

SACRED HEART CHURCH

ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER
1st November 2020

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Saints Near and Far

Most of us take great pride in our native county and indeed native country. We express that pride not so much in a vacuum but by identifying with a few real people who in some way represent our place of origin.

This is seen for example in the support of a County GAA football team. Many people in our own parish and beyond received a welcome lift last weekend when Roscommon won the Allianz League Division 2 title and were promoted to Division 1 in the process. Also, if by chance Ireland are Six Nations rugby champions by the time you read this reflection, it could prove another welcome distraction from Covid-19.

When it comes to our faith, we can similarly take pride in being a catholic/christian. Again, this is borne out by hanging on to names (and sometimes faces), not so much in the present, but of times gone by. We identify with men and women who have become renowned for their living out of their Christian calling over the centuries. It is these people of course we call 'saints' and today we celebrate them in a special way on the feast of 'All Saints'.

Our choice of saint can depend on a few factors: Recommendation from a friend, whatever situation we're in (illness or a lost purse) or again a particular saint who is patron of our country. However, on this day we mustn't forget the very familiar faces who are and were part of our families and friendships who despite not appearing on the official list of the canonised, through their devotion, care and love have certainly reached sainthood.

So, let us on this day not be afraid to seek the intercession of indeed 'all the saints' and despite our weakness and sinfulness let us take example from their lives and push through our present sufferings, as we too can make our journey towards being a saint.

Fr Kevin

Mass Intentions for the coming week:

MONDAY	11 am	Holy Souls
TUESDAY	11 am	Jim McDermott, Jim & Ellen McDermott Deceased members of the Harney family
WEDNESDAY	11 am	Holy Souls Special Intention
THURSDAY	11 am	'Mary' Billy & Anna Neilan
FRIDAY	11 am	Jim, Mai & Seamus Connolly, Marie McGuinness Holy Souls
SATURDAY <i>(Shared Intentions)</i>	11 am	Peter & Mary Comiskey Vincent Kyne Tom & Eileen Gorman Mickie & Moira Farrell
	7 pm	Vigil Mass
SUNDAY	9:00 am 11:30 am	Morning Mass Morning Mass



We also remember John Kelly, Anne McConn, Enda Kelly & Michael John Mannion whose anniversaries occur at this time.



RECENT DEATHS: Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of - **Bridie Keaney**, Caltra sister of Mary Fallon, Thornfield Drive, Lisnamult. **Teresa Murray**, Castle Street, Roscommon and Ballina. **Damian Balicki**, Ashbrook, Lisnamult and formerly of Poland. We offer sincere sympathy to their bereaved families and friends.

HOLY SOULS

Please return November lists of deceased as soon as possible in order to be placed on the Altar for the month of the Holy Souls.

MASS SCHEDULE:

As you know, despite our best efforts public Masses must be suspended for the next six weeks due to the current level 5 restrictions.

Our Mass schedule will be broadcast in the meantime on the webcam churchtv.ie/roscommon and on parish radio 109.5 FM as follows:

Monday to Friday: 11.00am

Saturday: 11.00am and 7pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 11.30am

Sacred Heart Church will remain open for private prayer Monday to Saturday 8.30am – 10.30am and 12pm - 5pm and Sunday 12pm - 5pm.

Please take care and stay safe and see you back in church soon.

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Unfortunately, due to Government restrictions, it is necessary to postpone the Sacrament of First Eucharist for the pupils of both schools. These were to take place on 8th and 15th November.

Parents and young people will be contacted in due course with new dates.

Sincere thanks to everyone for their support and understanding at this time.

NOVEMBER ENVELOPES & CHURCH OFFERING BOXES

Sincere thanks to all our volunteers for collecting boxes of parish envelopes over the last couple of weeks. Thank you again to everyone as you continue dropping in your envelopes into the parish office and the special boxes in our church, as well as those who make their contributions online. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

N.B. As the boxes from some parish areas have yet to be collected, we will be making boxes available in the church at the main altar rail for parishioners from these areas in the event they visit the church over the next couple of weeks for private prayer etc.

Thank you

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

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.

Sunday's Offertory Collection: €2, 940.00



NOVEMBER PRAYER OF BLESSING IN A CEMETERY

May God's perpetual light shine upon the faces of all laid to rest here.

May the lives they lived in our homes continue to inspire and guide us on our way.

May the memories we carry and share in stories, keep them alive in the love and hearth of our family.

May the gentle Summer rains fall like tears from the skies of heaven in a downpour of blessings on them.

May the wild flowers and the Summer meadows whisper their prayer in the gentle breeze of silence.

May the birds of the dawn chorus sing their prayer of the beauty and the joy of heaven.

May we always reverence this sacred clay as the holy ground that embraces new seeds of hope.

May each time we visit, walk, sit, kneel, pray and listen here, bring us closer to the heart of God's kind love.

May the Angels guide them, the Saints protect them and the prayer of Mary caress them to God's eternal presence.

May God raise them up on eagles wings, bear them on the breath of dawn, make them shine like the sun, and forever hold them safe and free in the palm of his hand.

