

23rd Sunday Ordinary Time 6th September 2020

Today we mark the first Sunday of the Season of Creation 2020, which runs from 1 September to 4 October. This special season in the church calendar celebrates the joy of creation, while encouraging awareness of initiatives to protect the natural environment.

We are reminded during this time of our duty to care for what Pope Francis calls 'our common home'. When we hear the word 'home', we tend to think of the immediate place where we live and the people we share it with – our house or living space and our immediate family, neighbours and community. Each of us lives within a particular web of relationships that we call home. But we must be conscious too that we live in a wider relationship with the earth and with all of creation. We all live in a common home, and we all must care for it, and for each other.

Our gospel today sees Jesus offer some advice about living in community.

He first acknowledges that communities are far from perfect. We all struggle with our relationships and duties. But he makes one thing clear: in a community, we all have a responsibility to each other and to work to build harmony.

This responsibility extends beyond our immediate environment to our world. In this Season of Creation, we remember in particular those across the world who are suffering as a result of environmental damage. The way we live on this earth has consequences for the world and its people, and indeed for future generations. Over the next few weeks, let us consider how we might make some changes that reflect our care for others and for our common home.

'We need to strengthen the conviction that we are one single human family.'

(Pope Francis, Laudato Si')

Anniversaries

Saturday 5th September 6.30

Maura & Danny Murphy & their daughter Margaret O' Shaughnessey anniversaries

Sunday 6th September 11.00

Sean Hayes & his wife Josephine & their daughter Josephine Ryan Cooga anniversaries

Saturday 12th September 6.30

Sunday 13th September 11.00

Recently deceased

Fr John McGrath AP Cashel & Rosegreen and late of Moycarkey.

Memorials this week

Tue 8 Sept is the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Wed 9 Sept is the memorial of St Ciaran, abbot. He was the founder of the world-famous monastery at Clonmacnoise.

Sat 12 Sept is the feast of St Ailbe, bishop, patron of the Archdiocese of Cashel and Emly. We ask his intercession for the spiritual good of all the people of the Archdiocese.

Holycross Annual Solemn Novena 2020.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions the Novena will be held behind closed doors this year. It will be available online on www.churchservices.tv/holycrossabbey at 10.30am and 7.30pm daily. The Session for the Sick will be broadcast online and on Tipperary Mid West Radio at 2.00pm on Saturday 12 September. Please see holycrossballycahill.com/novena. Contact 0504-43124 or hparishoffice@gmail.com for more information.

Masses this week

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Friday 9.30

Monday 7.30 Wednesday 7.30.

Facemasks / Shields

In line with the use of face mask / shield in shops etc it is also recommended as best practice that face masks / shields be worn while attending Mass. We do so to protect ourselves and each other and prevent the possible spread of Covid.

Month of Creation: This starts 1 September, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology. Christians worldwide are encouraged to use this time to commit themselves to making greater efforts to care for creation. This commitment is both spiritual and practical. Called 'Season of Creation', it is a time for prayer, commitment and action for our common home and on behalf of our common human family. How can we play our part in this initiative?

Covid 19

It is important to point out that The Sunday and Holy Day obligation has been suspended for now by The Irish Catholic Bishops Conference. I encourage parishioners if you can to please attend Mass during the week.

Weekday Masses are as normal:

Monday Tuesday Wednesday and Friday at 9.30am.

During the current pandemic there will also be Mass on Monday and Wednesday evening at 7.30pm.

The extra Masses for now on Monday and Wednesday evening should help to ease numbers on Saturday evening and Sunday morning allowing families who have anniversaries to attend these Masses.

It is important that those who are sick, or have any symptoms of, or are a confirmed case of Covid 19 or are close contacts of a person with confirmed or suspected Covid 19, should stay at home and participate through the Parish Radio on 105.1 FM.

I encourage all who are using the Church to use the sanitiser provided at all entrances. There are also 5 sanitising stations within the Church.

Seating in Doon Parish Church

There are 33 pews available for use in our church. Only **two** people are permitted in a pew who are not from the same household. People who are residing in the same home are permitted to sit together, meaning that families or households, can take up a whole pew without having to social distance.

The capacity of the Church is 66 individuals or 132 if households of 4 adults per pew is in use.

Social distancing must be adhered to in the church.

The kneeler's are not in use. Please remain seated and only stand for the reading of the Gospel and at the Our Father.

Church Cleaning

All pews in the church which are occupied during Mass in midweek and at the weekends have to be sanitised immediately after Mass in order to prevent any potential threat of the spread of Covid-19 to users of the Church. If you can help it would be greatly appreciated.

Collection

There will be no offertory collection taken up during Mass but please do place your envelope or the donation which you put in the basket in the secure boxes as you enter or leave the church remembering to keep social distancing while doing so. This can be done at any Mass you attend.

You may still put your envelope in the front door of the parochial house if you want. If you could see your way to increase your contribution that would be very much appreciated and will make a big difference to Parish Funds which have been negatively impacted during these times. As always your support is very much appreciated.

Online donate feature

I am pleased to announce that the online donate feature for parishes is now live and available for use on the Diocesan website - <https://cashel-emly.ie/donate/>

I hope that this much needed method of giving will offer parishioners an easily accessible means to donate to your parish either on a one-off or regular basis. This facility allows for a Covid-19-friendly option for parishioners to contribute online at a time convenient to you.

Coronavirus Helpline for Older People

Alone manage a National Support Line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of Covid-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and assurance where necessary. The Support Line is open seven days a week, 8am.-8pm. by calling **0818 222 024**.

Affordable Live-in Homecare

Provides live-in carers for the elderly in your area. If you are looking for a live-in carer for your relative, please call Eileen or Tom [today](#) on 087 9916791 or 087 7440729. Our website is www.alhomecare.ie

Doon GAA

We wish the Senior Hurling team all the best as they play South Liberties in the Limerick Senior Hurling Championship Quarter final in the Gaelic Grounds on Sunday 6th of September..

Due to Covid restrictions this game is played behind closed doors. It can be viewed on Limerick Gaa TV

Doon Parish Journal “Bleisce” The 29th edition of Bleisce is currently being prepared. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic there is a much shorter deadline with the printer this year. All articles, club reports and photographs must be received by **October 10th** at the very latest. Submissions for possible inclusion -subject to editing can be given to Fr Jimmy P.P. Donal Anderson or Peggy Sweeny or can be emailed to **doonparishjournal@hotmail.com**