

6th Sunday of Easter

There are thousands of little gestures I can make every day that convey the love of Christ. Clare Crockett wasn't shy to admit that she loved to have fun. "I liked to party a lot," said the Derry native. "My weekends, since I was 16/17, consisted of getting drunk with my friends. I wasted all my money on alcohol and cigarettes."

Ever since she was very young, she had wanted to be an actress and she wrote and acted in local theatre productions before securing a small part in the film *Bloody Sunday*.

Things were looking up for her. And then something happened that changed her life. She accepted an offer of a free trip to Spain, expecting a 10-day party in the sun.

But she was terribly disappointed when she discovered it wasn't a holiday by the pool, she'd signed up for a pilgrimage with mostly middle-aged women and rosary beads.

"I tried to get out of it," she said, "but my name was already on the ticket, so I had to go."

And off she went, with the middle-aged women and the rosary beads. She ended up staying in a monastery run by an order of nuns she had never heard of, called the Sister Servants of the Home of the Mother.

Something stirred in Clare while she was there. She felt a desire to be part of this group of women. She discovered a religious vocation. And that 10-day holiday turned into a lifelong journey.

A couple of years later, she became Sr Clare Crockett and was assigned to the South American country of Ecuador to teach and work with the poor.

In April 2016, just over a year ago, Sr Clare was giving guitar lessons in her school in the coastal town of Playa Prieta when a powerful earthquake struck. As she was guiding her pupils from the building, the stairwell they were standing on collapsed. Clare and her companions were crushed to death. She was 33 years old.

So, what about us? Most of us won't be leaving home to become missionaries in far-flung places like Ecuador. We're not going to be called to put our lives on the line out of love. So how do we respond to today's Gospel? How can we love one another as Jesus loved?

By letting go of selfishness, of self-interest. There are thousands of little gestures I

can make every day that convey the love of Christ.

Being truthful – even when a little lie would get me out of a sticky situation.

Practicing patience – when a sick or elderly family member needs help to go to the bathroom for what seems like the hundredth time that day.

Offering forgiveness – when a person I care about hurts or upsets or betrays me yet again.

Spending time – with someone no one else will listen to, or who seems withdrawn or moody or in trouble.

Showing compassion – to that homeless person squatting by the side of the street that passers-by pretend is not there.

Casting aside prejudice or the tendency to judge others – the person in the hijab, the gay couple holding hands, the tattoo-covered youth with a big nose ring.

There's nothing sappy or sentimental about Jesus' words in today's Gospel. Love one another, he says. But not just any kind of love. Love till it hurts. Love without cost. The kind of love Clare Crockett showed in extra-ordinary abundance.

Government Guidelines; Re-opening in respect of Religious Services. We are looking forward to re-opening our Churches for public worship from Monday May 10th, please find the enclosed information on the re-opening. It is much of what we already know and have heard but to keep in mind the following important points. From Monday 10th of May 50 are permitted to attend Places of Worship for recommencement of Religious Services. As with previous reopening for services, the following protective measures continue to apply:

2m social distancing guidelines adhered to (members of the same household can sit/stand close together). Wearing of face coverings. Where possible separate points of entrance and exit, clearly marked. No congregation by people outside the premises before and after any service. Stewards on site to assist in this regard. Use hand sanitizer provided

Where the size of the premises/Place of Worship allows for a **capacity of greater than 50** this may be permitted only where: social distancing guidelines are adhered to.

Drive-in Religious Services may take place outside places of worship (church carpark) where all attendees

Remembered In Mass

Donoughmore



Sat 8th 7 pm Theresa Sheehy & family. Liston & Catherine Bowden. (Recent death Seamus Kelly) Crecora

Mon 10th 10 am

Tue 11th 10 am

Fri 7th 10 am

Sat 8th 7 pm

Knockea

Sun 9th 11am Gerard Burke. Tommy & May Hartigan

Wed 12th 11am William Malone

Sun 16th 11am



remain in their vehicles and no sharing of vehicle outside of family unit. We have a radio system in place 105.5fm, you can tune in from the comfort of your own car. **Singing.** As with previous reopening for religious service congregational singing and choir singing is not permitted. Solo singing with accompanist is permitted subject to compliance with detailed guidance.

Funerals: The maximum attendance at funerals is currently 25. From 10th May 50 mourners permitted at service. Notwithstanding the increase in numbers permitted, funerals are still considered **private family events.** Funeral services should continue to be live streamed to help reduce numbers attending. Attendance at wakes in private homes / Funeral Homes remains unchanged i.e. immediate family only people should be discouraged from queuing to pay their respects. **Weddings:** From 10th May 50 guests

Parish of Donoughmore/ Knockea/Roxboro



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The Eircode for St. Patrick's Church, Donoughmore is **V94 V6T3.**

Knockea is **V94 D938.**

permitted at service (civil or religious). For celebrations/receptions, a maximum of 6 people are permitted for indoor gatherings and 15 people for outdoor gatherings. Thank's to our Church support teams who have given so much during this Pandemic, to keep all our parishioners safe. We begin Monday with Mass in Donoughmore at 10am, Wednesday Knockea at 10am, the weekends will be Saturday evening Donoughmore 7pm and Sunday Knockea at 11am. While the vaccination programme is continuing to progress we look forward to seeing you back again with us in our Churches. Thank you for your continued support and prayers as we start back and stay well everyone.

www.dkrparish.ie

weekly newsletter / Mass leaflet under the "Parish info" section

Mass Cards Get well Cards / Certs available

in Office Sat. 11-12.15pm



