

DROMAHAIR – KILLARGUE – NEWTOWNMANOR

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Neighbouring Priests: Fr Tom McManus, Drumkeeran – 071-9648025; Fr Patsy McDermott, Killenummery – 087-7116685; Fr Oliver Kelly, Manorhamilton – 071-9855042; Fr Samuel Kure, Glencar – 071-9855433.

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Sunday 3rd May 2020 – 4th Sunday of Easter (Vocations Sunday)

If God is calling you to the Priesthood, please have the courage to ‘Yes’!

During these days of social distancing and isolation, we have an opportunity to connect with the unfolding plan of God in our lives. For those who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, it can be a good time *through prayer and reflection* to listen more deeply to where God is calling you, and in generosity to say ‘Yes’ to that call. May we as a community, continue to pray and support those who are discerning their call at this time. Please pray for them and for vocations.

Let us also pray for Deacon Thomas Small, from Belturbet in Cavan, who will be ordained a Priest for the Diocese of Kilmore later in the summer.

A letter to children making First Holy Communion and Confirmation

From Fr Paul

Boys and girls,

I know that you are helping to keep your community safe. You are staying home from school, not meeting up with your friends and grandparents and cousins. In this way, we can help, keep many people safe and well.

We continue to listen to the advice of our doctors, nurses and the guidelines from those in government, helping to lead us, to better and safer times. Together we will get there, together we will do it.

As a result of these guidelines, we will not be able to celebrate your First Holy Communion or Confirmation later this month. I know how much you are looking forward to this very special day, welcoming Jesus into your lives in Holy Communion and living out the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation. I know all the work you, your parents/guardians and your teachers have already put into preparing for your special day.

The good news is, we will celebrate your First Holy Communion/Confirmation as soon as it is safe to do so. Jesus wants us to love one another and that means keeping each other safe. As we wait, let us continue to PRAY. Praying at home with our families and soon, please God, when it is safe, with the community at Mass every weekend.

I will talk to your teachers and parents/guardians when it is safe about organizing a new date for your special day. But in the meantime, lets pray for each other and especially those who are sick at this time.

May God continue to bless you and your families.

Thank You.

Fr Paul

Recently Deceased: Jim Brennan, Boyle, Co. Roscommon. Father of Sinead McKeon, Stonebridge, whose funeral took place recently.

May he Rest in the Peace and Love of God in heaven. Amen.

Family Prayer Cards

Available in all three Churches. There are some lovely prayers and reflections to be used either in the Church, or to take home and pray as a family during these difficult times.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, DROMAHAIR:

1. **Mass: No Sunday or Weekday Mass until further notice.**

CHURCH OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, NEWTOWNMANOR:

1. **Mass: No Sunday or Weekday Mass until further notice.**

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, KILLARGUE:

1. **Mass: No Saturday (Vigil Mass) or Weekday Mass until further notice.**
2. **Eucharistic Adoration: Cancelled until further notice.**
3. **Killargue 'Old' Cemetery:** Now in the beginning of the growing season, the cemetery will need maintenance. **Due to the COVID-19 restrictions the RSS workers are not on duty.** One person has already kindly volunteered to cut the grass. If you have a strimmer, perhaps one or two more people could volunteer to help him. In this regard, please note that HSE guidelines regarding social distancing etc., must be adhered to. **Thank you.**

Link to Cavan Cathedral Webcam - <https://www.churchservices.tv/cavancathedral>
Daily Mass is broadcast live at 10.00am & 6.30pm. The Rosary is recited at 4.00pm.

Link to St. Clare's Church, Manorhamilton, webcam - <https://churchtv.ie/st-claire-manorhamilton.html>

The Blessing of the Graves-important message

In many parishes there is a tradition of holding Cemetery Masses and Cemetery Sundays during the months of June and July. Often, these are very large gatherings accompanied by community and family events. With the possible exception of relatively small events, there would be great difficulty in ensuring social distancing in transport to and from the cemetery, with parking, with entering and leaving the cemetery and in monitoring possible large gatherings around particular family graves.

I appreciate that for many families a Cemetery Mass would be a first opportunity to gather, especially if funerals have had to take place in the current restrictions.

However, I would strongly suggest that all Cemetery Masses should be postponed until later in the summer, when circumstances will permit them to be truly family and community celebrations. In the meantime, it is important that, people have ordered access to Cemeteries to be able to remember and pray for their deceased loved ones.

Anniversary Masses and memorial Masses: That have been booked and because of Covid-19 were unable to be celebrated, can be rearranged when we are able to gather for Mass in our Churches. Please contact Fr Paul to rearrange those Masses when it is safe again. Thank You.

Senior Help Line: Any caller, concerned about Covid-19, will receive the most up to date guidance as recommended by Government sources. Good health practice is reinforced at all times. **SeniorLine is a FREEPHONE service and our older callers can call free between 10am and 10pm every day of the year on 1800-80-45-91**

A Message from Trócaire: This time of year, we would usually get back tens of thousands of boxes. Please hold onto your boxes until further notice and they can be returned to your churches when it is safe for people to do so. You can also donate online or over the phone. Online donations can be made at <https://www.trocaire.org/donate/make-a-donation>

