

# SACRED HEART CHURCH ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER  
20th February 2022

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## PARISH STAFF

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## "LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND DO GOOD TO THOSE WHO HATE YOU"

Some years ago, I came across a piece with author unknown. The author identifies three levels of living as humans.

1. **Satanic level-** here we return evil for good.
2. **Human level-** here we return evil for evil, and good for good.
3. **Divine level-** here we return good for evil.

Jesus would seem to be aware that most people live at the first two levels and very few rarely on the third. Hence, he reiterates but expands the injunction in Leviticus 19:18 "You must love your neighbour as yourself." This command was highly restrictive, for the neighbour was only a fellow Jew. But Jesus expanded it to include gentiles and even enemies. The word he uses is Agapan from Agape, which means an active feeling of benevolence towards the other regardless of what he or she does, we desire the highest good for him or her.

Effectively, Jesus is telling us not to hate anyone irrespective of what they have done to us. Because hatred can be explosive and implosive: in the former it is turned outward against another person and in the latter, it is inward against oneself. Hatred may destroy its object, but it most certainly also destroys its subject. It is a mental venom. According to experts, we expend more energy in hating than in any emotion. A hundred enemies cannot hurt you as much as you can hurt yourself. Indeed, Napoleon Bonaparte once said: "None but myself ever did me any harm". Similarly, Anacharsis says: "Every man is his own chief enemy".

We should not be trapped in a vicious cycle that someone else starts. Instead, we are to seize the initiative by loving, doing good, blessing, forgiving, and praying. These behaviours might seem weak in the face of hatred and violence, but Jesus transforms them. He demonstrates at the cross how powerful they can be. On the cross, he did not curse his enemies, but prayed for their forgiveness. Francis of Assisi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and many other disciples have proven the power of love through the centuries. Love wins! It overcomes the world!

PAX VOBIS

FR. DOUGLAS

## Mass Intentions for the coming week:

|           |                  |   |
|-----------|------------------|---|
| MONDAY    | 11 am            | Morning Mass  |
| TUESDAY   | 8 am<br>11 am    | Mollie & Patrick McKeon<br>Mary Walsh   |
| WEDNESDAY | 8 am<br>11 am    | Sally & Jimmy Kelly, & Martha Farrell<br>John & Agnes Dowdall, & John Brennan |
| THURSDAY  | 8 am<br>11 am    | Audrey O' Higgins<br>Morning Mass   |
| FRIDAY    | 11 am            | Sr. Maria Margaret Haughey  |
| SATURDAY  | 11 am            | Martin & Delia Kelly, & Martin Kelly (Jnr)                                    |
|           | 7 pm             | Rita Jenkins (Month's Mind)   |
| SUNDAY    | 9 am<br>11:30 am | Morning Mass<br>Eilish Talbot (Month's Mind)                                  |



We also remember Ellie, Michael & Tom Mongan & deceased family, & P.J & Annie Oates whose anniversaries occur around

### BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL -

Adorers for the following hours are urgently required: **Tuesday:** 1pm - 2pm. **Wednesday:** 1pm - 2pm. **Thursday:** 4pm - 5pm, 5pm - 6pm. **Friday:** 1pm - 2pm. **Saturday:** 11am - 12noon, 2pm - 3pm. Thank you for your support. If you can help out with any of the above hours, please contact Mae McBrien 086 8622354 or Tom Beirne 086 3861954.

**CONFESSIONS** - available on : Saturdays **10:30 am - 11:00 am**, and **6.30pm - 7.00pm** at our new confessional areas by St. Joseph's and Our Lady's altar rails.

**Roscommon branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann** will be accepting applications for Roscommon County Fleadh to be held in Ballaghaderreen on Easter Monday April 18th. The closing date is March 7th. Applications cannot be accepted after this date. For application forms or further information, please contact [morrispatricia07@gmail.com](mailto:morrispatricia07@gmail.com) All welcome to join branch sessions on 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month in Roscommon Community Sports Park Building beside the astro pitch in Lisnamult- 8 to 10p.m.

### Spleodar Club Ros Comáin

Secondary school students- ar mhaith leat dul ar chúrsa Gaeltachta? Are you thinking of going to the Gaeltacht? Bain triail as! Try it out! Spleodar Club takes place every Friday from 7-9p.m in Gaelscoil de hÍde F42TD83. Cluichí, canadh, spraoi, damhsa trí Ghaeilge. Games, songs, fun and dance through Irish. Fully supervised and Garda vetted Irish speakers. €3 per club. Eolas/Info [spleodarroscomain@gmail.com](mailto:spleodarroscomain@gmail.com) nó [spleodar.com](http://spleodar.com) Fáilte roimh chách.

### Registration Open for THE ROSCOMMON COMMUNITY CHALLENGE - less than 3 Weeks to go!

The registration is now open for the [Roscommon Community Challenge 2022](https://bit.ly/3rib5z5) 5KM/10KM Walk/Run! EVENT DETAILS: Friday 4th of March 2022, 8PM @ Roscommon Community Sports Park, Lisnamult Register here <https://bit.ly/3rib5z5> Proceeds are going to Roscommon Community Sports Park and Roscommon Special Olympics Club. Read more about the event on our website <https://bit.ly/3f1SQ6b>

### EmployAbility Service Roscommon

The EmployAbility Service is an Employment and Recruitment Service to assist people with a disability or health issue to pursue and maintain employment in the open labour market.

Are you currently aged over 18 years? Do you have a disability or health issue?

Would you consider working part-time? If so, why not let Employability Service Roscommon support you to find that job in your local area.

This is a confidential and free individualised service funded by the Department of Social Protection.

Are you managing a mental health issue?

We offer an Individual Placement and Support (IPS) service which is funded by HSE and offers a range of tailored personalised supports to people using mental health services who wish to work.

For further information Call 090 6628608 or Call/Text 087 3745307 or email [info@rosemp.ie](mailto:info@rosemp.ie)

**Altar Society** - Week starting Monday 21st February - Group 1.

**Sunday's Offertory Collection: €2,917.00**

Thank You