

# SACRED HEART CHURCH

## ROSCOMMON

### PARISH NEWSLETTER

16th June 2019



*'Everything the Father has is mine; that is why I said: All He tells you will be taken from what is mine.'*

#### A FALLEN TREE.....

When Pope Francis was in Knock for the World Meeting of Families he visited the Apparition Chapel for a time of quiet prayer. He received a lighted taper from two small children and together they lit a candle that was placed in front of the Apparition Statues.

The stand in which the candle is placed was designed by Anne Lavin. She designed it from a tree that fell in the grounds of Knock Shrine. A local man and his son, Tom and Tomás Cunnane, carved the wood and created the beautiful holder. The outside surface of the tree is polished and bright whilst the inside is marked with nature's scars that represent the inner hurts that we feel and carry. Wild shrubs grow from within the holder to remind us of signs of new life. Embedded in and rising from all of this is the candle, a sign of light, where there may well be shadow and darkness.

This is a good image for our Church at this time. Like the tree in grounds of Knock Shrine, what was once perceived as tall and strong - a source of shade and shelter - has fallen and is damaged. We are at a crossroads, a moment of decision making. How best can we salvage what is and always will be precious to many? It seems to me the answer lies in recognising what weakened the tree, hollowing it, working on it, reshaping it without air-brushing the hurts that have undoubtedly taken place.

The image of the carpenter and his son -Tom and Tomás - working side by side on the piece of timber from the fallen tree is evocative. It brings me to a family home in Nazareth and another carpenter with a little child, working on and shaping wood. The carpenter Saint Joseph is part of the Knock Apparition story. His statue stands along with Mary and St. John the Evangelist at the altar of the lamb and the cross. Today the new candle holder flickers a kindly light that leads us, calls us and welcomes us to pause and ponder a wordless prayer.

*Fr. Vincent Sherlock - Sacred Heart Messenger.*

**Mass Intentions for the coming week:**

MONDAY	8 am	Morning Mass
	10 am	Pat & Mary McLoughlin
TUESDAY	8 am	Morning Mass
	10 am	Thomas, Mary & Frank McDonagh
WEDNESDAY	8 am	Special Intention
	10 am	Anne Browne
THURSDAY	8 am	Morning Mass
	10 am	Padre Pio Mass for Peace
FRIDAY	8 am	Morning Mass
	10 am	Bridie & Luke Clogher
SATURDAY	10 am	Owensie Hoare
	7 pm	Michael Mullen (1st Anniversary)
SUNDAY	10:30 am	Walter Hally (Month's Mind)

*We also remember Mary, Katie & Peter McDermott whose anniversaries occur around this time.*



**RECENT DEATH:** Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of - **Annie O' Connor (nee Kelly)**, Kiltoom, Athlone sister of Teresa Gleeson, Bohergarve. We offer sincere sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to her bereaved family and friends.

**ADORER REQUIRED** in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel to cover the hour **Wednesday** 4 - 5 am. If you can help please phone 086 8068259. **Any assistance** would be greatly appreciated.

**THE HEAVENS HAVE OPENED.....**

Thanks to all who attended in such large numbers the Cemetery Mass. As we were finishing our prayers, the rain crashed down and I heard someone say: THE HEAVENS HAVE OPENED. It was an apt comment, as we were remembering our dead. All during the 50 days of Easter we prayed in the Mass that the *'Risen Lord has unlocked the gates of heaven to receive his faithful people.'* On Pentecost Sunday, nature obliged us with wind, air and breath to "rain" down and soak us with these symbols of the Holy Spirit, reminding us of the nearness of our Loving God. *John Cullen*



**ROSARY:** During the month of June fifteen decades of the Most Holy Rosary will be recited on Wednesday mornings at 8.50 am for the Pope's Intention. Pope Francis Intention. Evangelization - Priests. That priests, through the modesty and humility of their lives, commit themselves actively to a solidarity with those who are the most poor.

## **FEATURE A WEEK IN OUR CHURCH**

### **The Exterior of the Church**

For the summer months we will highlight features on the exterior of the Church. The construction and finish of the Church is a tribute to the skill and craftsmanship of the builders of over a century ago, who worked without the mechanical nor technological aids available on sites today. Among the most beautiful features of the exterior of the church is the mosaic ornamentation, which is of the highest quality and skill. It was wrought and set in place by Salviati and Co., the first glass mosaic firm in the world. The irregular cubes of glass vary in size from a quarter to a half an inch in size and up to 25,000 shades and varieties of colour were used. They were carefully bedded in a cement surface over a prepared concrete bed.

**Relic of St Padre Pio:** The first class relic of St Padre Pio is coming to the Carmelite Abbey, Loughrea, on Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12pm. The life size statue of St Pio will also be present. There will be Mass and Confession. Michael O Connor, Killarney, will give testimonies of the healings that have taken place recently . Afterwards, there will be blessings with the relic.

### ***Blessing on Father's Day***

God our loving Father,  
you entrusted your Son, Jesus,  
the child of Mary,  
to the care of Joseph,  
who was of David's family line.  
Bless all fathers  
as they care for their families.  
Give them tenderness and patience,  
strength and wisdom.  
Support them as they  
protect and love  
the family you have  
entrusted to their care.

*John Cullen*

**Ark of Divine Mercy** will host a one day Pilgrimage to God's Cottage Glendalough with Fr Thady Doyle (Curates Diary) on Saturday 27th of July 2019. Bus will be leaving the Church car park Roscommon at 7.20am Stopping at B& Q Athlone. Bus stop: Moate & Kilbeggan Church. Cost €20 Deposit of €10 secures your seat. Details from Kathleen O'Connor 087 6600190 or Paul Woods in 087 7828283 or Arkofdivinemeracy@gmail.com

**Novena to the Sacred Heart will begin next Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> to Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>** during the daily Masses. There are eleven windows above the high altar in our church. From left to right facing the altar, the sixth window depicts the Sacred Heart appearing to St. Margaret Mary. It is an exquisite work of art. Sean O' Casey (1880-1964) wrote a play in 1922 called: *Juno and the Paycock*. It is set during the Irish civil war. There is a memorable line in the play: "*O God have pity on us all. Holy Mary, where are you when my darling son was riddled with bullets? Sacred Heart of Jesus, take away our hearts of stone and give us hearts of flesh. Take away this murdering hate and give us your own love.*" It is one of Sean O' Casey's many contradictions that he called on God so often in his plays. Devotion to the Sacred Heart has inspired people because it is an expression of God's love. The words of the 1913 hymn *Sweet Heart of Jesus* asks that the Lord would '*unfold the treasures of thy grace, so that when we fall, sweet heart, O love us still.*' It is reminder of God's love for us.

*John Cullen*

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

**Annual Jubilee of Marriages:** The Annual Jubilee of Marriages in the Diocese of Elphin will take place on Sunday 7th July 2019 during 12.30pm Mass in St Anne's Church, Cranmore Road, Sligo. Bishop Kevin extends an invitation to all those celebrating the anniversary of their marriage, especially 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 65th, 70th... There will be a celebratory meal (optional) afterwards in the Sligo Park Hotel. For more information and to book, please contact Sabrina at stannesparish@eircom.net or 071-9145028. Booking is essential.



**"The Mass explained"** A video lecture from Bishop Robert Barron as he walks us through the liturgy. Lessons 1 and 2 in St. Coman's Club Mon. 17th June at 8pm.. The Bishop laments that so many baptised Catholics stay away from the Mass and that even some who attend do not understand the full significance of it all.

**Pilgrimage to Fatima 9th - 16th September 2019.** Spiritual Director: Rev. Tony Gavin, P.P. 7 nights full board Santo Amaro Hotel. Cost €779 p.p.s. Single supplement €175 (limited availability). A pilgrimage with a comprehensive itinerary. Booking deposit €200 payable to Joe Walsh Tours. Bookings now open. Further details & bookings contact Anna Condron on 090 6482228 or 085 7700198.



**Our good wishes** to the Roscommon team, who meet Galway in the Connaught final in a "David & Goliath" contest of tactics and strategy.

**Roscommon Heritage Group** will meet on Tuesday 18th of at 8:30pm at Gleeson's Town house, The Square. Please contact Theresa Murray, Secretary on 0877554393 or contact her on / grouproscommonheritage@gmail.com

**Roscommon GAA Kelloggs Cul Camps 2019.** The annual Roscommon GAA Kelloggs Cul camp will take place in Dr Hyde Park from **Monday July 1st to Friday July 5th** from 10am to 2.30pm daily for boys and girls aged between 6 & 13 years. Each child who attends the camp will receive a Jersey, half-zip training top and backpack. Cost of the camp is 60 Euro per child, 115 Euro for two, 160 for three, and 45 euro per child thereafter. **Please note It is essential Booking is done online at kelloggsulcamps.ie to guarantee your child a place at the camp due to camp capacities.** For further information please contact Willie Hegarty Roscommon GAA Games Manager on 086 8356227 or email willie.hegarty.gm.roscommon@gaa.ie

**Shine** are running a free recovery educational course for relatives or friends supporting a person with a mental health difficulty. The course will run for 7 sessions starting Wednesday June 19th and run for the following 6 Wednesdays from 6pm to 8pm in REGARI, Athlone Road, Roscommon. Topics include relatives self care, effective communication and stigma. Please contact Sarah Cox 086 0451876 to secure a place.

**Befriending Training** If any organisation/Community group is interested in setting up a Befriending Telephone Calling Service/Befriending Visits in their local area there is training available in the Mayo/ Galway/Roscommon region. This is a new service in the West to support older people living at home. For more information on dates of upcoming training please contact Bernadette Moran, Community