

SACRED HEART CHURCH

ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER

19th March 2023

4th Sunday of Lent



He went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

JUDGE NOT BY APPEARANCES

Despite all our complaints about various problems, most of us need to show more gratitude for all the gifts bestowed on us in life, including the gifts of speech, hearing and sight. In our gospel this Sunday, we witness Jesus healing a man born blind. However, the point St. John, the author, is trying to make is not the miracle of physical sight restored but rather the spiritual and moral blindness we all need to be cured of.

There is no doubt that both our upbringings and life experiences can blinker us to the reality around us. With so many emotions and feelings circulating various issues and situations, it can be extremely hard to ‘see the wood from the trees.’

The challenge for us, therefore, is to see with the eyes of Christ. We hear in our first reading from Deuteronomy that the Lord doesn’t judge by appearances but rather by the heart. Yet, the Pharisees judged Jesus not on the miracle he performed but rather entirely on the fact he did it on the Sabbath, which was in breach of Jewish law.

How often do we evaluate others purely on their external adherence to laws and customs? How often do we dismiss those who think differently from us or those whose faults are apparent without trying to scratch beneath the surface and encourage the good ‘heart’ that may be present in everyone?

This week we are invited to review the things we deem important in life and be open to new ways of looking at life and others – to try and see with the eyes of Christ.

Fr. Kevin

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING CONCERT

Roscommon Solstice Choir – Friday 5th May 2023 at 8pm - Sacred Heart Church, Roscommon. Proceeds to Sacred Heart Church Restoration Fund. Further details later.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mass Intentions for the coming week:

MONDAY	11 am	Rita Walsh & deceased family members
TUESDAY	8 am	Mike Ward & deceased family members
	11 am	Tom & Eileen Gorman
WEDNESDAY	8 am	Lily Coyle (Elizabeth) (1st Anniversary)
	11 am	Morning Mass
THURSDAY	8 am	Morning Mass
	11 am	Tommie McKeon & deceased family members
FRIDAY	11 am	Special Intention
SATURDAY	11 am	Confirmation
	3 pm	Confirmation
	7 pm	Vita Whelehan (1st Anniversary)
SUNDAY	9 am	P.J. Kilcline (1st Anniversary)
	11.30 am	Katie Kelly (1st Anniversary) her father John & deceased family members

St. Joseph's Church, Kiltreevan - Mass Times for the coming week

Sunday March 26th at 10 a.m.



Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of

Joe Nolan, Galway, brother of Pdraig, Gerry & Eamon Nolan, Roscommon, and Carmel O'Connor, Tusk.

Tom Prendergast, brother-in-law of Sr. Hilary Finnegan, St. Catherine's, Convent Road, Roscommon.

We offer sincere sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to their bereaved families & friends.

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL - Adorers for the following hours are urgently required: **Monday**: 2pm - 3pm. **Tuesday**: 2pm - 3pm & 3pm - 4pm. **Wednesday**: 4pm - 5pm & 5pm - 6pm. **Thursday**: 1pm - 2pm & 5pm - 6pm & **Saturday**: 2pm - 3pm. Thank you for your support. If you can help out with any of the above hours, please contact Mae McBrien 086 862 2354 or Tom Beirne 0863861954.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays: 10.30 am - 11 am & 6.30 pm - 7 pm.

CONFIRMATION: This Saturday 25th March Bishop Kevin will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on pupils from Gaelscoil de hÍde, Kiltreevan N.S. and St Comán's Wood Primary School. You are asked to remember them in your prayers.

SINCERE THANKS to parishioners for their understanding and cooperation when arranging Anniversary Masses in Sacred Heart Church, especially when a Funeral Mass occurs. It is greatly appreciated.

N.B - MASS TIME CHANGE: From the 1st April 2023, Saturday morning Mass will be at the earlier time of **10 a.m.** Thank you for your cooperation.

THANK YOU - TAX REFUND SCHEME: A huge thank you to the many parishioners who responded to our recent appeal in relation to the Parish Tax Refund scheme. Your cooperation and generosity will be of huge benefit as we try to meet the costs of running a parish. Thanks again.

APPEAL FOR FRESH DAFFODILS: Irish Cancer Society Daffodil Day will be on the streets on **Friday 24th March**. As in previous years, the local voluntary organisers of Daffodil Day in Roscommon Town are appealing to the public to donate fresh daffodils. Volunteers will be available to receive daffodils at the Daffodil Day depot in Unit No. 1 Stone Court (Old Jail) on **Thursday 23rd March** from 11.00 am to 6.00 pm. Volunteers and students will be on the streets and at local supermarkets / shops selling fresh daffodils, silk daffodils, Daffodil Day Pins and other Daffodil Day items in support of this annual fundraiser.

Altar Society - Week starting Monday 20th March - Group II

THE LEGION OF MARY Acies Ceremony for the Consecration to our Lady will take place on Sunday 26th March at 4p.m. in the Sacred Heart Church Roscommon. All are welcome to attend.

FAITH RENEWAL – KNOCK SHRINE: Lenten Reflections – Weekly Talks with Guest Speakers taking place online and at St John’s Welcome Centre, Knock Shrine from 8.15 p.m. - 9.15 p.m. **March 21st – John Connell.** ‘Living more simply in a complex world’. www.knockshrine.ie

ROSCOMMON DRAMA GROUP take to the stage on next Thursday night, the 23rd, for 3 nights with a production of “Move Over Mrs Markham” by Ray Cooney and John Chapman. Childrens’ book publisher Philip Markham and his wife Joanna are going out to dinner leaving their apartment “empty”, but three different couples hope to make use of it. Under the direction of Mary Cox, and a cast of 9, Roscommon Drama Group guarantee you a very enjoyable evening of fun at the theatre. Running in Roscommon Arts Centre on Thursday 23rd, Friday 24th and Saturday 25th March at 8pm nightly. Tickets €15. Booking at Roscommon Arts Centre 0906625824 or online at <https://roscommonartscentre.ie/.../move-over-mrs-markham.../>

WESTERN ALZHEIMERS are currently recruiting for Healthcare Assistants in the community throughout County Roscommon and the West. These positions are available on our Community Employment Project. If you would like to find out more, please call us on 090 662 7816 or email us at roscommon@westernalzheimers.ie.

MOTHERS PRAYERS ANNUAL WEEKEND 2023: Friday 24th to Sunday 26th March. St John's Rest and Care Centre, Knock. (No Cover Charge) You don't have to be a mother to attend, and if you can only come for a short time please feel free to do so, this too will bring many blessings. For more information contact Marie 087 6184110.

ST. COMANS SWIM CLUB, Roscommon would like to sincerely thank parishioners for their generosity and support of our church gate collection, which was held last weekend. Funds raised will go towards the development of our swimmers and club.

Sunday’s Offertory Collection: €3,657.00

Thank You

PARISH STAFF

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Church Radio: = 105.9 fm

Webcam: www.churchtv.ie/roscommon

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