

Laragh Parish Newsletter

Sunday 19th April 2020 – Divine Mercy Sunday

Seeing and Believing

Some Native American tribes have coming of age rituals to initiate their members into adulthood. In one of them, a young boy of 12 or 13 is brought to a forest on the longest night of the year. There he is told to stand beside a certain tree and remain there until dawn without food or weapons. Everything in his situation is calculated to inspire fear in him. There are wild animals that could do him harm if they discover him; there are mysterious noises in the forest that fill him with dread; there is the chill of the night air and the threat that darkness brings. You can imagine how happy he is when the first rays of dawn appear and he begins to make out his surroundings. But then he sees something else that makes him even happier. From a neighbouring tree, where he has been standing all night, his father approaches him. All the while the boy thought he had been alone, his father had been keeping watch and guarding him.

The disciples make a similar discovery in today's Gospel. It is night and they are confused about the news they have received. Earlier that day Simon Peter and John found the tomb empty and Mary of Magdala says she met the Master and spoke with him. Despite this, they feel isolated and vulnerable, and uncertain about the future. Then Jesus suddenly appears out of the darkness and assures them that they are not alone, that he is with them always, keeping watch and guarding them.

Contacting Fr Brian

If you need to contact Fr Brian please call him on his mobile 086 0422996.

Apologies to anyone who has called him on his landline, it appears to not be working at the moment.

Good Advice for the Coming Week

In these trying and testing days as a parish community, as believers in the Risen Christ we are called to keep our hope alive, for ourselves and for others. Put a limit on the amount of news or social media you consume. Listen to some of your favourite music, read a book, write a poem! Keep in touch with family, friends and neighbours. We can still reach out to people by making a telephone call - this could be a real lifeline to someone who is living alone. Try and ring someone new each day - let your hope be contagious, it is a message from heart to heart.

GENERAL NOTICES

1. **Kilmore Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:** has been cancelled for 2020. The pilgrimage will take place on 4th June 2021.
2. **A Message from Trocaire:** This time of year, we would usually get back tens of thousands of boxes but that will not be possible this year, at a time when the developing world needs our help the most. 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>
3. **Daffodil Day Support:** Text Cancer to 50300 to donate €4.
4. **Cavan Cathedral Webcam:** has now been installed. You can view mass every Monday – Sunday at 10am and Monday – Saturday at 6.30pm. The link for the webcam is on www.cavantownparish.com
5. **Laragh Community Helpers:** Laragh Community Alert have set up a database of volunteers to help over 65's and other vulnerable people who feel the need to self-isolate or just don't want to go out. The volunteers are:

Aisling Jordan (Kilcrone)	087 9042229	Benny Sexton (Caulfield)	087 6378600
Cornelia & Kevin O' Connor (Monelta)	086 3890137	Georgina McCreedy (Countenan)	086 1016269
Michael O' Rourke (Lisigney)	086 8050422	Hazel & Darragh Hourihane (Raskill)	086 8763144
Gary Connell (Countenan)	087 2496032	Eileen O'Rourke (Lisigney)	086 8054422
Peter Denning (Drumhalla)	087 2703511	Thias Rudden (Cordegan)	087 2620378
Madge Walsh (Corgreagh)	086 3357203	Paula Tully (Munelta)	085 1375182
Michael Leddy (Stradone)	086 8599767	Eugene Smith (Drumcrow)	086 6044415

Your Prayers are requested for the souls of the late:

- **Michael (Mike) Reilly, Chicago and late of Corfeyhane**, who died on Thursday in Chicago. We extend our sympathy to his sister Ann Smith, Tullyvin, brother Sean, Kells and extended family.
- **Terry Fox, Cootehill**, whose funeral took place in Cootehill. We extend our sympathy to his sister-in-law Bridget Higgins and family, Carrickacromin.
- **John O' Connor, Cavan**, who died on Friday. We extend our sympathy to his son Kevin and family, Munelta.
- **Winnie Morrison, Mayo**, who died on Good Friday. We extend our sympathy to her daughter Eileen O' Rourke and family, Lisigney.