

God's People Our Parish

St. James and St Hugh, Kilbeggan and Rahugh

Saturday Vigil 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sunday 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Monday to Friday 9.30 a.m. Friday 7.30 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m.

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**Come to me,
all you that
are weary and
are carrying
heavy bur-
dens, and I
will give you
rest. Take my
yoke upon
you, and learn
from me; for I
am gentle and
humble in
heart, and
you will find
rest for your
souls. For my
yoke is easy,
and my bur-
den is light.”
Mt.11: 28-30**



**Make love
your aim
1 Cor 14:1**

Fifth Sunday of Lent

8 p.m. Patrick and Elizabeth Morgan, Moate Road

Ita, Jim and Katie Norton and deceased family.

11. a.m. Ellen and John Craig

Monday 22nd 9.30 a.m. Elizabeth Young

Thursday 25th Annunciation of the Lord

Mary responded with the obedience of faith, certain that "with God nothing will be impossible": "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be [done] to me according to your word." As St. Irenaeus says, "Being obedient she became the cause of salvation for herself and for the whole human race." Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Palm Sunday

8 p.m. Matthew and Ann Nannery, Grangeegibbon

Bernadette Carton, Shureen, at request of her sister Moira, New Jersey, USA

11 a.m. Bernard and Bridget Crombie, and deceased family

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bernadette Carton, Shureen, who died during the week. May she rest in peace



Family Rosary and Benediction

Sun, Mon, Tues and Thursday 7.30 p.m.

STATIONS of the

CROSS Wednesday 7.30p.m. during Lent



Plate €260; Renovation Fund Envelopes €560; Offerings €400. Thanks to all who contribute in whatever way to the parish, your generosity is appreciated. If you wish you can leave your envelopes and contributions in the collection tables in the Church or in the Parochial House.

Before the example of so many holy men and women, Saint Augustine asked himself: "What they could do, can you not also do?" And so he drew closer to his definitive conversion, when he could exclaim: "Late have I loved you, Beauty ever ancient, ever new! We need only ask Saint Joseph for the grace of graces: our conversion. We address our prayer to him:

Prayer to St Joseph

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

From Apostolic Letter - Patris Corde, Rome, in Saint John Lateran, December 8, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the year 2020, the eighth of my pontificate.

Trócaire boxes are available in our Churches and every cent collected makes a difference. Trócaire thanks you for your support in these difficult times.

More information available on trocaire.org





We are preparing new boxes of envelopes at the moment. If you have been receiving a box and do not want one please let us know. If you have not been receiving one and would like one please let us know by leaving your name and address in one of the collection tables in the Church in Kilbeggan .

Pope Francis honours Knock Shrine with special status

Pope Francis declared 2021 'The Year of St. Joseph' on the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of St. Joseph as the patron of the universal church. As part of the celebration he is raising Knock to the status of an International Shrine because of St. Joseph's presence in the Apparition.

The story of Knock began on the evening of the 21st of August 1879. Throughout the years, there have been many milestones which have seen this small rural village grow to become an international pilgrimage destination.



15 people witnessed an Apparition at the gable wall of the Parish Church for about two hours. On giving their testimonies, the witnesses described a vision of Our lady, St. Joseph, St. John the Evangelist and a Lamb on an altar standing before a Cross. The Apparition at Knock was a silent one and each one of us is invited to find its meaning for ourselves. Millions of people have visited Knock and have experienced great graces in prayer and in the Confessional. Pope John Paul II and Pope Francis have visited the Shrine to Pray. A new processional statue of Our Lady of Knock, hand carved at the Stuflesser Ortisei studios in northern Italy, was dedicated in August 2019. It was blessed in Rome by Pope Francis at an audience attended by Knock parish priest Fr Richard Gibbons. This is the same studio which carved the figure of Jesus on our crucifix in St James' Church which Fr. Herbert had carved in linden wood in 1976.

Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland, you gave hope to your people in a time of distress and comforted them in sorrow. You have inspired countless pilgrims to pray with confidence to your divine Son, remembering His promise, "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find". Help me to remember that we are all pilgrims on the road to Heaven. Fill me with love and concern for my brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who live with me. Comfort me when I am sick, lonely or depressed. Teach me how to take part ever more reverently in the Holy Mass. Give me a greater love of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for me now and at the hour of my death. Amen



South Sudan: With guns silent, schools for boys and girls arise.

When Saint John Baptist de La Salle founded the Brothers in France in 1679, he only had a handful of men to help him. By the time he died in 1719, there were 100 Brothers in 22 schools. To-day over 5 000 Brothers and many lay co-operators continue the De La Salle tradition of education worldwide. In Rumbek, South Sudan, the Brothers are running a fairly new high school, reconstructed after the war ended in 2018 when the warring politicians agreed to a transitional Government of National Unity. The

school of 153 boys, aged 14 to 16, is a ray of hope to the people in post-war South Sudan.

The Sisters of Loreto already have Loreto Rumbek, which comprises a primary school, a secondary school and a primary health care unit. Loreto Rumbek opened in 2008 and provides for the education needs of girls aged 5-20 years.

"We have seen growing evidence of the negative impact that closed classrooms have had on children, such as an increase in abuse, exploitation, early child marriages and early pregnancies. Children are safer inside school walls than outside. There is overwhelming evidence of the negative impact on children's physical and mental health, nutrition, safety and learning. When they are out of school for extended periods of time, their exposure to physical, emotional and sexual violence increases. They are more vulnerable to child labour and less likely to break out of the cycle of poverty. Besides, hundreds of children, particularly those living in rural areas, from poorer families or with special needs, who rely on schools as a lifeline for meals are negatively affected. When schools close, their lifeline is taken away," emphasised Brother Alak.