



Pope Francis has released his message for the World Day of Peace, to be celebrated on 1 January 2023, stressing that all crises are interconnected and we must not forget any of them,

but work for the good of humanity. The Holy Father's message, released on Friday, opens with a quotation from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians (5:1-2). "Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night." Thus, the Pope recalls that the Apostle Paul encouraged the Thessalonian community to remain steadfast. Likewise he says, "when tragic events seem to overwhelm our lives, we are called to keep our hearts open to hope and to trust in God, who makes himself present, accompanies us with tenderness, sustains us in our weariness and, above all, guides our path." There is light even in the darkest hour, says Pope Francis, before going on to use the Covid-19 pandemic as an example: "The pandemic seems to have upset even the most peaceful parts of our world, and exposed any number of forms of fragility, Three years later, he stresses, "the time is right to question, learn, grow and allow ourselves to be transformed as individuals and as communities" reminding us, as he has done before, that "we never emerge the same from times of crisis: we emerge either better or worse. "This experience has made us all the more aware of the need for everyone, including peoples and nations, to restore the word "together" to a central place in our lexicon. Only the peace that comes from a fraternal and disinterested love can help us overcome personal, societal and global crises. "Our greatest and yet most fragile treasure is our shared humanity as brothers and sisters, children of God. None of us can be saved alone." Pope Francis goes on to stress that this is not the post-Covid era we had hoped for or expected. "At the very moment when we dared to hope that the darkest hours of the Covid-19 pandemic were over, a terrible new disaster befell humanity," noting that the world witnessed the onslaught of another scourge: another war, "driven by culpable human decisions." Pope Francis notes that the war in Ukraine is "reaping innocent victims and spreading insecurity, not only among those directly affected, but in

a widespread and indiscriminate way for everyone, also for those who, even thousands of kilometres away, suffer its collateral effects - we need but think of grain shortages and fuel prices While a vaccine has been found for Covid-19, suitable solutions have not yet been found for the war." "Certainly, the virus of war is more difficult to overcome than the viruses that compromise our bodies, because it comes, not from outside of us, but from within the human heart corrupted by sin." "What then is being asked of us?" the Pope asks, in light of all these difficult times: "First of all, to let our hearts be changed by our experience of the crisis." In fact, he explains: "we can no longer think exclusively of carving out space for our personal or national interests, instead we must think in terms of the common good." We cannot, however, ignore one fundamental fact, he continues: "Many moral, social, political and economic crises we are experiencing are all interconnected, and what we see as isolated problems are actually causes and effects of one another." And he calls on all those in positions of responsibility and on all men and women of goodwill "to revisit the issue of ensuring public health for all"; "to promote actions that enhance peace and put an end to the conflicts and wars that continue to spawn poverty and death"; "to join in caring for our common home and in implementing clear and effective measures to combat climate change"; "to battle the virus of inequality and to ensure food and dignified labour for all, supporting those who lack even a minimum wage and find themselves in great difficulty. The scandal of entire peoples starving remains an open wound. Finally, Pope Francis asks that in the coming New Year that "we journey together, valuing the lessons that history has to teach us." "To all men and women of goodwill, I express my prayerful trust that, as artisans of peace, they may work, day by day, to make this a good year!" **Meet the Three Wise Men** Cologne Cathedral is one of the greatest cathedrals in Europe and in the world. Many regard it as the pinnacle of Gothic architecture, dating from the 13th century. It attracts thousands of visitors daily. In 1164, Emperor Barbarossa presented the Archbishop of Cologne with the bones of the Three Wise Men from the East. They were immediately brought to Cologne from Milan. From then on, each year thousands from all over Europe made a pilgrimage to the relics of the Three Wise Men. The Pilgrimage to the Shrien of the Magi played an important part in the spiritual and economic life of the city. The crowns of the Three Wise Men are still part of the city's coat of arms today. Between 1190 and 1220, a golden shrine was created for the much revered relics. It appears as one shrine, but one is on top of the other two. The Shrine of the Three Wise Men is 1.5m tall, 1.1m wide

Remembered In Mass		
Donoughmore		
Sat 31st Dec	7pm	Joe Neenan
Mon. 2nd Jan	10m	No Mass
Tues 3rd Jan	10am	Ellen Ryan
Thurs. 5th Jan	7pm	Epiphany
Fri 6th	10am	No Mass
Sat 7th	7pm	Dermot Keane. Teresa O'Connell (MM) Paddy Hickey. Martin 'Mickey' Wade
Knockea		
Sun 1st Jan.2023	11am	Michael Fitzgibbon
Wed.4th	10am	
Fri.6th Jan.	11am	Epiphany
Sun 8th	11am	Nora O'Connell (2nd) Sean Kilroy



and 2.2m long. The wooden shrine was covered with sheets of gilt copper and silver. The front is of pure gold. The shrine is adorned with 1,000 precious stones and pearls, over 300 ancient gems and cameos, considered to be especially precious. Only the most precious materials were to be used for the relics of the Three Wise Men. The scenes depicted on the Shrine are an image of the whole of the history of salvation. Christ is shown three times on the front: Mary is seated with the child Jesus as the Magi approach in adoration, who represent the whole of humanity; at his Baptism in the River Jordan; where He is presented as the Messiah sent to the Jewish people, and as the Judge of the World at the End of Time. At the sides of the Shrine, Kings David and Solomon and the prophets represent the Old Testament and the period before Redemption. The top of the shrine features the Apostles, who symbolise the age of grace. This also signifies that the New Testament has the Old Testament as its foundation. The back shows the flogging and crucifixion of Christ; above is Christ, flanked by the holy martyrs Felix and Nabor, giving his blessing

Parish of Donoughmore/ Knockea/Roxboro Fr Tom Mangan PP



087-2348226
dkrparish@gmail.com
Website, dkrparish.ie
Facebook: DKR Parish Limerick
Sacristan
Terry 087-6686050
 The Eircode for St. Patrick's Church, Donoughmore is **V94 V6T3**. Knockea is **V94 D938**.
Pastoral Area Donoughmore / Knockea/ Roxboro, Queen of Peace, Holy Family

with the three Christian virtues, Faith, Hope and Charity. It is the Western world's largest and most famous reliquary. The front plate of the shrine is removeable. At the Epiphany, 6th Jan, the Feast of the Magi, the three skulls with their golden crowns can be viewed through a screen. The Shrine remains the focal point of the Cathedral.
Our Sympathy to the families of John Gilmartin , Galway City, dad of Anne-Marie Kelly, Mill Rd, Ballyclough. Kevin McDonagh , Battersdown, Meath & Castletroy, dad of John McDonagh, Ballinagarde. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, May they rest in Peace
Weekly Lotto €2,600 no winner winning No's 15,18,24,27. Lucky dips. 1.Kathleen Keary 2.Geraldine Hayes 3.Chris Barron 4.Ger Carmody 5.Vincent & Josephine Hayes 6.Kathy O'Riordan Next Jackpot €2,700 Draw Tues 3rd Jan. Cat's Cradle 9.30pm

