Mass on Sundays: Make sure to contact the designated person to book your place for Mass. You will be made very welcome, but we can only have 45 people present. The Number to book your place in Tempo Church is 07501 084259 (Tues and Thurs 2-5pm) or (07718 821060) (Fri 7-9pm). If there are no places available for the current week, you will be placed at top of list for the next week. The number to book your place in Cradien is 07866174766 (Thurs & Fri 2-5pm)

Readers: Tempo: Maire McKeagney

Cradien: 6th – Helen Cleary, 20th – Aileen Cox, 27th – James Naan