



PARISH PASTORAL UNIT
ABBEYFEALE, ATHEA, TEMPLEGLANTINE, TOURNAFULLA, MOUNTCOLLINS

10th Sept 2023

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Co Parish Priests of the Pastoral Area

Fr Denis Mullane 087/2621911
Fr Tony Mullins 087/2600414
Fr Willie Russell 087/2272825
Fr Dan Lane (Retired) 087/2533030
Fr James Ambrose (Retired) Tel 087/7740753

Intentions for weekend

6.30pm Betty O'Sullivan, The Hill Abbeyfeale Months Mind
 Jack O'Grady, Dromtrasna Anniv.
10am Bridget Foley, Abbeyfeale Hill
 Mary Murphy Anniv.
12noon Marie & James Kelliher, Collins Park Anniv.
 Mary Murphy

Intentions for the week

Mon 7pm Special Intention
Tues 10am Pro Populo
Wed 10am
Thurs 10am Mike Sullivan, Colbert Terrace.
Fri 10am

Intentions for next weekend

6.30pm Jack & Nonie Kelly, Knocknasna and
 deceased family members.
 Julia Ann McCarthy, Collins Park Anniv.
 Margaret Lane, Ballaugh Anniv.
10am Kate Naughton, St Ita's Road
 Denis Naughton Mountcollins Anniv.
12noon Frank Collins, Banard Anniv.
 Mossie & Joe O'Flaherty, Mountmahon Anniv.

Graveyard Mass: Sincere thanks to all who organised the annual Mass at Relig Ide Naofa on Tuesday evening last. We thank God for the good weather we had during the Mass. Our sincere thanks to all who attended the Mass and to all who were involved in the readings, prayers of the faithful and reflections.

God in a Leaf' Book club This is a three week programme on Zoom with input each night from author Fr Brian Grogan SJ. It will be an experience of contemplative prayer and reflections for the Season of Creation. Dates: Tuesday 12th, 19th, 26th of September 7.30pm to 8.45pm. Cost €15.

Young Priests Society meeting will take place on Tuesday 12th at 7.30pm in the parish office.

A Lesson in Christian Love

A few years ago a remarkable story of generosity featured on the Joe Duffy radio show. It was the story of an Irish man named Shane O'Neill, who had a history of drugs offences and ended up serving time in prison in Belgium. On release from prison he went to the Irish embassy to ask for the price of a flight to return home, but as it was a Friday evening the embassy was closed until Monday. As Shane walked away from the embassy, he was lucky to cross paths with a good Samaritan, a man named Charlie Kiernan, a Dublin man who offered to help him in his hour of need.

Worried that Charlie would judge him if he told him he had been a prisoner, Shane instead told Charlie he had been robbed. "He was the first fellow that ever put his hand out to help me," said Shane. "We got into a conversation and he said, 'You must be hungry are you?' And I said, 'I'm starving.' He said 'Do you want to come with me? I'll get you something to eat.' During the meal Charlie asked Shane if he wanted him to book a flight home for him? I said 'You'd hardly do that for me?'

Once the pair arrived in Dublin, Shane asked Charlie for his address so that he could repay him for his generosity and was shocked when he refused, insisting Shane use the money to help someone else in need in the future. "It made me think the whole way home," said Shane., "This man is my saviour, now I'm going to really change my life." This random act of kindness teaches us everything that we need to learn about Christian love and the Commandments. St Paul in his letter to the Romans says in the reading for today's Mass "Love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour, that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments."

The Tracks We Leave

It was the author of 'Huckleberry Finn,' Mark Twain who once remarked; 'I don't think much of a man's religion if his dog and cat aren't the better of it.' It was an insightful comment during the 19th century when the industrial age was in its heyday and nature's bounty was being plundered relentlessly while all creatures great and small were mostly regarded as fair game for hunting or experimentation and otherwise insignificant to human progress.

The World Day of Prayer for Creation on 1 September and the season of creation which follows instituted by Pope Francis and concluding on the feast day of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October, allows us opportunity to renew our commitment to cherish and conserve the natural world and its creatures. A world we have so taken for granted and which is now clearly reaching the limits of its capacity for exploitation and neglect. Young people and many young at heart people of all religious traditions and none have almost uniquely found common ground on this issue, one which Pope Francis identified so early in his papacy. Whether we see a divine hand at work in the wonders that surround us in earth, sky and seas, as the Scriptures reveal and St Thomas Aquinas sought to demonstrate or whether we believe creation to have evolved in a series of random events, unfolding in a coincidentally beautiful and harmonious way, most of us now realise the precarious point we have reached as nature's harmony is disrupted and large sections of the natural world and its creatures disappear like the legendary unicorn in the face of human indifference or greed. The burning of ancient forests and assaults on Indigenous peoples, the suffering of poorer nations most vulnerable to climate change, the reckless wars and policies pushing nature's boundaries to breaking point. All of these challenges to our humanity and faith are worthy of prayer during these weeks and beyond. Among Indigenous peoples, the Dakota tribe of North America had a saying; 'We will be known forever by the tracks we leave.' That is true, assuming of course that future generations will survive long enough to reflect upon our present follies. (Fr Paul Clayton Lee)

Welcome home: This weekend we extend a warm welcome home to Archbishop Michael Lenihan. We congratulate Archbishop Michael on his recent appointment as Archbishop of San Pedro Sula Archdiocese in Honduras. We reassure him of our prayers as he takes up his new role as archbishop. We wish him every blessing in his new ministry.

The Pope's Monthly Intention for September: For people living on the margins: We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Book of Genesis: 'God's creative, transforming presence in our lives' with Sister Therese Fitzgerald, Sister of Our Lady of Sion.

A six weekly Zoom session on Mondays 18th, 25th September and on the 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd October, 7.30 - 9.00pm. In the Book of Genesis, we hear stories about various people such as Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, who continue to shape our lives today. As we engage with how they relate with one another, we will reflect on ways in which their stories might support us in our personal response to others. Register your place on <http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BookofGenesis>. Cost €60

Bereavement Information – An Evening for Parents: Sharon Vard, one of the founders of Anam Cara, will be the guest speaker at this meeting on Tuesday 13th of September 2023 at 7.00pm. Sharon will share her journey, as a bereaved mother, following the death of her daughter, Rachel. Her open and honest account will highlight what helped her cope and survive the journey of grief and loss and what did not! Estelle McGinley, Senior Social Worker with Milford Care Centre, will give an update on the return of the bereavement support services for parents living in the Midwest. For further information, contact 085-2888 888 or [in-fo@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie)

Diocesan Assembly: A meeting of all 15 Parish Pastoral Unit Councils of the diocese, will take place in Rathkeale House Hotel, on Saturday 23rd September, from 10.00am to 3.00pm. The meeting will include a review of the Parish Pastoral Units Team Ministry and sharing of practical experiences from parishes. A Diocesan Report on the diocese will be launched by Bishop Leahy and those attending will receive an update on the upcoming Synod in Rome. All Pastoral Unit Council members are asked to attend.

Eucharist Adoration: Limerick Diocesan Adoration Committee is taking on new members to further the practice of Eucharistic Adoration in the Diocese. You are welcome to attend a preliminary meeting in St. Nessans Parish centre, Raheen V94 ED2C on Saturday Sept. 16th starting with Mass at 10AM. Refreshments served, please contact Tommie/Maureen at 086-0401789 / 087-6497382 to book a place.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross: will be celebrated next Thursday 14th of September. On Friday the 15th of September we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows

Our mother of sorrows, with strength from above you stood by the cross, sharing in the sufferings of Jesus, and with tender care you bore him in your arms, mourning and weeping.
We praise you for your faith, which accepted the life God planned for you. We praise you for your hope, which trusted that God would do great things in you. We praise you for your love in bearing with Jesus the sorrows of his passion.
Holy Mary, may we follow your example, and stand by all your children who need comfort and love.