

*Your time at*  
**KNOCK SHRINE**

A UNIQUE AND PRAYERFUL PLACE OF PILGRIMAGE



**KNOCK**

Ireland's International Eucharistic  
and Marian Shrine

## Your time at Knock Shrine

Whether you are coming to Knock as a seasoned pilgrim  
or a stranger to this place,  
you will find a unique and prayerful place  
with a completely unique and fascinating history.



Image: Apparition Gable, Knock c.1880. ©Wynne Photographic Collection

## Welcome

### SPEND TIME AT THE APPARITION CHAPEL

The Apparition Chapel encloses the original gable wall of the Parish Church. Pilgrims can visit the very spot where the Apparition was witnessed in 1879. The Chapel is quiet and peaceful and provides a space for reflective prayer and contemplation.

The brilliant white Carrara marble carvings are a representation, in statue form, of what the Witnesses saw on that night: Our Lady, St. Joseph to her right, St. John the Evangelist to her left and the Lamb at the centre of the scene. This central element of the Lamb is not to be found in any other recognised Marian Apparition. In March 2021, Knock Shrine was honoured to be officially recognised as an International Eucharistic and Marian Shrine by Pope Francis, through the Pontifical Council for New Evangelisation.



### THE TRADITIONAL STATIONS AT KNOCK SHRINE

The traditional Stations at Knock Shrine have been undertaken by pilgrims since the earliest days, reflecting the ancient Irish tradition of 'praying the rounds' at holy places.

This includes praying the Rosary, a visit to the Blessed Sacrament in any of the

## Your time at Knock Shrine

Chapels and following the Stations of the Cross. These can be performed outside, near the Shrine or on Calvary Hill, weather permitting. In wet weather they may be performed in the Parish Church or in the Basilica, where you can reflect on the beautiful Stations of the Cross oil paintings by Ger Sweeney.

### THE APPARITION MOSAIC

The Apparition mosaic at Knock Basilica is a truly magnificent representation of the evening of the 21st of August 1879. The vivid richness of over 1.5 million individual pieces of coloured glass combines in unison to give us a sense of the wonder and awe that the people of the village must have felt as they gazed at the heavenly vision before them.

The mosaic is based on an artistic representation of the Apparition by Irish illustrator, PJ Lynch and crafted by Trvisanutto Mosaics in Spilimbergo, Italy.



### THE CHAPEL OF RECONCILIATION

The Shrine at Knock is above all else a place of healing where countless pilgrims have encountered the compassion and mercy of God. Confessions are available each day at Chapel of Reconciliation. The Chapel is beautifully constructed on

a low site, which is of symbolic significance as the descent into the chapel recalls the rite of Baptism. The building has only a single shaft of natural light coming down through the high roof of the centre, which makes the colourful mosaic a central focus of light, brightness and hope. This beautiful mosaic was designed by Sr. Angelica Ballan, Order of the Divine Master in Rome.



### SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Pilgrims are encouraged to take part in Spiritual Direction which is available in the Chapel of Reconciliation. Spiritual direction is a space to talk about life and faith, joys and sorrows, to see how well we are living the love that God has given us. Often it involves turning faith into good decisions and choices.



### IMOGEN STUART BEEHIVE MEDITATION CELL

Located in the Chapel of Reconciliation, the Beehive Meditation Cell was designed by renowned sculptor Imogen Stuart and made by the students of Moyne College, Ballina, Co. Mayo. Irish monks and hermits lived in cells like these from the 6th century onwards and they were usually built of stone. Spend some time in the cell and experience the peace and tranquility of the space.

## *Your time at Knock Shrine*

### **KNOCK MUSEUM**

The best way to begin your day at Knock Shrine is with a visit to the award-winning Knock Museum which is open daily from 10am and admission is free. At Knock Museum you will find out about the intriguing story of the Knock Apparition of 1879 and explore a wonderful collection of artefacts including Archdeacon Cavanagh's 'Diary of Cures'. The latest addition to the Museum is a 'Village Model' which depicts the village of Knock exactly as it was on the evening of the Apparition. You can also walk into the thatched house with its open-fire, hag bed and dresser, modelled on the Witnesses' houses.



### **BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL**

Take some time for quiet prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament during your visit to Knock Shrine. Exposition takes place daily in the peaceful space of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel throughout the pilgrimage season and in the Chapel of Reconciliation throughout the winter Season.

### **THE BOOK SHOP**

The Bookshop at Knock Shrine is a quiet haven where you can browse through a wide selection of spiritual books, journals, resources, as well as the latest new releases and popular books. Our categories include Knock Shrine literature, children's books, saints, prayer and devotion, faith and spirituality,

inspirational, pastoral as well as health and well-being. The bookshop also stocks seasonal resources for Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas as well as liturgical calendars and diaries. You will also find a special selection of gift items, including bespoke gifts unique to Knock Shrine. Centrally located opposite the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Open daily.

### **EXPLORE BEAUTIFUL, SACRED GROUNDS**

As you enter the grounds, you will notice the vastness of the space, stunning gardens and many meandering pathways to explore. Enjoy a self-guided tour of the grounds using an Audio Guide (available at Knock Museum). This service is free of charge and is a great way to explore the many beautiful artworks and points of interest. Listen to the gentle rustle of leaves, birdsong, breathe in the fresh air and let yourself relax in the beautiful setting. The grounds are dotted with many interesting sculptures, historic monuments, statues, and ecclesiastic artworks. Fill your Holy Water bottle at one of the 18 Holy Water fountains located in the processional square in front of the Apparition Chapel. Sculpted and designed by Imogen Stuart from white Portuguese limestone, each one depicts a scene from the Bible connected to water.



# The Story of KNOCK

Knock Shrine is a special place, unique in the world as a Eucharistic and Marian Shrine. The story of Knock began on the 21st of August 1879 when fifteen local people witnessed an Apparition of Our Lady, St. Joseph, St. John the Evangelist, an Altar, Cross and Lamb at the south gable of the Parish Church. This Apparition transformed Knock from a small rural village into what it is today: an international Shrine of prayer and pilgrimage.

Two Commissions of Enquiry, 1879 and 1936, found that the testimony of the witnesses was trustworthy and satisfactory. Every Pope since Pope Pius XII has recognised and honoured Knock in various ways, including the personal pilgrimage of Pope John Paul II in 1979 to commemorate the centenary of the Apparition and the visit of Pope Francis in 2018 for the World Meeting of Families.

Unique to the Apparition is the presence of the Lamb of God upon the altar, a visual representation of the gift and mystery of the Eucharist. This central element is not to be found in any other recognised Marian Apparition.

When you cross the threshold and enter Knock Shrine, you leave behind the worry and cares of a troubled world.

Whatever your reason for coming here, whether it be to experience peace and contemplation, to pray for a loved one, or simply as a passer-by, we hope that your visit will end with an answered prayer, a sense of healing, or a new perspective on whatever troubles you.



- 18 The Basilica
- 17 Graves of Msgr. James Horan, Msgr. Dominick Grealy, Msgr. Joseph Quinn
- 16 Papal Cross
- 15 Statue of St Thérèse
- 14 St. John's Welcome Centre: Wheelchair Accessible
- 13 Mass Card Office
- 12 Knock Bookshop
- 11 Security & Lost Property
- 10 Blessed Sacrament Chapel
- 9 Mary's Garden
- 8 Toilets
- 7 Prayer Centre
- 6 Mass Card Office
- 5 Calvary & Stations of the Cross
- 4 Mass Card Office
- 3 Outdoor Candelabrum
- 2 Parish Church
- 1 Apparition Chapel



# KNOCK

Ireland's International Eucharistic and Marian Shrine

- 19 Carmelite Monastery
- 20 Knock House Hotel & Restaurant
- 21 Café le Chéile
- 22 Knock Museum
- 23 Grandparents Pilgrimage Office
- 24 Shrine Development Office
- 25 Youth Ministry, The HUB / Family Centre
- 26 Old Cemetery - Witnesses Graves
- 27 Toilets
- 28 Medical Centre
- 29 Calvary Hill

**KEY**

- Information Point
- Parking Cars & Coaches
- Disabled Parking
- Medical Centre
- Toilets
- Vehicle Access
- Pedestrian Access
- Bus Stop
- Audio Guide

## Your time at Knock Shrine



### **KNOCK COUNSELLING CENTRE**

Knock Counselling Centre promotes emotional, spiritual and mental well-being through the provision of professional counselling services to individuals, couples, families and young people aged 12 to 18 years. Located at the Chapel of Reconciliation, the Centre also provides a drop-in listening service which provides an opportunity to discuss difficult or challenging life issues in a caring and confidential environment.

### **THE HUB – A FUN SPACE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AT KNOCK SHRINE**

The HUB is a vibrant place full of fun, friendship and faith. The HUB offers a kids' club called 'The Ark' for children 5+ years, offering an hour full of arts and crafts, songs and games all based on the Gospel of the day. This service is available throughout July and August. The HUB also provides a drop-in centre for teens and young adults to pop in for a cuppa and a chat.



### **KNOCK PRAYER CENTRE**

Knock Prayer Centre is a quiet contemplative space where you can relax and pray. A place where you can also experience prayer with Scripture and begin to notice how the Word of God connects with your life. Each prayer session is hosted by a trained Prayer Guide.

### **ST. JOHN'S WELCOME CENTRE**

St John's Welcome Centre boasts a large seating and dining area, where pilgrims can rest, relax and enjoy the peace and tranquility of Knock. It is advisable (especially for large groups) to book the hall in advance, so that adequate seating can be reserved for your group. There are also three meeting rooms available in the centre which are perfect for accommodating smaller groups or private meetings. Wi-fi available.



### **MOBILITY SERVICES AT KNOCK SHRINE**

Knock Basilica has an area of seating at the front of each chapel for those using wheelchairs. Disabled toilets are available within the Shrine grounds in the main public toilets, at Knock Museum, St John Welcome Centre and in the Basilica.

**WHEELCHAIR SERVICE:** Wheelchairs can be requested at St. John's Welcome Centre for use throughout the grounds. Any pilgrim who wishes to borrow a wheelchair, may reserve one in advance or request one on the day.

**SHUTTLE SERVICE:** A free shuttle service operates throughout the Shrine grounds and can be requested at any of the buildings, just ask a member of staff. The shuttle can transport pilgrims around the grounds to the various churches, Museum & Café, Chapel of Reconciliation, and other points of interest.

## Your time at Knock Shrine

### MASS ENROLMENTS

Enrol a friend or loved one in Knock Shrine Friends' Association where they will be remembered during daily Mass at Knock Shrine. Mass offices are open daily.



### MEALS & ACCOMMODATION

From light bites to a full lunch menu, you will find a wide selection of options for refreshments at Knock Shrine.

Accommodation is available at Knock House Hotel and St. Mary's, both are within easy walking distance of Knock Shrine.

**The Four Seasons Restaurant at Knock House Hotel** is open daily serving food from 12.30pm and a Lounge Menu is available daily from 12-9pm. Group bookings are welcome.

**St. Mary's Guest House** offers a full lunch menu from 12.30pm to 2.30pm daily. Group bookings are welcome.

**Café le Chéile** at Knock Museum offers a wide and varied menu and is open from 10am.

**St. John's Welcome Centre** offers light refreshments – teas, coffees and sandwiches.

## PRAYERS FOR THE TRADITIONAL STATION AT KNOCK SHRINE

### THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Begin each Station with the following prayer:

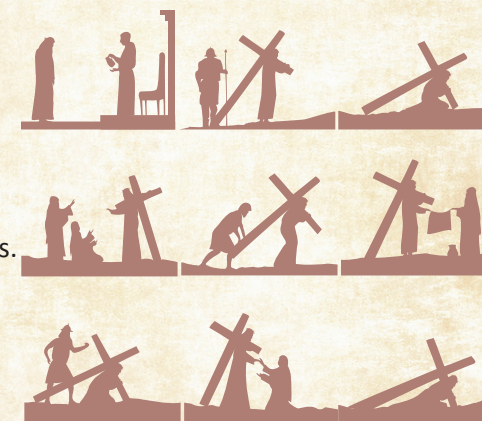
V. (*Genuflecting*) We adore you O Christ and we praise you.

R. Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

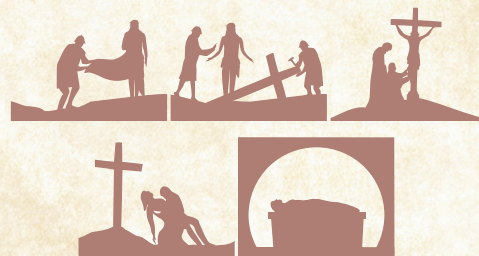
*You will find meditation guides on the Stations of the Cross at Knock Shrine in any of the Mass enrolment offices or at Knock Bookshop.*

### The 14 Stations of the Cross

1. Jesus is condemned to death.
2. Jesus is given His Cross.
3. Jesus falls for the first time.
4. Jesus meets His mother Mary.
5. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the Cross.
6. Veronica wipes blood off of Jesus' face.
7. Jesus falls down for the second time.
8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.
9. Jesus falls down for the third time.



10. Jesus is stripped of His clothing.
11. Jesus is nailed to the Cross
12. Jesus dies on the Cross.
13. Jesus' body is removed from the Cross.
14. Jesus' body is placed in the tomb.



## THE MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY:

### JOYFUL, LIGHT, SORROWFUL AND GLORIOUS

*Traditionally the rosary is recited while the pilgrim walks around the Parish Church anti-clockwise.*

#### The Joyful Mysteries

- The Annunciation
- The Visitation
- The Nativity
- The Presentation
- The Finding in the Temple



#### The Mysteries of Light

- The Baptism in the Jordan
- The Wedding at Cana
- The Proclamation of the Kingdom
- The Transfiguration
- The Institution of the Eucharist

#### The Sorrowful Mysteries

- Agony in the Garden
- Scourging at the Pillar
- Crowning with Thorns
- Carrying of the Cross
- The Crucifixion

#### The Glorious Mysteries

- The Resurrection
- The Ascension
- Descent of the Holy Spirit
- The Assumption
- Crowning of Mary





## LITANY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Lord, have mercy on us.	Mother of good counsel,	<i>Pray for Us</i>
Christ, have mercy on us.	Mother of our Creator,	"
Lord, have mercy on us.	Mother of our Saviour,	
Christ, hear us.	Virgin most prudent,	
Christ, graciously hear us.	Virgin most venerable,	
God the Father of heaven,	Virgin most renowned,	
<i>Have mercy on us.</i>	Virgin most powerful,	
God the Son, Redeemer of the world,	Virgin most merciful,	
<i>Have mercy on us.</i>	Virgin most faithful,	
God the Holy Spirit,	Mirror of justice,	
<i>Have mercy on us.</i>	Seat of wisdom,	
Holy Trinity, one God,	Cause of our joy,	
<i>Have mercy on us.</i>	Spiritual vessel,	
Holy Mary,	Vessel of honour,	
<i>Pray for Us (repeat after each line)</i>	Singular vessel of devotion,	
Holy Mother of God, "	Mystical rose,	
Holy Virgin of virgins,	Tower of David,	
Mother of Christ,	Tower of ivory,	
Mother of the Church,	House of gold,	
Mother of mercy,	Ark of the covenant,	
Mother of divine grace,	Gate of heaven,	
Mother of hope,	Morning star,	
Mother most pure,	Health of the sick,	
Mother most chaste,	Refuge of sinners,	
Mother inviolate,	Comfort of Migrants,	
Mother undefiled,	Comforter of the afflicted,	
Mother most amiable,	Help of Christians,	
Mother most admirable,		

Queen of Angels,	<i>Pray for Us</i>	Queen of all Saints,
Queen of Patriarchs,	"	Queen conceived without original sin,
Queen of Prophets,		Queen assumed into heaven,
Queen of Apostles,		Queen of the most holy Rosary,
Queen of Martyrs,		Queen of Families,
Queen of Confessors,		Queen of Peace. <i>Pray for Us</i>
Queen of Virgins,		

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, *Spare us, O Lord.*  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, *Graciously hear us, O Lord.*  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, *Have mercy on us.*

### Let us pray,

O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death and resurrection has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant we beseech that by meditating upon these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

## PLENARY INDULGENCE FOR PILGRIMS

*Pilgrims may gain a plenary indulgence on the Feast of Our Lady of Knock (August 17th), on the anniversary of the Apparition (August 21st) and on one other day of the year, of their choice. To receive the plenary indulgence, pilgrims should make a confession, receive Holy Communion, pray for the intentions of Our Holy Father, the Pope (One 'Our Father', one 'Hail Mary' and one 'Glory') and recite the 'Our Father' and 'Creed' at the Shrine.*



## **PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF KNOCK**

Our Lady of Knock Queen of Ireland, you gave hope to your people in a time of distress and comforted them in sorrow. You have inspired countless pilgrims to pray with confidence to your Son, remembering his promise; 'Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find.'

Help me to remember that we are all pilgrims on the road to heaven. Fill me with love and concern for my brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who live with me. Comfort me when I am sick or lonely or depressed. Teach me how to take part ever more reverently in the Holy Mass.

Pray for me now, and at the hour of my death. Amen.

Our Lady of Knock, *pray for us.*



**MASS IS CELEBRATED DAILY AT KNOCK SHRINE  
IN THE PARISH CHURCH & BASILICA**

***For details of Mass times, Confessions and Anointing of the Sick, see [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie)***

*Knock Shrine is open daily. Groups welcome. Times and dates may vary. For the most up to date information and opening hours, please visit our website at [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie)*

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