

SACRED HEART CHURCH

ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER

20th January 2019



At Cana in Galilee Jesus turned water into wine. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

To love, to have, to hold, to protect, to comfort and to cherish.....

The marriage feast at Cana story is the setting for the sign where the glory of Jesus is revealed. The couple were obviously either relatives or close friends of Mary and Jesus who were invited and we are told that the disciples were also included. Running out of wine is both inconvenient and a bit embarrassing but not an enduring calamity that would be highlighted in today's social media with its hunger for stories of immediacy. Images of empty glasses and goblets posted on instagram and tweeted endlessly as trending news. Mary asks Jesus to sort out the dilemma – without asking him to do anything. The outcome as we know is one hundred and twenty gallons of wine.

The story gives us an image of the loving relationship we have with God through Jesus – who is lavish, ungrudging and generous in all the gifts that he offers us. St. John writes at the beginning of his Gospel: **INDEED FROM HIS FULLNESS WE HAVE ALL RECEIVED.** This is shown beautifully at the wedding feast when Jesus offers not a carafe of cheap plonk but gallons of the finest vintage. With him there is always plenty. A sign that there is no scarcity of love, forgiveness, peace, presence.....

The story reminds us that every marriage is an act of faith and love. When you think about it, the promise to be in the company of the same person for a lifetime is an extraordinary thing to undertake. It is a daring statement of trust in one another and in the future which can never be free of risk. You literally give away your life to another person and this is why Christian marriage is an expression of trust in one another and in God. The couple 'minister' God's love to each other.

Yes, we complain about a world of disposable relationships and short-term promises, a world fracturing and in serious decline of trust. But we also remember in a spirit of thanksgiving that God has made human beings capable, against all odds of reflecting his own completely self-giving commitment to his world, which is quietly reflected by many couples who live out the giving of their word to one another '*in sickness and in health, for better or worse*' as they echo God's faithful love.

Take a look at the windows in the sanctuary. From left to right, facing the altar—the fourth window depicts the Marriage Feast at Cana.

John Cullen.

Mass Intentions for the coming week:

MONDAY	8 am	No Morning Mass
	10 am	Annie Hoare
TUESDAY	8 am	No Morning Mass
	10 am	John Gillooly
WEDNESDAY	8 am	No Morning Mass
	10 am	Nicholas & Kathleen Quirke, & Ann Fitzgerald
THURSDAY	8 am	No Morning Mass
	10 am	Gossie, Peggy & Donal Farrell
FRIDAY	8 am	No Morning Mass
	10 am	Gerald Patrick Hoare
SATURDAY	10 am	Monika & Kathleen Hoare
SATURDAY	7 pm	Vigil Mass
SUNDAY	10:30 am	Roscommon Gaels Club Mass for deceased members, all who have suffered bereavement & are ill.



*We also remember Helen O' Sullivan & Kathleen Quinn
whose anniversaries occur around this time.*



RECENT DEATHS: Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of -
Michael Lohan, Castlerea brother of Eddie Lohan, Racecourse Road.
Kathleen Feely, Galway Road. We offer sincere sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to their bereaved families and friends.



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER'S ROTA Is being prepared. If anyone wishes to change Mass time, or is not available for placement on next Rota, **please let us know before January 30th.** Many thanks to all our Eucharistic Ministers for their faithful service.

YOUTH MASS: *The 7pm Vigil Mass on Sat 26th January 2019 has been especially designed for our young people, by the young people of our parish, in conjunction with the three secondary schools in the town, and the priests. The theme of the Mass will be: Loneliness. While this Mass has been designed for young people it is hoped that people of all ages will attend and benefit from the huge amount of work our young people have put into this community initiative. All are welcome.*

Pray for Christian Unity among the Churches: January 18th to January 25th.

Every year since 1908 the Catholic Church throughout the world prays for Christian Unity. **ONLY JUSTICE** is the theme for this year's prayer. It is taken from the line: '**Justice and only justice, you shall pursue**' in the Book of Deuteronomy, 16:20. This year's theme is supplied by Christians in Indonesia, a country that has suffered from severe, natural disasters in the past year. It has a population of 260 million people, only 10% of them are Christians. For more information of Churches working and praying together, log on to: www.ctbi.org.uk

Parish Youth Ministry Leadership Training Course: The Diocese of Elphin is planning to run a Parish Youth Ministry Leadership Training Course in order to offer parishes the opportunity to have trained parish volunteers who will be in a position to support their priest and parish with youth and young adult ministry. As part of the promotion process there will be two Information Sessions for those interested, as well as Priests and Parish Pastoral Council Members. The details for these sessions are as follows:

Tuesday 29th January 2019 in Summerhill College Sligo at 7:30pm

or

Thursday 31st January 2019 in Abbey Hotel Roscommon at 7:30pm

If you are interested please come along to one of these sessions and also let your parish priest know. For further information please contact: Frank McGuinness, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, t: 087 9880690, e: frank.mcguinness@elphindiocese.ie

Gaelscoil de hÍde – Open Morning

Gaelscoil de hÍde will be hosting an open morning on Saturday, 26th January from 11a.m. – 1p.m. There will be a formal address by the principal at 11:30a.m.

Parents of children considering enrolling in the school for September 2019 or 2020 are very welcome to attend along with their children. Come and see what Gaelscoil de hÍde has to offer your child. Fáilte roimh gach duine.'

St. Comán's Wood Primary School Where boys and girls, Junior Infants – Sixth Class, LIVE, LOVE, LAUGH and LEARN together. **Registration** of new entrants for September 2019. Information Evening Principal, Dr. Úna Feeley's address for parents only on Tuesday, 5th February at 8pm. Children very welcome with parents, on both sites: Thursday, 7th February, 6.30pm - 8pm. Application Forms are available from pre-schools or for collection from the reception located on the Junior, Convent Rd site.

FEATURE A WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

Many visitors to our majestic Church equate its magnificence and grandeur to that of some of the world's most beautiful Churches in Italy. The standards of masonry, stone carvings, joinery and marble work are among the finest in any Parochial Church in Ireland. Throughout 2019 we are going to present a short "*feature a week in our Church*" in our Parish Newsletter.

There are three exact replicas of Italian masterpieces in our Church and we begin with one of them. **The Cantoria of Donatello:** as you leave the Church look up at the front of the choir gallery. The fine marble carving you see is an exact replica of the 1433 Cantoria of Donatello which forms the front of the Choir gallery in the *Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore* in Florence. It has been described as "the greatest work of the greatest artist in the world". It features celestial angels holding floral wreaths and playing music to give glory and praise to God.

MEDITATION resumes on Monday evening each week at 7 pm in St. Coman's Club. All welcome.

ALTAR SOCIETY: Group iv is scheduled for the coming week.



ROSCOMMON GARDEN CLUB - next meeting is on Monday 28th January at 8pm at the Abbey Hotel. Guest speaker will be Deborah Moore from Moore Nurseries and Garden Centre .

Free iPad Computer Classes at Roscommon County Library: Basic IT skills. Wednesday 31/01/19, Friday 01/02/19, Wednesday 06/02/19, Friday 08/02/19, Wednesday 13/02/19 . Class times: 10.15am to 12.15pm or 2.15 to 4.15pm. You are welcome to use the ipad provided or to bring your own tablet/ laptop. For more information and to reserve a place ask at desk, tel. 090/ 6637277 or e-mail library@roscommoncoco.ie

Grinds: Maths, Business, Accounting, LCVP & Ag.Science. Contact: 087-6222147

Course vacancies: The National Learning Network, Athlone currently have vacancies on our Vocational Training Programmes. If you are unemployed, have experienced a personal setback, illness or disability and need support - our specialized programmes may be for you or someone you know. Qualifications can be gained at your own pace whilst retaining your existing benefits. Contact Staff on 0906479293 / 0872586033

Fresh Start is a GRET B funded training course for people who wish to explore their work options and update or develop new skills. It is particularly suited to persons on a social welfare allowance with short or long term health difficulties. If you wish to enquire about the course please contact Regina or Caroline at National Learning Network Castlereagh on 094 9620374.

Traditional Music Classes: The long-standing traditional music classes, run by Roscommon Town Branch of Comhaltas, continue on Monday nights in the Dr. Hyde Centre from 6.30pm. Further info from Bill at 086-3345 817.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

18th - 25th January

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Lord Jesus, Son of God,
Our brother and our saviour,
We give you glory.
Protect your Church and make us one.
Send your Spirit to guide us
And lead us back to unity and love.
Lord Jesus, we praise your holy name for ever. Amen

Sunday's Offertory Collection: €3,544.17

Family Circle (14/01/19): Receipts: €306.00 Prizes: €200

Thank You