

# SACRED HEART CHURCH

## ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER  
16th AUGUST 2020

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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### GOD WORKS IN STRANGE WAYS

I know it's a cliché at this stage, but we are surely living in 'strange times.' Some churches are turning parishioners away because of their limited capacity, like waiting staff refusing entry to hungry customers from a busy restaurant. Other parishes restrict weekend worship to certain station areas or in some cases 'ticketholders.' All of this of course is coming at a time when the church so desperately needs to be breaking down barriers than putting up boundaries.

It's at a time where must try and eliminate the pigeonhole mentality where everything must be in order and its proper place and dare there be any surprises or anybody stepping out of line. However, we must remember that the tension we now experience between our mission to reach out and the present restrictions, was similarly present in Jesus' time. With limited freedom of travel - no aeroplanes or trains or buses- there was little choice but to stay local. Hence Jesus mentions in our Gospel today he was sent to a territory: 'The lost sheep of the House of Israel' when asked to heal someone from a foreign place, Canaan.

Yet Jesus' mission was characterised by inclusiveness, compassion and one that geographically reaches to the ends of the earth. He was, however, to entrust this universal task to his disciples and others who were to come after them.

So, it is with us, despite our present situation being far from ideal in terms of social contact, we shouldn't give up on our quest to reach out to others.

We should also realise how in some 'strange' way the current pandemic has given faith in God, through its present restriction of practice, a platform maybe less visible in pre- Covid times.

*Fr Kevin*

**Mass Intentions for the coming week:**

MONDAY	11 am	Pat & Mary McLoughlin
TUESDAY	8 am	Morning Mass
	11 am	Peadar Kenny & deceased family
WEDNESDAY	8 am	Morning Mass
	11 am	Special Intention
THURSDAY	8 am	Morning Mass
	11 am	Padre Pio Mass for Peace
FRIDAY	11 am	Owen & Anne Morgan
SATURDAY	11 am	Patricia Winston
	7 pm	Marie Raftery (Month's Mind)
SUNDAY	9 am 11:30 am	Morning Mass Morning Mass

**Weekend Masses for the 22nd / 23rd August arranged for parishioners on a station area basis are as follows:**

7 pm (Vigil Mass) Main Street / The Square / St. Ciaran's Park  
 9 am Ballinagard  
 11.30 am St. Teresa's Road / Greenfield Road / Lisnamult

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**RECENT BAPTISMS: *We welcome into the Christian family***

*Diarmuid Paul Connolly, Rafe Michael Bulfin  
 & C  oladh Sarah Kelly Clarke*



**A new pilgrimage on Lough Derg's lakeshore.**

Walk and Pray in the Lough Derg tradition on 16, 18, 22, 26 & 30 August. At times in the 1600s and 1700s when Station Island was closed by the Penal Laws, pilgrims undertook a form of pilgrimage on the lough shore. Walk in their footsteps. Contact 0 (0353) 71 9861518 or [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org) for details. Numbers are limited. Advance booking essential.

**WEBCAM**

You can view our Masses on [www.churchtv.ie](http://www.churchtv.ie) and select 'Roscommon' We will continue to broadcast also on parish radio 105.9FM. Thanks again for your support

**CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

We are pleased to announce the following rescheduled dates for Confirmation and First Holy Communion in the parish:

**CONFIRMATION:**

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August – Gaelscoil de hÍde & Kiltewan N.S.  
Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September- St Comán's Wood Primary School

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November – St Comán's Wood  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November– Gaelscoil de hÍde

Parents and young people will be contacted in the coming days with specific times etc. We ask God's blessing on all our candidates at this special time in their lives of faith.

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**BAPTISMS**

Bookings for baptisms have resumed, please ring the parish office on 090 6626298 for more information.

### **The Irish Hospice Foundation Bereavement Support Line**

Have you been impacted by a bereavement during COVID-19? Are you finding it more difficult to cope with a pre-Covid bereavement at this time? Would it help to talk to someone in confidence about your loss? The Irish Hospice Foundation Bereavement Support Line is a national freephone service 1800 80 70 77 which is available from 10am to 1pm, Monday to Friday. The line aims to provide comfort and emotional support.

### **COVID-19 Support Line for Older People**

ALONE national support line supports older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

**FREE COURSES (T&C) – Healthcare/Childcare/Gardening** starting in various locations. Healthcare Code 300456 and 274835, Childcare Code 293589, Gardening Code 293076. Use the codes listed to find out more information on [www.fetchcourses.ie](http://www.fetchcourses.ie) or contact Stephanie at Galway & Roscommon Education & Training Board on 091-874585, [stephanie.oconnorshaw@gretb.ie](mailto:stephanie.oconnorshaw@gretb.ie) or Sabrina on 090-6634189.

