

# Laragh Parish Newsletter

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

## The Gate-Keeper Lets Him In

The famous Rabbi of Kotzk was visited once by a group of learned men who had heard of his wisdom. When he had spoken to them for a while, he put this question to them: 'Where is the dwelling of God?' They laughed. 'What a thing to ask!' they said, 'Is not the whole world full of his glory?' He replied, 'God dwells wherever man lets him in'.

In today's Gospel Jesus describes himself as both the Shepherd and the Gate of the Sheepfold. But he also refers to the 'gate-keeper' who lets him in. Who is the gate-keeper if not each one of us, his followers? So the two questions we must ask ourselves today if we accept that we are gate-keepers: Are we in any real sense 'letting him in' to our lives? Even if we are, are we also letting in other callers who may prove deadly to his flock?

## 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 isn't functioning properly at present.

## Priestly People

Good Shepherd Sunday invites us to think and pray about the shape of the Church to come. In Ireland right now priests are an aging and diminishing group. It's the same story throughout the Western world. It's clear that we need to re-think the priesthood, the conditions of ordination and how we are to find Eucharistic celebrants for the Church of the future. Somebody made the point recently that there's no such thing as a priestless parish. It may not have an *ordained* priest, but the parish itself is a *priestly people*. How will the priesthood of the baptised be exercised in the coming decades? What relics of the past are preventing us fulfilling our mission today? Are we ready to re-imagine our roles as members of the Body of Christ?

## GENERAL NOTICES

1. **SOSAD:** Phone line 24 hours a day 049 4326339.
2. **Kilmore Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:** has been cancelled for 2020. The pilgrimage will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
3. **Cuan Cancer Support Centre:** based at 2 Keadue Lane, Cavan is open Mon, Wed and Fri from 10am – 1pm and from 2pm – 4pm for emails, landlines and mobile queries only. More info from 086 4556632 or 049 8511021.
4. **St. Angela's College, Sligo:** is inviting applications for a Part-Time Certificate in Religious Education (Primary) Course. The course is open to Qualified primary school teachers; Qualified post-primary school teachers who wish to transfer to primary school teaching. Parents, sacramental preparation teams and parish catechists who have a specific interest in the area of primary religious education may also apply. Closing date for Applications is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020. For further information contact Mary Kearns [mkearns@stangelas.nuigalway.ie](mailto:mkearns@stangelas.nuigalway.ie)
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 McCreavy (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 |

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## Your Prayers are requested for the souls of the late:

- **Pat Tynan, Newbliss**, who died on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. We extend our sympathy to his grand-daughter Donna Brady, Laragh.
- **Tommy Shiels, Clonee and late of Caulfield**, who died on Sunday last. We extend our sympathy to his siblings Anna, Hugh, Margaret, Sean, Kathleen and Dora and wide family circle.
- **John Joe Smith, Kilnacreeva**, who died on Tuesday last and whose funeral and burial took place in St. Michael's Clifferna. We extend our sympathy to his sister-in-law Sheila and extended family.

**May they all Rest in Peace**