

SACRED HEART CHURCH

ROSCOMMON

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH NEWSLETTER

20th August 2023

THE INDOMITABLE FAITH

The readings today talk to us on the universality or all-inclusiveness of the love of God to humanity. He is not the exclusive possession of any one religion or people. He demonstrated this today by showing his mercy to others who are not of our faith, race and religion. This alone challenges us to have open minds towards those outside our zones of comfort in terms of human relationships. In the Gospel reading we see how Jesus attended to the needs of the Canaanite woman who came to him in faith. Canaanites are the original inhabitants of the Land that Israel now occupies. Since Israel dislodged them through the use of force, there has always been great enmity between the two races that we can describe Canaanites as the ancestral enemies of the Jewish people. Ordinarily, the two do not relate healthily towards one another. But Jesus went to their pagan territory and showed her kindness, love and compassion, when she demonstrated courage, faith and great determination in a manner not common even among Jesus' kinsmen.

Similarly, in the Second reading, the Apostle Paul tells us of God's graciousness to both Jews and pagans and his desire for the salvation of all irrespective of race or religion. We see the same lesson in the first reading where God through the Prophet Isaiah said, Foreigners who have attached themselves to Him, the Lord, would be brought to his holy mountain, and that their sacrifices would be welcome, because his house shall be a house of prayer for all the peoples. In this gospel reading, God reveals to us that the condition to membership of participating in the reign of his Kingdom is not primarily race or religion. The woman remained steadfast even in the face of odds.

Faith in God sometimes entails putting up with acts of humiliation. Jesus uses the word 'dogs' in its diminutive form: not to the wild and unclean beasts that roam the streets but to the little dogs that are bred in the house, and kept as pets. Hence, these words of Jesus indicate the picture of a family meal, with the pet house-dogs running round the table.

By way of application, we must persevere in prayer even when it is difficult to do so, even when we do not feel like praying or feel dry to pray. Persevering in prayer comes from the power of the Holy Spirit. Failure in our prayer comes from our lack of faith in the power of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes God delays in answering our prayers in order to increase our merits or prop up our faith to that level that will make it possible for him to operate in our lives. Without Faith, Jesus cannot work his wonders in us. By this perseverance in prayers we prepare ourselves to receive the grace with much greater fruit than if it were given us at once.

- Fr. Felix

RESTORATION WORKS SACRED HEART CHURCH UPDATE

We are extremely grateful to parishioners for their cooperation and generosity that has enabled us to get to this point with the restoration works. To date €61,326 has been raised.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Mass Intentions for the coming week:

MONDAY	11 am	Gerard & Mary Hoare
TUESDAY	8 am	Helen & Danny Talbot & deceased members of the Talbot, Fullard & Cahill families
	11 am	Morning Mass
WEDNESDAY	8 am	Stephen & Madie Hannon
	11 am	Morning Mass
THURSDAY	8 am	Mary Lydon Murray
	11 am	Morning Mass
FRIDAY	11 am	Ada O'Donnell
SATURDAY	10 am	Padraic McGowan (Anniversary) & remembering Michael, John, Liz & Benedict McGowan Evan Dolan
<i>Vigil Mass</i>	7 pm	Mary Kelly (1st Anniversary)
SUNDAY	9 am	Morning Mass
	11.30 am	Gerry Harkin (1st Anniversary)



Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of

PAT ROGERS, Ardsallagh, Roscommon & formerly Castleruby,
Tulsk, Co. Roscommon.

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

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

N.B - MASS TIME CHANGE: Saturday morning Mass has now changed to the earlier time of **10 a.m.** Thank you for your cooperation.

THANK YOU FR. FELIX - As Fr. Felix finishes in our parish on Friday we thank him for his assistance over the past month and we wish him well when he returns to his studies in Rome in October.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: The Blessed Sacrament Chapel is open for Eucharistic Adoration daily from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. except on Wednesdays, opening hours are 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. People wishing to spend an hour of Adoration can contact Tom Beirne 086 3861954. We wish to thank all adorers who presently are very faithful to their committed hours.

SPECIAL EVENT: On Monday, September 18th at 7 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Church, Roscommon Town. A special Mass to celebrate Eucharistic Adoration with Guest Speaker Sr. Adela Gallindo. All are welcome.

HOSPICE COFFEE MORNING: Mayo Roscommon Hospice are calling for people to host a coffee morning, evening with family, friends or work colleagues on National Coffee morning for Hospice on Thursday 21st September or on another date if suits you better. Please register www.hospice.ie, email info@hospice.ie or call 094-93-88666 and a free pack will be sent out to you. All funds raised local stay local. Please support.

THE LEGION OF MARY are organising a day trip to Loug Derg on Saturday 23rd September 2023. Leaving the Sacred Heart Church car park at 6.30 a.m. For bookings please contact Teresa on 087 1206343 or Noreen on 086 3529916 (090 6625209).

REGARI Recovery College Autumn/Winter Wellbeing Workshops will begin on Tuesday 19th September from 2pm - 5pm in Roscommon Library. The workshops are open to people over 18 years of age and have been designed to support anyone who is interested in learning more about coping with mental health challenges through education and conversation. Everyone is welcome. Registration takes place on Tuesday 5th September between 1pm to 4pm in Regari Recovery College, Athlone Road, Roscommon. For more details see local press or contact Amanda Hunt on 086 1304869 or email regarirecoverycollege@gmail.com

DOCUMENTARY FILM ON FR. EDWARD FLANAGAN: A wonderful documentary film on the life of Ballymoe native, Fr. Edward Flanagan, founder of Boys Town, Nebraska, has been recently produced in the USA. The film, commissioned by the Fr. Flanagan League in the USA, documents the story of Fr. Flanagan's extraordinary life and enduring legacy. The film will be translated into several languages and will be shown worldwide starting in Autumn 2023. The film producers have kindly allowed a preview of the film to be shown locally. This screening will take place in Roscommon Arts Centre on **Monday 28th August, at 7.00pm. Admission is FREE, however booking is essential** and can be done directly on 09066 25824 or on the Roscommon Arts Centre website.

WESTERN ALZHEIMERS have a new fundraising challenge to mark World Alzheimers month in September, called "Walk 4 Dementia". They are looking for 100 people to each raise €100 by walking 4km each of the 4 weeks of September. You choose your own location and route. Any individuals, clubs, groups, organisations, or societies who wish to take part are most welcome. Sign up on www.westernalzheimer.ie under events or phone 094 93 64900 for sponsorship cards. All support is greatly appreciated.

St. Joseph's Church, Kiltewan - Upcoming Mass

Sunday, August 27th at 10 a.m.

Altar Society - Week starting Monday 21st August - Group IV

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING in Irish for Refreshers. Starting 20th September until 20th December 2023. 10 a.m. - 10.45 a.m. @ Rogue&Co., Main St., Ros Comáin. We will continue after Christmas if there is sufficient interest. We will be using the booklet 'Focal ar Fhocal' as an aid. It will be provided. Weekly Wednesday Coffee Morning in Irish for Improvers from 11 a.m. - 12 noon @ Rogue&Co. This group started several years ago and is going strong, thanks be to God. Labhair Gaeilge Linn.

EMPLOYABILITY SERVICE ROSCOMMON 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

CANA TALKS: Friday, 1st September, T.F. Royal Theatre, Castlebar at 8 p.m. 8 energetic speakers – each has just 15 minutes to inspire you – this is the Christian version of TED Talks – presenting on different topics relating to human happiness - from a faith perspective. Tickets €20 - available @ www.ticketmaster.ie or call the T.F. Box Office at (094) 902 3111. Come along for an entertaining & inspirational evening for the mind, heart, & soul!

GUITAR LESSONS: The Melting Pot Community Hub presents guitar lessons with Joe Healy. Starts September 4th for six weeks, two sessions per week, 4.30 – 5.30pm and 6 - 7pm every Monday evening. It is €10 per lesson, maximum five people each session. Guitars available here each lesson. Call Ger on 089 416 5730 to book your place.

Sunday's Offertory Collection - 13th August

€3,732.00

Thank You

PARISH STAFF

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