

Church of Our Mother of Divine Grace, Ballygall
Sunday, 26th April 2020 Third Sunday of Easter

Monday 27th April to Sunday 3rd May

Mon	10.00	Sheila & David Edwards www.ballygallparish.ie
Tues	10.00	Peter Coleman (recently deceased). www.ballygallparish.ie
Wed	10.00	Available www.ballygallparish.ie
	7.30pm	Eucharistic Holy Hour Spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament online and concludes with Benediction. www.ballygallparish.ie
Thurs	10.00	Special Intentions www.ballygallparish.ie
Fri	10.00	Altar List of the Dead www.ballygallparish.ie
Sat	10.00	For All Our Parishioners and your intentions. www.ballygallparish.ie
	6.30 pm	Phil & Des Whelan, Eddie & Theresa McGrath, Thomas & May Cullen and Maura Cullen, Imelda Pluck, Ann & John Madden, Michael & Julia Quinlan, Dolores Carragher. www.ballygallparish.ie
Sun	9.30	Mass will be available on website. (www.rednuns.com).
	11.00	Mass from Iona Road – Web service only www.ionaroadparish.ie

Recently Deceased

We remember in our thoughts and prayers the family and friends of recently deceased, Brendan Hueston, Ann Kennedy and Jack Hughes.

Easter Offerings

Offerings can be made online through our website, www.ballygallparish.ie or alternatively, you can continue to use your family offering and dues envelopes and drop them into the post box at Fr. Joseph's house. Alternatively, hold on to them and we will be in a position to accept them all when our church re-opens.

First Friday.

Friday is the first Friday of May. First Friday visits, unfortunately, cannot take place due to Covid 19. We will remember all our housebound parishioners in our 10.00am mass on Saturday 2nd May.

Supports for Older and Vulnerable People

COVID-19 community supports are now in place to ensure vulnerable members of the community are reached and helped at this time. These comprise the local authority, Health Service Executive, County Champions, An Post, Community Welfare Service, An Garda Síochána, other State organisations, charities and other stakeholders.

Dedicated helplines are focused specifically on ensuring that the cocooning elderly, vulnerable members of the community or those living alone can access deliveries of

groceries, medicine and fuels. Please try to ensure any vulnerable or elderly people in your parish to may need help are aware of these services. We have also included of support services for women and families who may be at risk in the home at this difficult time as well as mental health on line support services

<https://www.dublindiocese.ie/covid-19-support-line-for-older-people/>

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock. We had planned to hold the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday next, unfortunately, we cannot do so due to the government restrictions caused by COVID-19. Instead, Deacon Gerard Reilly and his team, with the cooperation of our friends at Knock Shrine, have arranged a virtual pilgrimage on Sunday April 26th commencing at 2.30pm with the Rosary. Mass will be celebrated at 3.00pm. I encourage as many people as possible to join the virtual pilgrimage in prayer, especially those parishes that were due to take part in the pilgrimage. The virtual pilgrimage will give us an opportunity to pray through the intercession of Our Lady of Knock for all our intentions. Please God, we will be in a position to visit Knock again in person in the not too distant future. **Join the pilgrimage from**

<https://www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live.html>: Times are as follows:

- 2.30pm: Rosary
- 3.00pm: Pilgrimage Mass
Celebrated by the Rector of Knock Shrine, Father Richard Gibbons
- 3.45pm: Benediction
- 4.00pm: Virtual visit to the Apparition Chapel
- 4.15pm: Opportunity to [place a petition](#), [light a candle](#) or [have a Mass said](#) online.

First Communions & Confirmations.

We are being asked about First Communions and Confirmations. We can only begin to speak of a timeframe for these Sacraments, when schools have been fully reopened and when it is possible once again to hold large indoor gatherings of people, especially children, and this is unlikely for some months. Unfortunately, there is no way that Confirmations or First Holy Communion can be celebrated, as some would suggest, during the months of May and June. I realise that this is very difficult for the pupils and their families and we will keep you informed of any updates in relation to these sacraments.

Funeral arrangements

There still seems to be confusion about funeral arrangements, despite the very clear guidance from the healthcare authorities. Restricted funeral services or Masses may be held in Churches for those who die in these days, including those who died from the Covid-19 virus. This is current diocesan policy.

In many cases the Funeral Mass is also being live streamed so that a wider range of relatives and friends can join, even in different parts of the world. Where possible people might line the streets, respecting social distancing, or stand at the doors of their houses as a local funeral passes by. This is a tribute to the deceased and a comfort to the bereaved.

I draw your attention to an article in the Irish Independent, sponsored by the Irish Association of Funeral Directors: *“Among the biggest disruptions to normal life in the current crisis are the changes to the funeral rituals that are ingrained in our culture. Official guidelines mean that **funeral Masses and services in Ireland are now private and restricted to a maximum of 10 immediate relatives, with social distancing being enforced at all times.**”*