

SACRED HEART CHURCH

ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER

21st JANUARY 2024

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



FROM SETBACK TO SPRINGBOARD

The country singer/ songwriter Garth Brooks released a song in 1990 entitled 'One of God's Greatest Gifts is Unanswered Prayers.' To be convinced of this is easier said than done, as after unceasing prayers, we sometimes see no light in the tunnel as we face the challenges of this new year- this includes our prayers for peace as violence and warfare continue in places like Gaza and Ukraine.

Yet, we all know of good outcomes for many people in life after a preceding disappointment or setback. How many are happy in a job, house, or marriage only after a previous failed job interview, house bid, or relationship?

While many people indeed have very heavy crosses to bear, when things sometimes don't work out for us as we'd like them to, another door often opens for us to even greater things.

As we begin this church year, we read and listen to the Gospel or Good News of St. Mark each Sunday. However, the greatest preachers of the Gospel (Good News) are not necessarily priests, deacons, or religious sisters but rather those in our communities who have had huge setbacks and tragedies in life but, without denying their loss, can be positive, hopeful and faith-filled in the middle of it all. In addition, some of these people, through working through their own experiences, often offer hope, encouragement, and good news to others.

Interestingly, our gospel this Sunday starts with an account of a huge setback: The arrest of John the Baptist. Yet this event proved to be the springboard for Jesus as he began his ministry with significant momentum as he called the first disciples from their fishing boats. The challenge for us is to see God at work in our lives in the most unlikely places and events and often in our crosses.

So, as we still grapple with our present difficulties and those experienced worldwide by many others, let us also believe this is a time of gift. We pray in the words of St. Paul that the 'Lord may enlighten the eyes of our mind so we can see what hope his call holds for us.' (Ephesians 1: 17-18). Amen.

- Fr. Kevin

Mass Intentions for the coming week

MONDAY	11 am	Tommy Lee Mongan
TUESDAY	8 am	No Morning Mass
	11 am	Nicholas & Kathleen Quirke & Ann Fitzgerald John M.V. MacGuigan
WEDNESDAY	8 am	No Morning Mass
	11 am	Josephine & Michael Kelly Deceased members of the O'Gara & Flynn families
THURSDAY	8 am	No Morning Mass
	11 am	Gerry Hoare
FRIDAY	11 am	Morning Mass
SATURDAY	10 am	Jackie & Carmel Donnellan Des & Margaret Keane & deceased members of the Keane & Dever families Frank Kelly Kathleen & Noel McCrann Josephine McCrossan
	7 pm	Tess Kearney (1st Anniversary) & her husband Paddy
SUNDAY	9 am	Frank Naughton (Months Mind)
	11.30 am	Frances Lane (1st Anniversary)

Please note there is NO 8 a.m. morning Mass this week



Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of

JOHN FITZMAURICE, Racecourse Rd., Roscommon

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

*We also remember Helen O'Sullivan (nee Igoe) & Kathleen Quinn
whose anniversaries occur around this time.*

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays: 10.30am - 11am & 6.30pm - 7pm.

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL - Adorers for the following hours are urgently required: **Wednesday:** 12noon - 1pm & 2 pm - 3pm & **Friday:** 6pm - 7pm. Thank you for your support. If you can help out with the above hours, please contact Tom Beirne 0863861954.

CHURCH CALENDAR 2024: Are available in the Porch of the Church. Please take one home.

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE? Weekend residential courses available. 26th - 28th April and 20th - 22nd September 2024. Details: www.grasta.org or at info@grasta.org

COLUMBAN FATHERS, Dalgan Park, Navan, are looking for old Irish coins - pre Euro - which will be still accepted and exchanged by the Central Bank. This is then used to fund projects in the mission field. While old Irish coin are our priority, we will accept any Foreign coin, which will be sent to Aid the Church in Need. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

MEDJUGORJE YOUTH FESTIVAL: The Diocese of Elphin invites young adults in the diocese aged 18 - 35 on pilgrimage to Medjugorje this summer for the Youth Festival from 31st July – 7th August, led by Bishop Kevin. The cost per person sharing is €650. For more information, detail of costs, registration form etc. please see the diocesan website on www.elphindiocese.ie/medjugorje or contact the Diocesan Office at 071-9150106 and youth@elphindiocese.ie

ROSCOMMON COMMUNITY CHALLENGE 2024: The Annual Roscommon Community Challenge is back and is the perfect training programme for anyone wishing to make healthy changes in their lives. The Programme will feature 5K and 8K routes designed to accommodate both walkers and runners. Led by our expert trainers from Roscommon Sport Partnership the programme caters for All abilities. If any business or club is interested in advertising our event with a poster, please contact Jacqui on 086172811. **Training Details:** Every Monday and Wednesday. €25 for Adult; €5 for over 12's. Time: 7p.m. Starting Point: Roscommon Community Sports Park, Lisnamult. **MAIN EVENT DETAILS:** Date: Friday, March 1st, 2024, Time: 8 p.m. Starting Point: Roscommon Community Sports Park. Registration for the main event is not yet open. All proceeds will benefit the Roscommon Special Olympics Club and the Community Sports Park.

GAELSCOIL de hÍDE – Open Morning: Gaelscoil de hÍde will be hosting an open morning on Saturday, 27th January from 10.30 am - 12 noon. Parents of children considering enrolling in the school for September 2024 or 2025 are very welcome to attend along with their children. Come and see what Gaelscoil de hÍde has to offer your child. Fáilte roimh gach duine.

Altar Society - Week starting Monday 22nd January - Group V

St. Joseph's Church, Kiltewan - Upcoming Mass

Sunday, January 28th at 10 a.m.

NA physical meetings on Tuesday nights only from 8 - 9pm in Room 13 at St. Comans, Abbey St., Roscommon.

FAMILY CARERS IRELAND: Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative or neighbour? Then you are a family carer! Become a member of Family Carers Ireland, the national charity supporting Ireland's 500,000+ family carers nationwide. Contact 057 93 70221 and hear how we can support you or for more info visit www.familycarers.ie.

LINE DANCING in Quad, Roscommon every Friday at 11.15 a.m. and on Sundays at 6 p.m., also in Four-Mile-House every Tuesday at 7 p.m. with Jive Classes at 9 p.m. For more info call Christopher 086 8474744.

LOCAL FORUM is an open meeting for people with connections to the mental health services where they speak about their experience, present views and raise matters to improve the service to others. Please contact Fiona on fiona.dodd@hse.ie or 087 3805332 or Teresa MHForumSeretary@outlook.com or 0877554393

LIVING WELL is a free HSE programme which helps people living with a long-term health condition to manage their condition and improve their overall wellbeing. Anyone with any chronic illness such as diabetes, arthritis, COPD, cardiac illness, anxiety, etc. can benefit from these workshops. The next programme in Boyle commences on Tuesday, March 12th. The programme is delivered over six weekly workshops (2.5 hrs x 6) by trained leaders. Advance registration is required. To find out more, please contact Liam Gildea on 086 014 2675 or by email at lgildea@southmayo.com

WRITERS GOUP: A new Amateur Writers' Group will meet on the 4th Saturday of every month from 11am to 1pm in Roscommon Library. The first meeting will take place on Saturday January 27th. If you would like to come along, have a cuppa and meet other writers, please phone 090 6637277 or email library@roscommoncoco.ie.

Sunday's Offertory Collection - 14th January 2024

€3,185.00

Thank You

PARISH STAFF

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Email: *Parish Office:* - roscommonparish3@gmail.com

Website: www.sacredheartroscommon.com

Church Radio: = 105.9 fm

Ros FM: = 94.6 (11am Mass transmitted daily)

Webcam: www.churchtv.ie/roscommon

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