

He is Risen! Alleluia!

There's an old German proverb which goes: "Fear makes the wolf bigger than he is." The world today is cowering in all types of fears – fear of a widening of war in the Middle East, the horror and unimaginable hell of Gaza, the Ukraine war, climate crisis, here at home fears over homelessness and migration as well as personal and family issues. Sometimes all of this can be overwhelming, the wolf may not only seem to get bigger but turn into a pack!

Easter is a reminder to us not to be numbed by fear, that fear and death have been destroyed because Jesus is Risen from the dead. It is the Resurrection that focusses our ultimate destiny in God and with God. We do not despair as a people without hope, the Lord wants no one to be lost or to be unable to live an unfulfilled life. The Resurrection is the key point as to how we cope with all that life throws at us, it helps us to understand that we are not abandoned nor alone and, in the end, "All will be well" (Julian of Norwich).

You may say that is not realistic or that it is a bit of wishful thinking. Alright, but I believe that the Resurrection, the actual physical rising of Jesus from the dead, can lead us to do better in this world. I believe that it destroys the fear which can inhibit all of us to do better and be better people, the wolf is not only made smaller, but it is banished completely. As Pope Saint John Paul is often quoted as saying: "We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song".

I wish you all a very Happy Easter and to those of you who have come home for Easter, Welcome home!

Fr Richard

'SYNODALITY EXPLORED: FACING THE FUTURE TOGETHER' – INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Knock Shrine will host this two-day conference in association with Notre Dame University, Australia on **Friday 19th and Saturday, 20th April** at St. John's Welcome Centre. Keynote speaker on both days will be **Cardinal Mario Grech, Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops**.

The conference will be facilitated by **Prof. Eamonn Conway**, Advisor to the General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. Guest speakers will include **Prof. Renée Kohler-Ryan**, University of Notre Dame, **Julieann Moran**, General Secretary of the Synodal Pathway in Ireland, **Fr. Declan Hurley**, Vicar General of the Diocese of Meath and **Dr. Dermot Ryan**, Director of Adult Faith Development for the Diocese of Ossory.

See www.knockshrine.ie for more information. This is a free event and no booking is required.

PRIESTS EASTER COLLECTION

The Priests Easter Collection will be taken up at all Masses during the coming weeks. Thank you for your generosity.

EWTN

will broadcast the 12noon Mass every Sunday.

LEGION OF MARY KNOCK PRAESIDIUM

Legion of Mary meeting Thursday at 10:30am in St. John's Welcome Centre, Knock Shrine and Monday evenings at 7pm in the Tooreen Presbytery, Tooreen. All are welcome.

LECTIO DIVINA

a slow contemplative praying of the Scriptures will continue on Tuesdays in Carrowmore Meadows at 7.00pm. All are welcome.

KNOCK 25 CARD GAME

at 9.00pm in St. John's Welcome Centre. All welcome.

WALK FROM SHANVAGHERA CHURCH TO KNOCK

on Saturday 11th May. We would like you to join us on our walk from where we will celebrate Mass at 6am, and afterwards we invite you to a light breakfast in St John's Centre. We hope you can join us for this special event. Further information will follow in due course.

FEAST DAYS

Monday 1 April: St Ceallach.

TRANQUILLA

Morning Mass at 8.00am. Masses are open to the Public. Chapel open from 2.00pm - 5.00pm daily. Vespers at 4.30pm.

KNOCK COUNSELLING CENTRE

provides counselling to adults and young people experiencing a wide range of emotional or psychological challenges. To request an appointment please contact us at 094 9375032 or email counsellingoffice@knockshrine.ie

DIVINE ENCOUNTER BIBLE STUDY GROUP

every Friday from 6pm-7pm at The Alexian Brothers Community Centre, Churchfield. For further information please contact: 0863401038.

ST JOHN'S GOLDEN YEARS DAY CARE

continues every Tuesday and Wednesday. If you are interested in attending Day Care please phone 094 9388100 et 136

PILGRIMAGE FOR COMING WEEK:

Sunday 7 April: Divine Mercy Sunday.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Olive McGuinness, who died recently in Athlone, sister-in-law of Sr. Philomena McGuinness, Manor Quarter.



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

Newsletter Sunday 31 March 2024. Easter Sunday

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

KNOCK:

Monday 1 April:	12noon	Joe Lennon, Carramore. 4th Anniv. and deceased members of the Lennon and Duffy Families.
	7.30pm	Sr. Madgalen O'Neill, DC
Tuesday 2 April:	12noon	Sr. Julie Ann Cunnane. Month's Mind.
	7.30pm	Mary Martin, John and Michael Caulfield and Jim and Margaret McDonnell, Coogue South.
Wednesday 3 April:	12noon	Thomas and Julia Conway, Cullintra. Anniv.
	7.30pm	Seamus Broderick, Drum. Anniv.
Thursday 4 April:	12noon	Kathleen Coyne, Lakehill and deceased members of the Coyne family. Anniv
	7.30pm	Sr. Lucy Tierney, DC and Sr. Catherine Tierney, DC.
Friday 5 April:	12noon	Michael and Teresa McHugh. Anniv and their son Paul.
Saturday 6 April:	12noon	Joseph Kneafsey, Coogue. Anniv.
	7.30pm	Kieran McNulty, Carramore. Anniv.
Sunday 7 April:	12noon	Michael Naughton, Riverside Drive. Month's Mind. and Sean Hyland, Ruane. Anniv.

SHANVAGHERA

Sunday 31 March:	10.00am	Tracey Campbell Fitzpatrick. Anniv.
Sunday 7 April:	10.00am	Paddy and Nancy Kenny, Meeltrane.

THE BISHOP BARRON WORD ON FIRE COURSE

takes place on Thursdays at 8pm in St. John's Welcome Centre on the following dates: 18th, 25th April, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th May. Tea, coffee, and biscuits are provided. There is no charge. This seven-session course can be joined at any time and focuses on interesting topics about Catholicism, theology, and evangelisation.

- An initiative of Knock-Shanvaghera Pastoral Parish Council

BEREAVEMENT COURSE

Finding the strength to accept and integrate the pain we are faced with, following the death of a loved one, is very difficult. To help those who are struggling with this experience Monica Morley will present a 4-week evening programme on 'Understanding Grief and Loss – A Journey of Healing' in St John's Welcome Centre on 4 Tuesday nights - the 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th of April from 8-9.30pm. Places are limited so booking is essential. Call contact 094-9375320.

KNOCK DRAMA GROUP

will perform a two act comedy play: 'Paige Fright' An Ode to Joy, at Aghamore Community Centre (F35 AT21) Friday 5th & Saturday 6th April @ 8pm. Hilarious comedy. Strictly over 18's. Tickets €12.50 plus booking fee; available online @ Eventbrite. (Limited tickets available on the night at the door). We would like to dedicate this play to the memory of Michael Carty, Carty's Bar, Knock. Michael was a wonderful friend to our Drama Family and we had many performances in Carty's Bar. Enquiries: Leonie 086 8486924 or Joe 086 293 8216.

CLOTHES COLLECTION

Kiltimagh Knock United's fundraising clothing collection. You are asked to donate reusable and clean old and pre-loved clothes - women's, men's and children's clothing, handbags, belts, all paired shoes, also curtains, bedlinen, towels, blankets and soft toys. No pillows or duvets. Collection day bank holiday Monday, April 1 (11 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days). Coonlee, Knock (F12 HF61). All support appreciated to raise funds for its new pitch and lighting. Any queries, send a PM on Facebook or speak to any committee member.