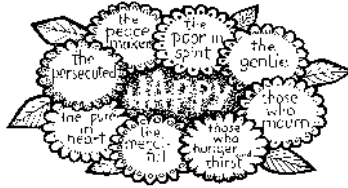


SACRED HEART CHURCH

ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER

17th February 2019



Jesus said, 'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God'.

PRAYER...is a gift.

More and more we are conscious of the sad loss of faith, belief and prayer. Some call it a restlessness or spiritual torpor. We need to revive the true meaning of prayer as a gift. To pray is to relax into the reality of being loved by God. It involves a time of quiet stillness to learn to trust ourselves and God. God's love is a gift to each one of us. Sadly, we have added conditions, concessions and unnecessary conventions to this free gift that distorts the meaning of prayer.

To stay in a quiet space is a luxury within the chaotic rhythm of our busy, hectic lives. For many people it seems strange to set aside time to be silent and to listen. Even in church, silence eludes us in the midst of endless chatter and activity. *"I have kept my heart in your quiet peace"* is a line from Psalm 131. It is in this zone of silent peace that our hearts tune into a wavelength that is otherwise unreachable. It also opens us to a deeper involvement with everything and everyone.

This kind of silence is a healing where the daily dishonest gap between our words and deeds is bridged. Our heart's uncertain compass is directed to God's love. Without a focus of giving and compassion in our prayer, we are merely on an aimless solo-run. There is nothing special about inner silence – except, as life goes on, it becomes the best and safest language for God – who is beyond the limited confines of all our feeble words. One last thing: have you noticed that the spelling for *SILENT* and *LISTEN* use the same letters? Perhaps this is a good place to start your journey in prayer!!

John Cullen

Mass Intentions for the coming week:

| | | |
|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| MONDAY | 8 am | Mary Kilduff |
| | 10 am | Ann Costello |
| TUESDAY | 8 am | Mary McKeon |
| | 10 am | Maura, Paddy & May Cahill |
| WEDNESDAY | 8 am | Morning Mass |
| | 10 am | Marie Fullard |
| THURSDAY | 8 am | Padre Pio Mass for Peace |
| | 10 am | Mary Walsh |
| FRIDAY | 8 am | Mary McKeon |
| | 10 am | Agnes & John Dowdall, & John Brennan |
| SATURDAY | 10 am | Mick & Kevin Hoare |
| SATURDAY | 7 pm | Kathleen Feely (Month's Mind) |
| SUNDAY | 8:30 am | Marie McCormack (1st Anniversary) |
| SUNDAY | 10:30 am | John MacGuigan (Month's Mind) |
| SUNDAY | 12:15 pm | Anna Rabatinova (Month's Mind) |



*We also remember James Lyons
whose anniversary occurs around this time.*



RECENT DEATHS: Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of - **Claire Tierney**, Galway Road. **Sean Finan**, Kilkenny brother of Michael Finan, Celtic Ave. We offer sincere sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to their bereaved families and friends.

FEATURE A WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

The Stations of the Cross

The beautiful stations of the Cross, located all around the Church, are made of crushed stone, moulded in high relief, fired and decorated in the style of the Munich school. They are life like and very realistic. The frames are made of fibrous plaster and follow Gothic lines. The ivory whiteness contrasts pleasantly with the high colouring of the figures. The lettering on the base of the Stations of the Cross is in old Gaelic script.



ROSARY: During the month of February fifteen decades of the Most Holy Rosary will be recited on Wednesday mornings at 8.50 am for the Pope's Intention. Pope Francis's Intention. Universal - Victims: For a generous welcome to the victims of human trafficking, enforced prostitution and violence.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED for Sunday Mass rota in Roscommon University Hospital, Athlone Road. Please contact Sr. Gabriel on 090 6626200 if you can help out.

Catechism classes for children ages 5-12, on Saturdays in St. Coman's Club from 11-12:30, join up for catechism lessons, games, and prayer. If there are any teens or young adults interested in faith formation meetings, please don't hesitate to contact Sr. Ruth at roscommonshm@homeofthemothor.org or 0906625897.

The Servant Sisters, would like to thank everyone who has contributed in some way to the renovation of the Adoration chapel. In the near future we can get together to see a short video of the work during the renovation from start to finish.

Every Thursday evening the Servant Sisters have a Holy Hour in the Adoration chapel from 7-8pm, prayed especially for the priests in our diocese and in the whole Church. Please join them for prayer, songs, silence, and reflection.

Your help is needed! Athlone and Midland Samaritan's branch is seeking volunteers to help provide an ongoing listening service to our callers. Information meetings will be held on Sunday 24th February at 2 pm and Monday 25th February at 11am. The meetings will take place in Samaritan House 3 Court Devenish, Athlone. All enquires to 087 2995728

Fundraising Dance: Please support the Roscommon Deanery Fundraising Dance in aid of the Lourdes Assisted Pilgrimage Fund at the Abbey Hotel Roscommon on March 8th. Music by Frank Nelson Band, Patsy McCaul & The Lancers. Admission €10.

ROSCOMMON TOWN ACTIVE RETIREMENT weekly meetings have resumed on Tuesdays at 2.30 pm in the Sacred Heart Hospital Education Room.

YOUTH MASS: The 7pm Vigil Mass on Sat 23rd February 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: Social Justice.*** 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.

Servant of the servants of God is an ancient title of the Pope. It was first used by Pope Gregory who was born in 540. He was the Prefect of Rome at the age of 30, he later entered a monastery. He kept his own Christian name when he was elected to the papacy in 590. He died in 604 and was declared a saint by popular acclaim. The ancient title of SERVANT is found in the Gospel, where Jesus instructs the disciples on their calling as servants. *John Cullen*

*Do all the good you can,
by all the means you can,
in all the ways you can,
in all the places you can,
at all the times you can,
to all the people you can,
as long as you ever can.*

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

Roscommon town Active Retirement group are going to Kilmainham jail and The Dail on Thursday, 7th March. If you would like to join them please book now at 086 1925411

Job Opportunities: Job Vacancies -for General Maintenance/Caretaker, Gardener/interest in horticulture and Home Care Support Workers, Community Employment/ Rural Social Scheme Criteria applies. Please contact Bernie 090 6625852 Ext. 201, Deirdre 090 66 25852 ext. 260 at R.S.G. Resource Centre Derrane.

ROSCOMMON GARDEN CLUB - next meeting is on Monday 25th February at 8pm at the Abbey Hotel. Guest speaker will be Frances MacDonald and the topic will be "All year interest in your garden".

Roscommon Heritage Group - next meeting is on Tuesday 19th February, at 8:30pm. Venue: Gleeson's Townhouse, Roscommon. If you are interested in attending please call Theresa acting secretary on 0877554393.

CoderDojo Champion Training: The CoderDojo Foundation, in conjunction with Roscommon County Council are running free in - person CoderDojo training workshops for youth and community workers and youth group volunteers. The aim is to support youth workers to create spaces where local young people can learn programming and digital making to create change in the local and global communities. Date: Saturday, April 13th. Venue: Roscommon County Library. Time: 10 am - 4 pm. Sign up at: dojo.soy/2019CDT. For more information contact: Meliosa: mmcintyre@roscommoncoco.ie / 090 6637279 or Tara: tara@coderdojo.org / 01 6573839

Western Alzheimers Roscommon is running a course in Vita House. "**Living with Dementia**" This course is aimed to assist those coming to terms with a diagnosis of Dementia from both a personal and a carers perspective. It will consist of 4 two hour sessions and will commence on Wednesday next 20th Feb at 10.30am Vita House. Tutor Paddy Gannon. Enquiries 090-6627816.

Aughawillan Drama Troupe are on a high rehearsing for the hilarious play 'Cash On Delivery' written by award winning playwright Michael Cooney. This comedy will be performed for your entertainment on the 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th of February in Aughawillan Hall at 8.30pm sharp. Tickets by booking only on 087-6486804. Watch and listen out for us in your local notes, newspapers, Shannonside Radio and like us on Aughawillan Drama facebook. Looking forward to seeing you there.

RHS Home Care – is a non Commercial Home Care Provider bringing professional home care services to those who need assistance to remain living in their own homes. RHS Home Care are now recruiting new Healthcare Assistants in your area. Potential applicants must have the required Fetac/QQI Level 5 (two modules completed care skills and care of the older person). Please email your CV to jobs@rhshomecare.ie or call Aoife on 090 6625988.

NATIONAL LEARNING NETWORK: Looking to gain a qualification or retrain to help you get a job or go onto further education? Have you experienced a personal setback, long-term illness or injury, or have a disability? National Learning Network has a range of courses that can help. Call or drop in between 2 - 6 pm on Wednesday 9th March. Find out more at 0949 620374 / castlere@nlm.ie / National Learning Network, Williamstown Rd, Castlere.

Sunday's Offertory Collection: €3, 400

