

HAPPY EASTER!

The message of Easter is essentially one of the triumph of light over darkness, of hope over despair and of laughing in the face of death itself – yes, laughing! That Jesus rose from the dead and was actually seen by many of his disciples gives us a fresh insight into our ultimate destiny with God in the afterlife. It is only through the Resurrection that we can conceive of the possibility of an afterlife.

The very concept of an afterlife, however, is a joke to many very sincere people today. As they see it, we are deluding ourselves so that we don't have to face the reality of nothingness when we die. To the modern scientific mind an empty tomb proves nothing and until I see the holes the nails made and can see the Risen Jesus in actuality, your talk is nonsense (sound familiar?!). It's hard to argue with this Thomistic line of reasoning. Of course, we would love to see the Risen Jesus right here, right now and to question him but I think we will be waiting! The Lord will return in his own time. The reason I believe in the Resurrection is the many testimonies from those who saw him in the flesh so to speak, from Thomas who like us wasn't willing just to take someone's word for it as well as not actually finding his body, this is at least an invitation to dig deeper into the mystery of faith and open our minds to extraordinary possibilities. As N.T. Wright, the New Testament scholar puts it: *"Jesus' resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven."*

Wishing you all a very happy and joy filled Easter – He is Risen, alleluia!

Fr Richard

ANGER MANAGEMENT (ONLINE COURSE) KNOCK COUNSELLING CENTRE

Anger Issues? Knock Counselling Centre at Knock Shrine is running a 5-evening Online Anger Management programme, starting on Tue 18th April, 7pm - 9pm.

Contact Peter Devers at 094 93 75032 or log onto www.knockshrine.ie/counselling for more information.

PRIESTS EASTER COLLECTION

The Priests Easter Collection will be taken up over the coming weeks. Thank you for your generosity.

KNOCK 25 CARD GAME

continues at 9.00pm in St. John's Welcome Centre. All Welcome. Enquires to 086 0500342.

CARMELITE CONVENT - TRANQUILLA

Morning Mass at 8.00am except on Friday morning when Mass will be at 9.00am. Masses are open to the Public. Chapel open from 2.00pm - 5.00pm daily. Vespers at 4.30pm.

EWTN will broadcast the 12 noon Mass every Sunday.

LEGION OF MARY KNOCK PRAESIDIUM

has their weekly meeting on Thursdays at 10.45am in St. John's Welcome Centre. New members welcome.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Wednesday morning at 11am in the Family Centre, Knock Shrine. Also on the first Thursday of each month at 11am there will be an opportunity specifically for bereaved spouses to meet. These meetings aim to help those who grieve find healing.

ORGAN DONOR MASS

To mark Organ Donor week, a special Mass will take place at Knock Shrine on Sunday the 16th of April at 12 noon in solidarity with those who are waiting for or have received organs and in thanksgiving for those who have donated organs. It will also remember with love and gratitude all those who have died and whose organs were donated by their families following their death. All are welcome.

WESTERN ALZHEIMERS

are hosting a Tea Day in conjunction with Memory Dance Social Club at Curam family Centre, Church grounds, Claremorris on Wednesday April 19th, 10am to 2pm. All are welcome!

All proceeds are in aid of Western Alzheimers. Please support.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The Tuam Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Archbishop Francis, from Ireland West (Knock) Airport, 5 nights, Friday Sept 1st to Wednesday, Sept 6th 2023. For details and booking, please contact 01-2410800.

ENABLE IRELAND MAYO SERVICES

require Volunteers in all areas Mayo to work with Children with a disability. Volunteers usually work one-to-one with a child within their home but also within their community. No more than three hours are required per week. We work around your availability to make this exciting opportunity suit your lifestyle. Training is also provided. If you are interested please contact Fiona at 087 6808350 or email fscully@enableireland.ie for further information. This is a very rewarding role and our Volunteers are very positive about their experience.



St. Anne's Church, Shanvaghera & Church of St. John the Baptist, Knock

Newsletter, Sunday 9 April, 2023. Easter Sunday. Year A.

Fr Richard Gibbons, P.P. tel: 094 93 88100

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

KNOCK:

Monday 10 April:	12noon	Thomas Leo McCormack. Carramore. Anniv.
	3.00pm	Aidan Keeley, Derry and Frank Kavanagh. Month's Mind.
	7.30pm	Seamus Broderick and deceased members of the Broderick Family. Anniv.
Tuesday 11 April:	3.00pm	Michael and Teresa McHugh. Anniv. and their son Paul. Ruane.
	7.30pm	John and Bridget McAndrew.
Wednesday 12 April:	12noon	John Phillips, Cloonernane. Anniv. and deceased members of the Phillips Family.
	3.00pm	Ted Collins, Glencara, Knock.
	7.30pm	Kathleen Davey, Ballyhowley.
Thursday 13 April:	3.00pm	Bridie Magan, Carramore. Anniv.
	7.30pm	Joe Kneafsey, Coogue Middle. Anniv.
Friday 14 April:	7.30pm	Kieran McNulty. Anniv.
Saturday 15 April:	3.00pm	Nancy Prendergast, Clarkefield. Anniv.
	7.30pm	Joe Lennon, Carramore. Anniv.
Sunday 16 April:	12noon	Mary Ann and Bernie Kearns, Cloonlee.

SHANVAGHERA.

Sunday 9 April:	10.00am	Tracey Campbell Fitzpatrick, Shanvaghera. Anniv.
Sunday 16 April:	10.00am	Paddy and Nancy Kenny, Meeltrane.

KNOCK COMMUNITY CENTRE FUNDRAISING APPEAL

An information leaflet with details of how the parishioners can support the Knock Community Centre essential upgrade and refurbishment project, is being distributed to households in the community over the coming days. Due to the very extensive works required, we will need to raise approximately two hundred thousand euro in addition to the grant allocation of 300k awarded through the Community Centre Investment Fund. The committee would be really grateful if you could facilitate a donation, however big or small, to this very worthy cause. Donations can be dropped into Knock Post Office. These are necessary improvements so that this vital service – OUR COMMUNITY CENTRE – remains useable, accessible, safe and continues to meet the needs of the present and future generations living in the wider Knock area.

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