



Church of St. John the Baptist, Knock

# KNOCK

Parish Newsletter



St. Anne's Church, Shanvaghara

NEWSLETTER 24TH MAY 2020. Ascension of the Lord.

Fr Richard Gibbons PP Parish tel: 094 9388100

## Hello Everyone!

As the lockdown roadmap is unfolding we do our best to keep our spirits up. We do this in a number of ways by keeping an active schedule which marks out our day - this is not easy even in the best of times! Another way is keeping in contact with loved ones whether we skype or zoom or whatsapp. One other way that we should not forget for our own spiritual health is prayer – you may not have even thought of it or may not be good at it but it does help. A short time in the day on your own or with family to ask God to help you through this time. This may involve a simple thing as lighting a candle when you eat together as a family and say grace before meals to joining us on our Knock webcam for a Mass together to even reflecting on a short piece of Scripture for the day ahead. You can find resources on our website [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie) Our spiritual lives are as equally important as our physical lives and must be cultivated – it is good for mind, body and spirit.

Pope Francis said recently in an interview:

*"I'm living this as a time of great uncertainty. It's a time for inventing, for creativity...What we are living now is a place of metanoia (conversion), and we have a chance to begin. So let's not let it slip from us, and let's move ahead."*

I'm thinking and praying for our young people at the moment, the uncertainty of the non Leaving Cert and the worry that it brings as well as our 6th class students who will be entering second level without a marking of their transition in the normal way with a Mass in our National School. I propose that when Masses are possible from the 20th July that we do mark a special Mass for our 6th class students for them and immediate family (depending on numbers allowed of course) and also for Leaving Cert students from the parish before they go to third level in the Autumn. We will let you know times and practicalities well in advance. In the meantime please say a prayer for them. Also do remember with a prayer of thanks our wonderful teachers who have continued to teach our children and young students online, they are just as concerned for the welfare of our young people as they move towards new levels of education.

Finally congratulations to those in our parish who have graduated from 3rd level recently and to their families. Well done and may Our Lady of Knock protect you in the years to come.

Keep well and safe everyone!

Fr Richard

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### KNOCK

<b>Wednesday 27 May:</b>	7.30pm	Mary Cullinane, Churchfield. Anniv.
<b>Friday 29 May:</b>	7.30pm	Jim and Mary Keeley and Tom and Paddy, Derry.
<b>Saturday 30 May.:</b>	12noon 7.30pm	Enda Morley, Cloonfaughna. Joe Lennon, Carramore. Month's Mind.

### Parish Council

In these difficult times for our parish and parishioners, if anyone is feeling lonely or isolated and would like to chat, members of the Pastoral Council are available to be contacted:

Adrian O' Boyle	087 9721739
Siobhán Ní Sheóinín	087 1516880
Aisling Lyons Byrne	087 6606442
Marie Salmon	086 3872303
Claire Salmon	087 7817025
Eamon O'Brien	087 1042765
Terence Campbell	086 3269410
Trish Egan	087 2221489
Presbytery	094 9388100

### Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you.

**St. Alphonsus de Liguori**

## Knock Area Community Volunteer Service

Knock Community Futures have coordinated a team of **40 local volunteers** to assist the elderly and vulnerable in our community who are in self-isolation or are unable or fearful of leaving their homes during the coronavirus, should the need arise.

Volunteers will assist the local Shops and Pharmacy in delivering emergency supplies (**such as shopping, prescriptions, fuel, etc.**) to people's homes. **Orders placed with Burke's or Heneghan's Shop, or Knock Pharmacy between 10am and 4pm will be delivered the same day.** To place your order, contact Pharmacy, Shops / Meals on Wheels:

**Knock Pharmacy** (094) 937 6968;  
**Heneghan's Costcutter** (094) 9388209;  
**Burke's Shop** (094) 9376773;  
**Brickens Meals on Wheels** can deliver a hot dinner to your home, phone (094) 9380910.

The volunteer service is coordinated by

**Joe Neylon** 086 2938216;  
**Sinead Mallee** 087 2204296;  
**Raymond Heneghan** 087 2252478;  
**Brian Murphy** 087 6418714.

Call us if you require assistance or further information. Our **Community Garda, Bernadette Breslin, will also be available on 087 0931230.**

## COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for 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