

# Parish Newsletter

SUNDAY 15TH MARCH 2026



## St. Patrick's Day

**Mass with Blessing of Shamrock at 10.00am in the main Church, with the Parish Choir.**

We will also have Irish dancers, bringing a traditional flavour to our Celebrations. Refreshments afterwards in the Pastoral Space.

**All are welcome.**

### Saint Patrick's Prayer

Christ be with me.  
 Christ be beside me.  
 Christ be before me.  
 Christ be behind me.  
 Christ at my right hand.  
 Christ at my left hand.  
 Christ be with me  
 everywhere I go.  
 Christ be my friend,  
 for ever and ever.  
 Amen

@catholicbishops

During Lent candles for "Healing & Renewal" are available at all Masses and from the Parish Office. Offering €1



We remember **Rosanna (Rose) McCarthy** **Pat Walton** who died recently **MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**



### Good Friday Children's Stations of the Cross

Young and Adult volunteers needed to help to dramatize the Children's Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 12.00. Please leave your name and contact details to the parish office.

### One Day Silent Retreat in Knock Prayer Centre Saturday March 28th 10am to 5pm

Take sacred time to step away from the noise of daily life and reconnect with God in the peaceful, prayerful atmosphere that is unique to Knock Shrine. The one-day retreat offers a serene space for quiet prayer, reflection, and spiritual direction. Participants will be guided through moments of scripture-based prayer, group sharing, and personal spiritual guidance. Price: €70 including refreshments and lunch. Contact John Farrelly Prayer Guides Coordinator at Knock Shrine @ 086 0108623 or email prayerguidance@knockshrine.ie

## WHAT'S ON

**Monday 16th March**  
**Choir practise at 7.45pm**  
**Baptism Preparation meeting in the Oratory at 7.00pm.**

**Parish Pastoral Council meeting at 7.30pm in the Pastoral Space.**

**Tuesday 17th March**  
**Saint Patrick's Day Mass at 10.00am**

**Thursday 19th March**  
 After Mass the Holy Rosary in the Oratory is specifically for vocations to the priesthood. All are welcome.

**Friday 20th March**  
**Eucharistic Prayer Group** meets in the Oratory from 2.30pm-3.30pm. All welcome.

### Eucharistic Adoration

**Monday to Friday 10.30am to 5.00pm. in the Oratory.**



### Church Collections

w/e 7th/8th March 2026

1st Priests: €875

2nd Collection: €504

Envelopes: €921

### PARISH LOTTO

Development Fund

There was no winner of last week's Jackpot.

The winning numbers were

**Lotto Nos 16, 17, 21, 26**

**The Jackpot is €3,100**

Congratulations to last week's winners of the three €20 Prizes.

The Draw will take place on Wednesday morning before

10 a.m. Mass. Entries for the Lotto draw must be put into the safe in the church by 11.00a.m. on

Tuesday.

All are welcome to attend the draw.

**Thought** God created us in love. He awaits us in love in eternity. Meanwhile, He loves us in the between times. His love never falters, fails or disappoints. It's there through our sin times, where His grace & our gratitude meet.

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

(Laetare Sunday)

### First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him: God does not see as man sees: man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm 22 (23)

**Response: The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. **R.**

### Second Reading: Ephesians 5: 8-14

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast.

The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,  
rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation Jn 8:12

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!  
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.  
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

### Gospel (Shorter Form) Jn 9: 1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38)

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man, and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

### The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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