

✘ Sunday, June 24th <i>The Nativity of St John the Baptist</i>	Mass in Fenor Church at 9.30 a.m. Mass in Dunhill Church at 11.00 a.m.
Monday, June 25th	Mass in Dunhill Church at 10.00 a.m.
Tuesday, June 26th	Mass in Fenor Church at 10.00 a.m.
Wednesday, June 27th <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	Mass in Dunhill Church at 10.00 a.m. <i>Dunhill Church from after 10.00 a.m. Mass until 12.00 noon</i>
Thursday, June 28th	Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 10.00 a.m.
Friday, June 29th – Ss Peter & Paul, Apostles <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	Mass in Fenor Church at 10.00 a.m. <i>Fenor Church from after 10.00 a.m. Mass until 12.00 noon</i>
Saturday, June 30th	Mass in Fenor Church at 6.30 p.m.

- The Annual **Fishermen's Mass & Blessing of the Boats** will be held on the pier in Boatstrand this Saturday, June 30th at 10.30 a.m. The Mass, which has been celebrated there since before the pier was even built, gives all of us an opportunity to pray for those who have died at sea and to ask God's blessing for a safe summer. All are welcome.
- The **Annual Collection for the Needs of the Diocese & Peter's Pence** will be taken up in both churches next weekend, June 30th and July 01st. This collection is vitally important for the effective running of the diocese and it supports a great deal of vital pastoral work. In a letter issued for the occasion Bishop Lee mentions how the number of services which the diocese provides has expanded significantly over the years and continues to grow. Among those services are: St John's Pastoral Centre, Accord, Cura, Family Ministry, the Child Safeguarding Office, Youth Ministry, Adult and Religious Education, Catechetical Ministry, and Vocations Ministry. The collection also supports the education of our seminarians Shane O'Neill, Damien Casey, and John Harris from Ballyduff who will be ordained on 2nd September. Bishop Lee reminds us that our diocese is part of a wider Church, nationally and globally. This collection helps to fund the various offices and projects of the Irish Episcopal Conference and also contributes to Peter's Pence, a name given traditionally to finances sent to the Pope for use in the wider Church. Throughout the diocese of Waterford and Lismore, many people give of their gifts and talents, their time and energy towards sustaining a significant range of pastoral services, both at parish level and in our diocese as a whole. Bishop Lee also takes the opportunity to thank them for their commitment and generosity and reminds us that Mass is offered weekly for the benefactors of the diocese, living and deceased. There is a yellow envelope in your box of envelopes at home for this collection so please give as generously as you can. The full text of Bishop Lee's letter is available on our parish Facebook page.
- The 3rd Annual **Fenor Family Fun Cycle** takes place today (Sunday) to conclude Waterford's National Bike Week. Last year some 500 bikes took to the roads around the village with cyclists of all ages and abilities taking part. The only rule is 'no helmet no cycle' and the organisers ask that parents accompany young children both in the kiddies' cycle skills event and on the road cycle routes. Registration begins at 11.00 a.m. in the village. Entry is free but any donations big or small towards the costs and on-going maintenance of the Playpark will be most gratefully received. The plan for the day includes the cycle events from 12 o'clock (15km family fun cycle; 5km family fun cycle; kiddies' cycle skills); BBQ from 12.45 p.m.; Bouncy castles and Talent Show with Richie Hayes of the Voice of Ireland from 2ish! There's also a Ball Run at 3.30 p.m. and a Go-Kart competition. Fenor Playpark and Fenor Bog will also be open for all to enjoy. For information contact 086 1013924.
- **A Vocation View:** "What then will this child be? For the hand of the Lord was with him." Pray that the hand of the Lord will be with many of our young people, that they have the courage to choose a vocation to the priesthood.
- **Questions people ask** – Fr Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap Email silvesteroflynn@gmail.com
Question: Why are bonfires lit in parts of the country on St John the Baptist's Eve?
Answer: Bonfires on this night developed from the mid-summer festival when the sun reaches its highest glory but then begins to wane. That is how John the Baptist understood his mission in preparing the way for Christ. 'He must grow greater, I must grow less' (John 3:30). John the Baptist was the light destined to give way to the light of Christ. In a neat piece of counterpointing, the birth of Christ is celebrated just after mid-winters' day when the sun begins to return. Christ is the light come into the world as a tiny baby destined to grow. I remember an old lady who used to bless our bonfire on this night with the plant known as St John's Wort.
- Last week's **Parish Collection:** Masses €484.18 & Envelopes €471.45. Thank you for your continued support.
- Click [HERE](#) for Bishop William Lee's letter on "The Collection for the Needs of the Diocese and Peters Pence".