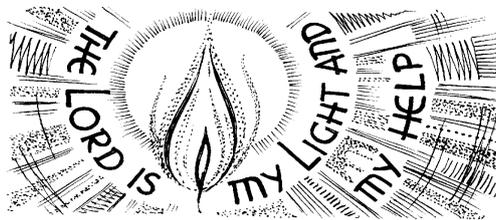


SACRED HEART CHURCH ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER

31st January 2021

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PARISH STAFF

Fr. Kevin Fallon P.P	66 26298
Fr. Joe Fitzgerald C.C.	087 2903310
Fr. Douglas Zaggi C.C	66 26189
Fr. Séan Beirne C.C (<i>Kilteevan</i>)	66 26374

Email: Parish Office: - roscommonparish3@gmail.com

Website: www.sacredheartroscommon.com

Church Radio: = 105.9 fm

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

UPDATE

Masses will be broadcast on www.churchtv.ie/roscommon and parish radio 105.9FM during this level 5 of restrictions at the following times:

Monday- Friday 11.00am,
Saturday- 11.00am and 7.00pm (Vigil),
Sunday -11.30am.

The Parish Office is open for telephone calls (090-6626298), text (087 7903324) and emails (roscommonparish3@gmail.com) from 9.30 am - 12.30 pm Monday to Friday.

Sacred Heart Church remains open for private prayer: Monday to Saturday 8.30am- 10.30am and 12pm -5pm and Sunday: 1pm- 5pm.

Likewise, Kilteevan Church will be open every day from 10.30am to 7.30pm for private prayer

Happy New Year, stay safe and every health and blessing for 2021!

CANDLEMAS DAY: Anyone wishing to have candles blessed please leave wrapped candles at Altar rails by 5 pm Monday 1st February. They can be collected after 12 noon on Tuesday 2nd February (Candlemas Day).

ST.BLAISE: There will be a virtual blessing of throats during the online 11 am Mass on Wednesday 3rd February (St. Blaise Day).

FOUND: A sum of money was found in the vicinity of the Church last weekend. Please contact the parish office.

Mass Intentions for the coming week:

MONDAY	11 am	Laurence & Mary Bridget Hevican, Pat & Agnes Hevican
TUESDAY	11 am	Joseph Moran
WEDNESDAY	11 am	Special Intention
THURSDAY	11 am	Rose Noone
FRIDAY	11 am	Betty & Joseph Lindwurm & their son Gerry
SATURDAY	11 am	Patrick Cunningham Brendan & Alice Merriman Kathleen & Monika Hoare
	7 pm	Paddy Donnelly (1st Anniversary)
SUNDAY	11:30 am	Morning Mass



RECENT DEATH: Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of -
Bernard (Benny) Cunningham, Castlereagh and formerly of St. Ciaran's Park, Roscommon Town & England.

We offer sincere sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to his bereaved family and friends.

THE BEGINNING OF JESUS'S HEALING MINISTRY.

The Gospel narrative gives us the beginning of Jesus' public ministry after he was tempted by the devil in Mark 1: 12-13. He began his campaign in the synagogue. Let us look at some important facts:

1. The synagogue as place of prayer, reading and exposition of the word of God was far from being perfect. Same can be said of the temple worship. This is clearly echoed in the cleansing of the temple in Matthew 21:12-17. Regardless of all the imperfections therein Jesus still went to worship there.

Today, many people cannot go to church because as they argue, the church is very corrupt and infested by the vices of the clergy. The shameful events of the past by some ministers of the church are indeed disturbing and discouraging. However, it is important to take into cognizance that Jesus is our ultimate shepherd not the priest. In the old testament when the shepherds failed to take care of the flock God entrusted to them he said in Ezekiel 34:16-18 "I myself will be the Shepherd of my sheep and cause them to lie down in peace," the Lord God says. "I will seek my lost ones, those who strayed away, and bring them safely home again. I will put splints and bandages upon their broken limbs and heal the sick. And I will destroy the powerful, fat shepherds; I will feed them, yes—feed them punishment!" Jesus took control of the synagogue worship and began by undoing what the devil had done in the life of the man cured of demons.

2. You can see for yourself the kind of persons who were in the synagogue; the scribes, pharisees, even a demon possessed man and there was Jesus amidst them all. Indeed synagogue or temple worship of God in itself is not enough. The church is a home for both saints and sinners. In our lowest and highest moments we still need Jesus.

3. The demon possessed man cried out: "what do u want with us... have u come to destroy us? By implication he was saying we are no good, not worthy of your love and care. But Jesus was not put off by the man's outburst. The man found himself in a desperate and precarious situation. He acknowledged his problem by his outburst.

The recognition that there is a problem is the first step to rehabilitation. For many we keep our problems locked up inside us where it festers. We are afraid to talk about something that is hurting us and act as if everything was normal. We are simply running away. And "Running away from any problem only increases the distance from the solution." (Anonymous).

Talking about our problems is a strength not a weakness. Healing comes by allowing ourselves to touch and be touched. The demoniac voiced his anguish in public and he received his cure. Let's not be ashamed of our challenges. The Lord is ever ready to identify with us.

4. Jesus's power to save is to be recognised and sought for. We must jettison our pride that makes us feel we can handle all problems by ourselves for "No matter what our problem, God is the solution." (Pauline Creeden). Jesus shows us this in the gospel passage.

Fr. Douglas