

## LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO THE FAITHFUL FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2020

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

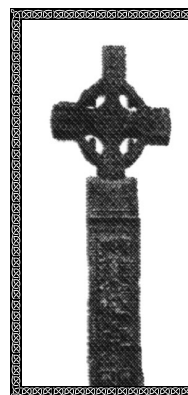
For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

*Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020  
Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist*

The prayers suggested by Pope Francis for an end to the COVID-19 pandemic are available on the parish website.



### Parish of Clones

Sacred Heart, Clones  
St Alphonsus, Connors  
St Macartan's, Aghadrumssee

Parish Office by phone or email only  
10.00am—5.00pm (Monday—Friday)

Telephone: 047 51048

Email: [clonesparish@eircom.net](mailto:clonesparish@eircom.net)

Website: [www.clonesparish.com](http://www.clonesparish.com)

3rd May  
2020

Fourth Week  
of  
Easter

**All Masses in Sacred Heart Church are broadcast on the Parish website**

#### Masses and Intentions for the Week

##### Fourth Sunday of Easter

*Day of Prayer for Vocations*

Sat 2nd Vigil	7.30pm	McPhillips Family, Cloncallick & Annagheane
Mon 4th		No Mass
Tue 5th	10.00am	Dec'd Workers from Denim Trading
Wed 6th	10.00am	John Flanagan, O'Neill Park
Thurs 7th	10.00am	Francis McCaul, Roslea
Fri 8th	10.00am	PJ Murray, Newtownbutler Road

##### Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sat 9th Vigil	7.30pm	Ben Carey, Tully (Month's Memory); Felix Flynn, O'Neill Park (Month's Memory)
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##### Pope's Intention for May

*We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the Poor,  
may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.*

**Parish Mobile (in case of emergency): 085 817 6203.**

**Clones Parish Office is closed but you can communicate via email or phone from 10.00am until 5.00pm each weekday.**

**Anointing of the Sick:** There will be no house calls (including First Friday calls) at this time. Priests will phone and pray with the sick or housebound.

**Baptisms:** Baptisms and Marriages are not to be celebrated until further notice. Where parents are anxious about the health of a child, they are advised to bless the child with a crucifix or their own hand and the priest may pray with them over the phone or via Skype or some similar communications mode.

**Confessions:** Individual Confessions are not now possible. People are reminded of the longstanding pastoral practice, when penitent's access to the Sacrament of Reconciliation is restricted, that they can be assured that their sins are forgiven if they make an act of contrition with a firm resolve to approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation after the stay at home orders are lifted. Pope Francis has spoken on this in recent days and it is in line with the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

**Deaths:** We pray for Paddy McCarney, Castlebar and formerly Newtownbutler Road;  
Paddy Rodgers, Sacriff

### **An Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

I embrace You as if You were already there

and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

**Amen**

### **Vocation Sunday**

“The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice.”

On this Good Shepherd Sunday we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life, especially for our diocese, that God will raise up good shepherds in our midst. Do you hear the voice of the Lord, the Good Shepherd calling you to a particular way of life? If you think God is calling you to serve the Church as a priest or in the consecrated life, contact the National Vocations Office, email: [info@vocations.ie](mailto:info@vocations.ie) or your local Diocesan Vocations Director.

**The Irish Chaplaincy in London** is offering support to anyone in Ireland with concerns about an older family member or friend living in London at this challenging time caused by COVID-19 social restrictions. The Chaplaincy can make direct contact with vulnerable older Irish living in isolation in London. The Chaplaincy is also a link to services and community groups local to where a person is living in London. This is a free service and contact can be made to the Chaplaincy from Ireland by post: PO BOX 75693, London, NW1W 7ZT; by email [seniors@irishchaplaincy.org.uk](mailto:seniors@irishchaplaincy.org.uk) and by phone **0044 (0) 20 7482 3274**. Leave a message and a representative will contact you.

### **COVID-19 Community Helpline**

A Freephone helpline to help those in vulnerable groups to access information, advice and guidance in relation to COVID-19 is open from 9.00am until 5.00pm, seven days a week. The helpline number, which is local to Northern Ireland, is 0808 802 0020.

**Monaghan Integrated Development** is providing services such as The Good Morning Call, assistance arranging home deliveries of shopping, prescriptions and Meals on Wheels. If you wish to avail of their services, phone 1800 804 158 or email is [covidsupport@monaghancoco.ie](mailto:covidsupport@monaghancoco.ie). The number for Caoimhe at the Good Morning Call is 0877189396 or email [crudden@midl.ie](mailto:crudden@midl.ie)

**COVID-19 Support Line for Older People ALONE** has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week from 8.00am until 8.00pm, phone 0818 222 024.