

**God is Faithful to Us, 21 August 2022**

The psalmist prays, ‘Strong is the Lord’s love for us; he is faithful for ever’ (Ps 116). That is the theme I have chosen from today’s psalm. I liked listening to the sermons of the late Fr Dave Kennedy. I was so taken by his preaching I recorded a few of them. I did it so I could relive those moments again, hear the softness in his voice, his stories, enjoy his witty comments and most of all learn from his guidance. What follows is one such sermon from Easter of 2016.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. I suppose we all remember Saipan for the incident between the Irish soccer team manager, Mick McCarthy and Roy Keane in 2002. He sent Roy home from the World Cup. But it’s remembered for a lot more than that. During World War II a lot of big American aeroplanes coming from New York flew into the island of Saipan. They would be met there by a small little jeep. On the jeep were written the words: ‘Follow Me’. So the jeep with the sign would lead the planes to their destination. One of the pilots following the jeep said to himself, ‘the little jeep with the sign on it reminds me of Jesus because without the direction of Jesus all the men and women of the world would be lost’. If we follow Christ, like the pilots followed the little jeep, we will be led to our destination. The Lord has two hands like you and me. He has one hand to guide us and another hand to help us. That’s the message from today’s psalm... You will have your crucifixions. I certainly have them too. Things happen in life and your world is shattered and the troubles are coming from an unexpected source. Like the apostles, we need to go to the good Lord himself to get us back on track, to get us over the drama and put us back to work as he put the apostles back to work so they could achieve their missing.

When the apostles were out on the sea and the wind blew up and the waves were crashing into the boat, they were in danger of drowning, but who came along and saved them, but the Lord himself? In the storms of life we need to go to the Lord and take refuge in him until the storm passes by. When Peter got out of the boat and when he felt the force of the wind, he began to sink. He took the focus of his mind off the Lord. Then he said to him, ‘I’m going down’. The Lord replied, ‘you man of little faith’. The Lord kept him safe on the water. So too when the storms

arise in your life and mine, we should concentrate more on the Lord than on the storms. If we concentrate solely on the bad things of life that happen to us, the danger is they will undermine us. We need to go to the Lord, like the apostles, in the difficulties of life. If we do, the Lord will get us over them so we can get back on track to start working again and enable us to achieve our mission. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**We are told that without heroes, we will never know how far we can go.** Salman Rushdie has been the focus of global attention since 1988, when Iran’s then supreme leader Ayatollah Khomeini issued a fatwa denouncing his novel, *The Satanic Verses*, as blasphemous to Islam. Ever since then, Rushdie has been a fearless freedom fighter for the rights of writers to express themselves. His weapons have been his wit, courage and pen, wielding it every day to demonstrate how much mightier it is than the sword.

The fact that he is lying in hospital in a critical condition, with life-changing injuries, says much about the darkness in our world. For this to happen to someone who has devoted his whole existence to literature affirming the sacredness of life compounds the injustice. The Indian-born author has been fearless in maintaining his position on the front line between oppressive powers and those who dare to speak truth to it.

The only superpower he relied on was his own imagination. United States President Joe Biden has rightly commended the “universal ideals” of truth, courage and resilience embodied by Rushdie and his work. “These are the building blocks of any free and open society,” he added. Were it not for the rapid intervention of a state police officer, it is unlikely Rushdie’s life would have been saved. Free-speech advocates all over the world have been outraged by the assault. Novelist Margaret Atwood said the act of violence against Rushdie is “one more attack on democratic values. We are fond of saying eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Surely the attack on Rushdie is a call to step up our vigilance,” she added.

Our Knock Pilgrimage, after three years, it was wonderful to travel once again to our Lady’s Shrine in glorious sunshine on Wednesday last, we thank our loyal bunch of parishioners and people from outside the parish who joined us, 52 in all, We especially thank Bridget, Margaret and Naomi for making all the arrangements for the day and everything going to plan, Well done to one and all.



<b>Remembered In Mass</b>		
<b>Donoughmore</b>		 <i>Rest In Peace</i>
Sat 20th August	7pm	Billy Brosnahan Michael Coffey (1st) Parents William & Annie & brother Richard. Willie & Joan & Mairead Cagney
Mon.22nd	10m	
Tues 23rd	10am	No Mass
Fri 26th	10am	
Sat 27th	7pm	
<b>Knockea</b>		
Sun 21st	11am	Eddie Baggott & Ellen & Jim Baggott. Peg Noone (Birthday Rem)
Wed 24th	10am	John Noonan (30th) & Nancy Noonan (4th)
Sun 28th	11am	Tom Madigan
<b>Roxboro</b>		

**The Irish Bishops’ Conference published the National Synthesis of the Synodal Process on [www.synod.ie](http://www.synod.ie).** The Synodal Process has been conducted across the Church in Ireland from Autumn 2021. The publication the National Synthesis is the fruit of a wide-ranging process of listening and consultation drawing on the syntheses produced by the 26 dioceses in Ireland, as well as those submitted by religious congregations and other interested groups. The National Synthesis will be forwarded to Rome as part of the worldwide synodal process of listening and

**Parish of Donoughmore/ Knockea/Roxboro**



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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

discernment launched by Pope Francis in October 2021 and which will culminate in the General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in Rome in 2023.

**Recently deceased** Sympathy to the family of Willie Dooley Ballyneety funeral Mass today Sat. at Knockea Church, to the family of Fr. Paddy Costelloe of Lower Park Corbally funeral Mass was Friday at St Munchins Church Clancy Strand May they rest in Peace

**Weekly Lotto** €1,500 winning 6,14,22,26 No winners Lucky dips 1.Kathleen Godfrey 2. Marian Sheahan 3.Pat Hartigan 4. Jackie Nolan 5. Brid Kennedy 6. Mary Lynch Next Jackpot €1,600 Draw Tues. 23rd August The Four Elms 9.30pm Thank you

