The Sevenceench Sunday in Ordinary Time - 26ch July 2020



# Sixmileoridge + Kilmurry Darish Newsletter

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# A Message from Fr. Harry ...

#### Thinking of Others - in the Current Climate

Everyone agrees these are extraordinary times. For the past 5 months we, all of us, are trying to cope with a most dangerous, infectious virus. A vaccine has yet to be found. Businesses have had to close down, jobs lost, an worst of all lives lost. People experiencing major health issues - mental and physical. People on the front line are making huge sacrifices to support the sick and the dying. Many others are generous with their time, with their many acts of kindness, gentleness, respect for others - being there for others. Here in our community we are experiencing this and we thank God for it.

As a local Church we are doing our best to stay in touch with sick, elderly, grieving people. Last Monday we joined Airport and Shannon Heritage workers in their gathering to underline the critical situation they now find themselves in.

This weekend Sunday Masses will resume at 10 a.m. in Kilmurry and 11 a.m. in Sixmilebridge. Taking them outside the Church gives an opportunity for bigger numbers to attend whilst adhering to all the safeguarding rules.

It also makes another point -

Mass is about a People - Community Gathering to

- ... acknowledge God's Presence in our lives and
- ... remind us of taking Christian Values into the Community in the way we live our lives.

Our Prayers, our Faith, our Sacraments come alive in the way we connect to one another. This is a time to remind ourselves of that and to genuinely ask the question "What does it mean to be a Christian?"

Finally, we want to say '*thank you'* to all our Parishioners for your support and understanding during this difficult time for everyone.

We pray that we all stay safe and well.

Parish Office Mon - Fri. 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 Noon For Booking of Masses, Baptisms & Weddings. Baptisms take place at 12.00 Noon on Sundays in Sixmilebridge + Kilmurry

In Loving Memory

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We remember all our loved ones and especially those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May they Rest in God's Love

Sun.26th

Anne O'Meara

## OUTDOOR MASSES THIS WEEKEND Mass this weekend will be celebrated outdoors 10 a.m. in Kilmurry and 11 a.m. in Sixmilebridge.

#### MASS TIMES WHEN WE RETURN INDOORS

Sixmilebridge will have 4 Masses. Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday evenings at 7 p.m. 1 on Sunday Morning at 11 a.m. Kilmurry will have 2 Masses. Thursday evening at 7 p.m. and on Sunday Morning at 10 a.m. First Holy Communion Re-scheduled Dates: Sixmilebridge at 11.00 a.m. Saturday 12th September - Ms. Cotter's 2nd Class 2019/20

Saturday 12th September -Ms. Coller's 21d Class 2019/20Saturday 19th September -Ms. Holly's 2nd Class 2019/20Saturday 3rd October -Ms. O'Connell's 2nd Class 2019/20

Kilmurry at 11.00 a.m. - Saturday 26th September

#### Sixmilebridge G.A.A. Club Lotto: Number drawn: 14 28 29 31 Next Jackpot .. €14,100

*Clare Macra na Feirme* holding county round of the farm skills competition Sunday 26th July at 12 pm at Hannon's farm Pollagh, Sixmilebridge. 4 parts to the competition. 1) Tractor skills 2) Fencing skills 3) Exam 4) Farm Safety. All 3 Clare Macra clubs have teams entered. There will be 2 Judges on the day (teachers from Pallaskenry Ag College). This is Farm Safety Week.

## A Message from Bishop Fintan and the Diocesan Pastoral Council Céad Fáilte – We've Missed Each Other!

#### Dear Friends,

What strange times we find ourselves living in! An invisible virus has changed our world and our lives. We don't shake hands. We keep our distance. For many weeks, we were unable to visit relatives and friends, including those who were sick or vulnerable. Grandparents and grandchildren missed each other. Children missed their friends and teachers. We've missed being together as Christian communities.

It's our nature as a Church to gather. This is what we do. It's who we are. Like the early Christians, we gather on Sundays knowing the Risen Christ is present among us when we gather in His name. We thank our priests and lay people for their work during the lockdown, finding creative ways to make the Mass available at home through local radio, Facebook and webcams. But we have missed coming together as community to celebrate the Eucharist. So, it is good for us to gather, even with limitations on numbers. We can now look towards future community gatherings, to celebrate the Eucharist, baptisms, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, weddings and to remember our dead.

Despite the difficulties we've lived through, there is a lot to be grateful for. We owe so much to our health care workers and to those who kept all essential services going. We thank the Lord for the goodness of so many generous, brave people who have given so much, often putting themselves and their families at risk. They are the face of Christ for us. Times of crisis brings out the best in people. People have stayed at home and stayed apart because it saves lives and lessens suffering. All age groups, young and old, have shown that they care for each other. We acknowledge the collaboration of many people across the Diocese who have prepared our churches so that we can come together safely. These past months have been a time of worry, but they have also been a time of learning new ways of doing things, new behaviours, new approaches. It has also been a time of coming back to what matters in our lives, to what sustains us when the chips are down, to questioning what values we want for our communities and our society.

For now, we must continue to care for and support each other. As Christian communities, let us keep reaching out to each other, and to our neighbours, with encouragement, with practical help and with prayer. And let us remember:

'the Church does not close, only the building closes; because we are the Church, the living body of Christ, and we are everywhere'.