



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



9th May 2021 www.abbeyfealeparish.ie email fealechurch@eircom.net Fr Tony Mullins PP 087/2600414 mstrev@gmail.com

Co Parish Priests of the Pastoral Area

Fr Brendan Duggan 087/0562674

Fr Denis Mullane 087/2621911

Fr Tony Mullins 0872600414

Fr Dan Lane (Retired) 087/2533030

Intentions for this weekend

6.30pm Lena O'Connor Month Mind

10am

12noon Maureen Browne, Church Street Anniv.

Intentions for the week.

Mon 10th May @ 7pm Ann O'Connor,
Dromtrasna Harnett 1st Anniv.

Tues 10am Pro Populo

Wed 10am **Thurs 10am**

Fri 10am James Collins Dromtrasna Harnett
Louis McEnery Dromtrasna Anniv.

No Saturday morning Mass

Intentions for next weekend

6.30pm Rhona Danaher, Church Street Anniv.

10am Tom Collins Meenkilly Anniv,
James Collins Dromtrasna Harnett

7pm Mon Paddy Flynn, Main Street Month
Mind

Timothy & Ellen Healy and Son John
Joe and daughter Eily Healy

Deaths

We offer our sympathy to the family of
Kathleen Wrenn, Hillary Close whose funeral
took place on Wednesday.

To the family of Michael Houlihan, Ballaugh
whose funeral took place on Saturday.
May they rest in peace.

The parish clerks summer collection take place
next weekend. We thank you for your continued
support and look forward to seeing you all again.

The Blessed Sacrament is open from 11am to
6pm Monday to Saturday for private prayer.

Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations to Sinead O'Halloran and
Patrick O'Connell who celebrated the Sacrament
of Marriage here in Abbeyfeale on Friday 7th
May. We wish them every happiness in their
married life together.

Reason to be satisfied by resumption of ceremonies but 'COVID complacency' the enemy – Bishop Leahy

In a statement issued last weekend, Bishop Brendan Leahy said "The resumption of public ceremonies in churches from May 10th onwards is deeply satisfying in so many ways. It's just great to feel we can be gathered as one, albeit with number limited, seeing each other, listening together to God's Word, expressing ourselves as a community and taking part in the Mass that contains the great gift of the Eucharist.

"Not everyone will understand the significance of it, but many people of faith see this as very, very positive in terms of their spiritual health and personal wellbeing." Bishop Leahy expressed confidence, thanks to track record of already having managed a reopening, that public celebrations will be appropriately and carefully handled but he said that we cannot at any stage drop our guard. And he paid tribute to priests and parish volunteers for their work.

"Of course, we've been here before. We know how resumption of public ceremonies works. We have experience and are confident that the good measures put in place last summer will continue again this time. But confidence crumbles and is worthless under complacency so we must at no stage let up. **COVID complacency is the enemy** and we must redouble our efforts, not least we have come so far already.

We all need to be careful because the virus is still with us."

Marathon of Prayer announced by Pope Francis

Parishioners are encouraged to take part in a 'marathon' of prayer that Pope Francis has launched for the month of May, a month we traditionally associate with Mary and prayer of the Rosary. The purpose of the marathon of prayer is to ask God for an end to the pandemic and that normal social and work activities can resume. One of the main Marian shrines of the world will lead this prayer each day. The Knock shrine will take this lead on May 10th with a focus in its prayer for people with disabilities. Many are generously doing virtual marathons for good causes these days. It would be great if many could join this spiritual marathon by committing themselves to saying all or some part of a Rosary each day."

Official channels of the Holy See will broadcast the prayer said each day in each of these thirty Shrines at 6.00pm, Rome time (5.00pm Irish time). A short liturgical guide has been prepared that provides some useful suggestions which can be downloaded from the website of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization www.pcpne.va

All you need is love

'Love? Above all things I believe in love. Love is like oxygen. Love is a many-splendoured thing. Love lifts us up where we belong. All you need is love.' In an attempt to express the depth of his love, the character Christian from the film Moulin Rouge pulls together the lyrics of some of the most famous love songs of recent decades. Since time began, poetry, prose, and song have attempted to put into words the great mystery that is love. 'At the touch of love, everyone becomes a poet,' the philosopher Plato put it.

Today's Gospel offers one of the most eloquent passages on love in the Gospels. It reveals the vision of Jesus for his followers and explains how we should treat one another. We are to love each other with the same love Jesus showed during his time on earth, that great and generous love that culminated in his 'laying down his life for his friends'. It is in the way we love one another, the way we understand and forgive and support one another, that we experience the life and love of Jesus.

There are more than 20 references to love in today's readings. In the second reading we hear that 'everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God'. That love that God showed by sending his Son for us, is the same generous, wholehearted, self-sacrificing love we are called to show others - all others. God does not have favourites.

'We find it so hard to accept the revelation that it is God's delight to be worshipped in the way we touch and look at each other, in the way we listen and talk to each other, in the way we forgive and promise to start all over again.' (Daniel O'Leary)

Cead Mile Failte ar Ais !!": A hundred thousand welcomes to you all. I feel a bit like the Angel Gabriel this weekend, 'bringing you news of Great Joy'; The doors of our church are re-opening to welcome you back and I know how much this means to you all. It's been good being able to be together in prayer over the last year, sharing our connectivity through technology. But nothing can compare to being 'a community gathered' around our altar.

Our church re-opens for Mass on this Monday Evening at 7.00pm and for our community mass on each weekday at 10.00am. Numbers are restricted to 50 this week, and we must all really respect and observe the guidelines. They are for our own and each other's safety.

Recently in one of my walks exploring the countryside, I spotted an elevated Cross on the hillside. My curiosity drew me to investigate, and I discovered that I was in 'Clais an Aifrinn', high overlooking the Golden Vale. Memories flowed back of Penal Times, of our ancestors climbing up that hill. I was trying to imagine where the 'look-outs stations' were located. No doubt our faithful people gathered aware of the lurking dangers. But 'it was the mass that matters' and fear failed to deter them

As we re-gather for our masses, there are, and will be, different dangers and risks lurking. **The Virus hasn't gone away.** Each of us has to be alert and be the 'look out' for each other. We must now ensure that we keep each other safe. So, a special appeal to everyone; -.

"Please maintain social distancing at all times while attending Mass and please follow the guidance of our wonderful church stewards.
Thank you for your cooperation" *Fr Dan Lane*

Guidelines for the re-opening of Churches

Please use sanitiser, available at entrances and exits to the church

- Social Distancing must be adhered to at all times and please wear your mask for added safety
- For this week our church capacity will be limited to 50, but beginning on the weekend of May 16th, the Church will be divided into 'pods' (of no more than 50 persons in each), giving us welcome extra capacity
- Each Section has its own entrance / exit route with strictly no movements between 'pods'
- The 'Sign of Peace' remains suspended for the moment and arrangements for Holy Communion, observing social distancing as they were last time
- Should you find the capacity of the church has already been reached, you may park in the grounds and participate in our mass through your car radio [107FM]

But please remain in your car so that there is no congregating in the car park

Numbers for Weddings and Funerals are limited to 50. It is not in the power of the priest to change this. It is the 'law of the land' , so please do not exceed or ask for exceptions