

Out and About: St. Cunlan's Well, Youghalarra

St. Cunlan's Well, Youghalarra is tucked away in the beautiful countryside overlooking the shores of Lough Derg. The well consists of a natural spring which flows into an open pond. It has been enclosed by a dry-stone wall and covered by a flat slab of slate which has been partially cut to allow easy access to the water. Several small wooden crosses have been inserted into the top wall. There is a stone altar to the rear with a wooden statue representing St. Cunlan.

The annual pattern day for visiting St. Cunlan's Well is July 24th. In times past, St. Cunlan's Well was one of the most frequented holy wells in North Tipperary. As late as the 1940s, huge crowds were still assembling here to pray, with great faith in the intercession of St. Cunlan to heal eye complaints and problems associated with sight or vision. People pray here not just for physical healing but for psychological, emotional and spiritual well-being.

Smaoineamh

Lord, open my eyes to see, my ears to hear, and my heart to listen and to love.

Take the Nenagh to Portroe road as far as Barry's pub in Newtown village. Turn right and continue for 2 km to Youghalarra Graveyard. 200 metres further on turn down the laneway. Continue for a further 500 metres to the well.