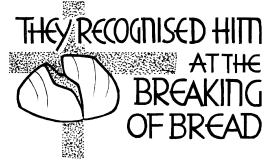


SACRED HEART CHURCH ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER

26th APRIL 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



When Jesus was at the table with the two disciples, he took the bread, said the blessing, then he broke it and handed it to them. And they recognised him.



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Website: www.sacredheartroscommon.com

Church Radio: = 105.9 fm

Facebook Page : <https://www.facebook.com/roscommonandkilteevanparish/>

APPRECIATING GOD'S GIFTS

Birthdays, Christmas, First Holy Communions and Confirmations, as we all know, are occasions where our young people in recent years have often been bombarded with many gifts, all usually in the space of 12- 24 hours. As a result, it is felt there is less appreciation for any one individual gift that comes their way. Many of us have sometimes had the experience of giving a late present, a week or two later, and been often told he/she, the recipient, appreciate it more now. It seems the more we get, and the more we get in one fell swoop, the greater the expectations.

When all of us rang in the new decade on New Years Eve, without realising it, our expectations were high. To use the words of the disciples in the Gospel 'our own hope had been' for unthreatened health, happiness, financial security, travel and further enjoyment of our normal leisure activities in 2020. All of this as you know was all turned upside down as the Covid virus claimed lives, brought illness, job losses, the cancellation of weddings, holidays, concerts and sporting events alike. Like the two men walking away from Jerusalem, the scene of Jesus' execution, we have often found our faces downcast and hopes dashed.

Also, for us Christians and Catholics as we sat (or stood) in a jam packed Church for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Mass, we firmly believed in the possibility of returning to that same church, if we wished, any day or Sunday into the New Year to gather. How wrong we were.

For the first time in many of our lives to participate in Mass we have needed to resort to a TV screen, laptop, smart phone or transistor radio. We are unlike the disciples on the road to Emmaus who were nourished by both the Scriptures and the breaking of bread. It seems these days we need to settle for just the 'table of the Word' in the practice of our faith. A table that can enlighten our minds and hearts in difficult times.

Whilst this restriction is a challenge, perhaps it is also presents us with an opportunity. Like the separate timing of birthday presents, the separating of the gift of God's word and the gift of Eucharist at this time is maybe helping us appreciate both of them.

I have been told in recent days that if our wonderful youth from Roscommon who participated in last Sunday's television Mass were to have been involved in it 12 or even 2 months ago, the viewing figures would have been 4 or 5 times less! Maybe we actually are learning to appreciate the gift of our faith and the Mass (both Word and Eucharist) in these very different times.

- Fr. Kevin

Mass Intentions for the coming week:

MONDAY	11 am	Morning Mass
TUESDAY	11 am	Morning Mass
WEDNESDAY	11 am	Special Intention
THURSDAY	11 am	Margaret & James Conway
FRIDAY	11 am	Jim & Joe Connaughton & deceased family
SATURDAY (Shared Intention)	10 am	Pat Buckley Paddy Kearney John Wynn & Sr Raphael Wynn
	7 pm	Vigil Mass
SUNDAY	12:15 pm	Morning Mass



We also remember Carmel & Jackie Donnellan whose anniversaries occur around this time.



RECENT DEATH: Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of ; **Tom Judge**, Antogher Road. We offer sincere sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to his bereaved family and friends.

Prayers at Home - In these extraordinary times when we cannot gather for Mass, we would encourage you to download and print out this prayer booklet for use at home. Perhaps consider printing off some copies to pass on to people who may not have internet access. While you can pray this at any time, a good time to do so would be at the time Mass is normally celebrated in your local parish.

<https://www.elphindiocese.ie/prayers-at-home-when-gathering-for-mass-is-not-possible/>

UPDATE

Parish Radio Masses will continue to be broadcast from Roscommon Church on 105.9 FM Monday – Friday at 11.00 am, Saturday 10.00 am and 7pm (Vigil) and Sunday 12.15 pm. They will also be broadcast on weekdays on Ros FM 94.6 FM and live streamed on [rosfm.ie](https://www.rosfm.ie) Weekend Masses will be broadcast on Facebook Live Video

<https://www.facebook.com/roscommonandkilteevanparish/>

The Parish Office is open for telephone calls (090-6626298), texts (0877903324) and emails (roscommonparish3@gmail.com) from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm Monday to Friday.

Roscommon Church will remain open for individual prayer for those who may be on their daily exercise from 12pm to 5pm Monday- Saturday and 2pm -5 pm on Sunday, but please observe all HSE guidelines on Covid 19. Likewise Kilteevan Church will be open everyday from 10.30am to 7.30pm for private prayer. Any parish updates can be found on parish facebookpage: <https://www.facebook.com/roscommonandkilteevanparish/>

-Fr Kevin and the priests of the parish.

THANK YOU - Sincere thank you also to all who dropped their parish envelopes into the parish office letter box and our special box in the church. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.
Please keep safe and well.

ENCOURAGING OTHERS

Lord, we ask you to inspire us to encourage others today in our attitude and words and actions. Amen.