



# ABBEYFEALE PARISH NEWS



17th July 2016

Sisteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.abbeyfealeparish.ie

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## Intentions for this weekend:

**7pm** Tommy, Margaret, Helen, Norann & Mai Leahy, New Street Moss & Lily Colbert, New Street and Jeremiah Moriarty.  
**9.30am** Patrick O'Connor, Mountmahon Anniv.  
**12noon** Mary Lane Meenkilly Anniv.

## Intention for the week:

**Mon 7pm** Get well after accident  
**Tues 8.15am** Nell Healy, Dromtrasna Anniv.  
**Tues 10am** Elizabeth & Mick Mulcahy late of Killarney Rod and daughter Kathleen late of USA.  
**Wed 10am** Denis Casey, Caherlane Anniv.  
**Sat 11am** Christy Harnett, The Hill Anniv.

## Intentions for next weekend

**7pm** Mathew O'Connor, Dromtrasna Anniv. Michael (Hauleen) Foley Month Mind.  
**9.30am** Fionnuala O'Donnell, Caherhayes 4th Anniv Larry Collins, Killarney Road Anniv.  
**12noon** Nora & Jim Fealy, Ballybehy Anniv. Jeremiah Healy upper Knocknasna and John Broderick upper Knocknasna and Adelaide Australia

## Death

We offer our sympathy to the family of Rita Lane, Knockulcare, Mountcollins whose funeral took place on Thursday. May she rest in peace.

## THE STORY BEHIND THE PICTURE OF THE PRAYING HANDS

Back in the fifteenth century, in a tiny village near Nuremberg, lived a family with 18 children. Eighteen! In order merely to keep food on the table for this mob, the father and head of the household, a goldsmith by profession, worked almost 18 hours a day at his trade and any other paying chore he could find in the neighbourhood. Despite their seemingly hopeless condition, two of Albrecht Durer the Elder's children had a dream. They both wanted to pursue their talent for art, but they knew full well that their father would never be financially able to send either of them to Nuremberg to study at the Academy. After many long discussions at night in their crowded bed, the two boys finally worked out a pact. They would toss a coin. The loser would go down into the nearby mines and, with his earnings, support his brother while he attended the academy. Then, when that brother who won the toss completed his studies, in four years, he would support the other brother at the academy, either with sales of his artwork or, if necessary, also by labouring in the mines. They tossed a coin on a Sunday morning after church. Albrecht Durer won the toss and went off to Nuremberg. Albert went down into the dangerous mines and, for the next four years, financed his brother, whose work at the academy was almost an immediate sensation. Albrecht's etchings, his woodcuts, and his oils were far better than those of most of his professors, and by the time he graduated, he was beginning to earn considerable fees for his commissioned works.

When the young artist returned to his village, the Durer family held a festive dinner on their lawn to celebrate Albrecht's triumphant homecoming. After a long and memorable meal, punctuated with music and laughter, Albrecht rose from his honoured position at the head of the table to drink a toast to his beloved brother for the years of sacrifice that had enabled Albrecht to fulfill his ambition. His closing words were, "And now, Albert, blessed brother of mine, now it is your turn. Now you can go to Nuremberg to pursue your dream, and I will take care of you." All heads turned in eager expectation to the far end of the table where Albert sat, tears streaming down his pale face, shaking his lowered head from side to side while he sobbed and repeated, over and over, "No...no...no...no."

Finally, Albert rose and wiped the tears from his cheeks. He glanced down the long table at the faces he loved, and then, holding his hands close to his right cheek, he said softly, "No, brother. I cannot go to Nuremberg. It is too late for me. Look ... look what four years in the mines have done to my hands! The bones in every finger have been smashed at least once, and lately I have been suffering from arthritis so badly in my right hand that I cannot even hold a glass to return your toast, much less make delicate lines on parchment or canvas with a pen or a brush. No, brother... for me it is too late." More than 450 years have passed. By now, Albrecht Durer's hundreds of masterful portraits, pen and silver-point sketches, water colours, charcoals, woodcuts, and copper engravings hang in every great museum in the world, but the odds are great that you, like most people, are familiar with only one of Albrecht Durer's works. More than merely being familiar with it, you very well may have a reproduction hanging in your home or office. One day, to pay homage to Albert for all that he had sacrificed, Albrecht Durer painstakingly drew his brother's abused hands with palms together and thin fingers stretched skyward. He called his powerful drawing simply "Hands," but the entire world almost immediately opened their hearts to his great masterpiece and renamed his tribute of love "The Praying Hands."

Author Unknown



## Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Finding the balance ....** This Sundays Gospel is the story of Mary and Martha. Once so well known, yet it always teaches us. For we all need balance - the ability to work well and to sit still, to feed the hungry and to be with God.

Mother Teresa taught her novices that without prayer they could not 'do the work', but without going out and serving, their prayer might become stale. May we - like all disciples of Jesus - take time this summer to be still so that we too can serve with joy.

Lord of all pots and pans and things,  
Since I've no time to be  
A saint by doing lovely things or  
Watching late with thee,  
Or dreaming in the twilight or  
Storming heaven's gates.  
Make me a saint by getting meals or  
Washing up the plates.  
Although I must have Martha's hands,  
I have Mary's mind, and,  
When I black the boots and shoes  
Thy sandals, Lord, I find.

I think of how they trod the earth  
What time I scrub the floor,  
Accept this meditation, Lord,  
I haven't time for more.  
Warm all the kitchen with thy love,  
And light it with thy peace,  
Forgive me all my worrying  
And make all grumbling cease.

Thou who didst love to give us food  
In room or by the sea  
Accept this service that I do  
I do it unto thee.

Amen.

When Jesus said ' You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while (Mark 6:31) it was an invitation to give ourselves a chance to have our batteries recharged and be refreshed by His grace .

## Holiday Prayer.

Lord, protect and bless all those who are on holidays . Re-create them in body, mind and spirit. Help them to let go, to step of the treadmill of stress and predictable routine. Help us all to create a "Sabbath space" in our hearts, our lives and our relationships.

## A Blessing for Priesthood.

May the blessing released through your hands, cause the windows to open in darkened minds.

May the sufferings your calling brings be the winter before the spring.  
May the companionship of your doubt restore what beliefs leave out.  
May the secret hungers of your heart harvest from the emptiness its sacred fruit.  
May your solitude be a voyage into the wilderness and wonder of God.  
May you words have a prophetic edge to enable the heart to hear itself.  
May the silence where your calling dwells foster your freedom in all you do and feel.  
May you find words full of divine warmth to clothe the dying in the language of dawn.  
May the slow light of the Eucharist be a sure shelter around your future.

John O'Donohue Benedictus (2007)

## FAITH CAMP

Please note registration will take place at 9am on TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug at St Mary's Boys School for those children who are not registered already. Application forms available in church porches.

## PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD

## **Novena to Our Lady of Knock**

National Novena to Our Lady of Knock will take place from the 14th – 22nd August. The theme for this year is 'Merciful like the Father' in keeping with the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

## **SALE OF PRODUCE FROM THE PARISH COMMUNITY**

**GARDEN:** We will hold a sale of whatever has been harvested next weekend at the 9.30am Sunday Mass. We have honey from our bee-hives, jams from the fruit bushes, some new potatoes, rhubarb, onions, some pot plants, pots of parsley and thyme and a few surprises. All monies raised going as usual to support Fr. Tim Galvin's Mission in South Sudan.

There are **CE Positions** available with the above at Fr. Casey's GAA Grounds and Abbeyfeale Town Park. **Positions Include** Groundskeepers, Gardeners, Caretakers, Forestry and a Research Assistant. **Working Hours Flexible. Opportunity for upskilling as per DSP Guidelines.** Apply through local DSP Office, Fr. Casey's GAA or the Town Park. Contact 068 31799 or 087 928 2322

**LAUNCH NIGHT FOR CHARITY CYCLE:** Abbeyfeale Cycling Club (ACC) will be hosting a launch for their first charity cycle at Leens Hotel on Friday, July 15. Junior Minister for Sport Patrick O'Donovan will be present to hear details of the planned 60Km and 110Km routes around the surrounding parishes. This first cycle will be in aid of St Gabriel's School in Limerick and will take place on Sunday, Aug 14.