



Baptism of the Lord is this weekend. In 2021 we celebrated 47 baptisms in our parish. At Donoughmore church there is a plaque at the back of the church with refer-

ence to 'This Baptistry was erected by Michael Hanly, Rathard to the memory of his deceased wife, May 1927. For most family history researchers, parish registers provide the earliest direct source of information. In Ireland birth records date from 1864 when the Irish Civil Registration system was introduced, until this time a child's arrival was recorded only by baptism into the respective denomination of the family but unfortunately some of this information was not always written down. There is only a small proportion of Roman Catholic baptism, marriage and burial registers that survive from before the 1820's because of restrictions placed on Irish Catholics from 1550 until the Emancipation act of 1829, by this time Penal laws were also lifted so proper record keeping was difficult and potentially dangerous for priests and their congregations but some parishes managed to keep their records intact i.e St. Mary's Parish in Limerick 1745. Our own parish baptismal records date from 1829.

Two world figures went to their eternal reward during the past week, Pope Benedict and Pelé. There have been wonderful and glowing tributes given to Pele. He was a man who simply loved the game of football. His real name is Edson Arantes do Nascimento but of course he is known around the world as simply Pelé. But where did the name come from? There are no obvious explanations as the word has no translation in the Portuguese language. But the late RTE commentator Jimmy Magee had his own theory and shared it with Pele in one of their interviews. The story relates to an Irish speaking missionary priest who was working in one of the poorer parts of Brazil where Pele was born and raised. Of course, back then Pele was simply known as Edson, the name everyone called him. Watching the young boy play on the street with a ball made of paper, the priest talked in Irish about the "buachaill ag imirt peile" (boy playing football) and on hearing the Irish phrase, the local women

began calling the boy "Pelé". Nobody has been able to prove the exact origins, but Jimmy Magee was always convinced this is where it came from. There are many quotations from Pele himself, but the one on love is most appropriate as we journey through the season of Christmas and as we begin the New Year. Love is at the heart of the Christmas Story. Take away love and there is no story. We celebrate the difference love makes in our lives every single day. We so often talk about God using the language of love. A new year's resolution is to be open to the blessings of love in our life today. Love so often comes to us in small moments and often quietly and without fuss. We can allow these moments to touch us and allow us to share a loving moment with someone else.

Pope Benedict was a man who also believed in love and believed totally in the difference it can make in our lives. Yes he may have come across as stern and serious, but those who knew him up close said he always was very gentle with a relaxed style. Like Pele he believed that our world is such a better place when we receive love and when we share it. The late Pope Benedict was known as a 'Pilgrim of Peace' and he brought the Gospel message of peace to so many parts of the world including Northern Ireland. We pray that this message of peace will be heard in the troubled parts of our world especially in Ukraine.

Our Sympathy to the families of Angela Branigan, Castleblaney, Monaghan, Dublin & Limerick, mother of Ronan Branigan Old Cork Rd. Elsie Lawrence, Glin & Ballyneety brother of Jimmy O'Shaughnessy. John Gilmartin, Galway dad of Anne-Marie Kelly Mill rd. Ballyclough. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, May they rest in Peace

Our 3 schools have started back for their new term we wish them every blessing for 2023

Wedding Congrats to Ciara Ahern and Eoin Hanley and families who celebrated their wedding after Christmas at Knockea Church We wish them both many happy years together.

Many Thanks for all the careful consideration of so many in making our churches special for Christmas and celebrating the various liturgies with music and song. It was good to see so many around. The Finance committee thank you for your financial support to the running of the Parish during the past year and the dues collection that supports priests income. Our parish Churches are admired by lots of people who come to visit our place. They are unique in our area. We appreciate the

Remembered In Mass

Donoughmore



Sat 7th Jan	7pm	Dermot Keane.(11th) Teresa O'Connell (MM) Paddy Hickey. Martin 'Mickey' Wade
Mon. 9th Jan	10m	
Tues 10th Jan	10am	No Mass
Fri 13th	10am	
Sat 14th	7pm	Terry Carey & Daly Carey
Knockea		
Sun 8th Jan.2023	11am	Nora O'Connell (2nd) Sean Kilroy
Wed.11th	10am	
Sun 15th Jan	11am	Nancy Godfrey (2nd)

continued hard work done to keep them looking well. Just recently in Knockea church a new railing has been installed to replace the old which links the lower carpark from the school to the church. James McCarthy Fabrication, Drombanna has made and fitted this railing for us. The old railing needed replacing with the proximity of the church and school together. The new envelope boxes have been given out for 2023, if you didn't receive them and you may like to be on our list please let Terry or Fr Tom know, thanks to those who support us by direct debit, yearly cheque and online through our Parish website details dkrparish.ie New Parish calendars for 2023 are available in our Churches as well, please take one.

Feast of St. Ita next Sunday 15th Jan Killeedy Parish in West Limerick is named after St Ita - one of the patron saints of our diocese St. Ita, is regarded as one of Ireland's most remarkable saints. She set up a monastery in Killeedy in the early sixth century. In fact, the name Killeedy means Cill Íde – the

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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

cell or church of Ita.. venerated through the centuries and her memory amongst the people of Killeedy and further afield has always remained constant.

Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25, 2023 Do Good; Seek Justice. (cf. Isaiah 1:17)

The 2023 theme was developed with the assistance of a group of Christians in Minnesota, USA, convened by the Minnesota Council of Churches. Minneapolis, MN became a flash-point for calls for racial justice and equity during the responses of communities to the George Floyd murder. This received world-wide attention **Weekly Lotto** €2,700 no winner winning No's 3,7,11,16 Lucky dips. 1.Eamonn Dooley 2.Larry Grimes 3.Peg Frawley 4.Raymond Quinn 5.Sinead Gunning 6.Max&Jasper /K.Toomey. Next Jackpot €2,800 Draw Tues 10th Jan. Four Elms 9.30pm

