

**Not Beyond Redemption** Are there people, really beyond redemption? I prefer to rephrase it: Are there people who act really badly, wretchedly and horribly, beyond redemption? The Christian faith says, “No”. I believe this should be one of the principal tenets of our faith.

The whole of the gospel is a story of redemption. Every word written in the Bible is God expressing either directly or indirectly that He is endeavouring to win all people back to himself especially those who have strayed furthest from him. Jesus said it: ‘the will of him who sent me is that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me and that I should raise it up on the last day’ (Jn 6:39). The actions performed in the Bible by people on behalf of God are infused with redemption. He wants to deliver us from all that is evil, liberate us from all that is sinful.

The greatest act of redemption or liberation is Jesus’ life, death and resurrection. As I write I feel there is nothing more important I could ever write. This impacts not just on the greatest sinners, the despots, but on the least of sinners, the saints. Whenever you go to Mass, you should always leave the church with joy. That should be the case whether the preacher is good or bad, or the music is good or bad, or the heating is on or off. Why do I say this? There is one thing you should always do when you go to Mass, look at the crucifix. The outstretched arms of Jesus are there for you, not just the holy version of you, but every version of you right down to when you were at your worst. Recall the words of Jesus, ‘I have not come to call the virtuous, but sinners to repentance’ (Lk 5:31). Look to his heart, the fountain of God’s love, The merciful love of Jesus is cascading upon our world and its people. This redemptive act of Jesus’ death and resurrection is re-presented in word and deed throughout the Eucharistic prayer. This victory we have received will never be surpassed. That’s why we joyfully sing Alleluia on Easter Sunday, and we have reason to say it and feel it at every Sunday Mass.

I turn to some 20th century writers. Mahatma Gandhi says: ‘**No human being is so bad as to be beyond redemption**’. C.S. Lewis also says: ‘non-Christians seem to think that the Incarnation (God becoming man) implies some particular merit or excellence in humanity. But of course it implies just the reverse: a particular

demerit and depravity. Billy Graham wrote, ‘God undertook the most dramatic rescue operation in cosmic history. He determined to save the human race from self-destruction, and He sent His Son Jesus to salvage and redeem them. **The work of man's redemption was accomplished at the cross**’. Finally, a message for all us sinners: redemption awaits us all. Yasmin Mogahed says ‘each moment is a new birth. A new chance to come back, to get it right. A new chance to make it better’.

The Holy Spirit never ever gives up on you. He is constantly working to turn you around, even if He can only turn you around at the last minute. The Spirit is not dormant or hibernating in your heart. The Spirit is every bit as active within you as the heart in your body. JK

**As climate warning signs get bleaker, we must act before it is to late** With the curtain about to go up on the United Nations’ COP27 climate talks in Egypt, there comes news that Europe has warmed more than twice as much as the rest of the world over the past 30 years. As Alpine glaciers disappear at unprecedented rates and the waters of the Mediterranean heated up this summer, we should scarcely be surprised. A large part of the continent is in the sub-Arctic and Arctic, which is the fastest-warming region on Earth, according to the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO). It has resulted in Europe being dubbed “a heatwave hotspot” by scientists. Yet some improvements are being made. WMO secretary-general Professor Petteri Taalas said Europe is making good progress on cutting carbon emissions. Yet much more must be done. Frustration at the pace of change has led to a wave of attacks by climate activists who have been targeting art museums. Seeing some of the world’s greatest art treasures being so treated has provoked outrage and caused many to wonder how such acts could connect with the greater good. They view it as entirely perverse, that the work of the world’s greatest painters should pay the price for our dereliction toward the environment. After all, were these not the very people who celebrated the wonders of our planet the most? Ireland is among a handful of countries that have repeatedly failed to present a long-term strategy on climate action to the European Commission. According to Friends of the Earth, the Government’s climate credentials “are on the line, having been recently issued with a formal notice for failing to comply with a key element of EU climate law”. Such a strategy would include details on expected emissions reductions across sectors in line with national plans. But already it is two-and-a-half years overdue. There can be no more equivocation – we’re either serious about solutions or we remain part of the problem. Internationally,

| Remembered In Mass |      |  |
|--------------------|------|--|
| Donoughmore        |      |  |
| Sat 12th Nov.      | 7pm  | Cyril Carney<br>Mick & Lena Kelly<br>(MM) Thomas O’Brien.<br>John Hickey (4) |
| Mon.14th           | 10m  |  |
| Tues 15th          | 10am | No Mass  |
| Fri 18th           | 10am |  |
| Sat 19th           | 4pm  | Edward Grimes<br>Hugh Hurley   |
| Knockea            |      |  |
| Sun 13th Nov.      | 11am | The Shaughnessy &<br>Palmer families   |
| Wed.16th           | 10am | Deceased Members of<br>Comm. Assoc.  |
| Sun 19th Nov.      | 11am | Teresa Keane, Tony &<br>Mary Quilty  |



**Parish of  
Donoughmore/  
Knockea/Roxboro  
Fr Tom Mangan PP**



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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

there are some welcome signs of change Yet we have just seen the stunning defeat of climate-change denier Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil. Earlier this year, the US Congress passed a historically large response to climate change. Meanwhile, Russian leader Vladimir Putin’s efforts to use his petro-dictatorship to impose energy challenges on western democracies have resulted in a stronger push toward a green-energy future. Democracies are finally mobilising, and we have a deep responsibility to be with them.

**Our Sympathy** to the O’Riordan family Drombana on the recent death of Pdraig, funeral Mass is this Monday at Donoughmore 11.30am  
**Parish Finance Meeting** Church House Mon. 14th Nov. 7.30pm  
**Preparation- First Holy Comm.** Children & Parents join us next weekend for Mass  
**Planned Giving-Family Envelope Box 2023**, if you like to support the parish through envelope or online through the ‘Donate’ button on our parish website please let us know. New envelope boxes begin in Jan.2023, thanks for your continued gener-

osity to the parish.  
**Advent: ‘Waiting’ with a Difference** Reflection Day, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov.10:30am to 4pm, Glenstal Abbey. You can register your place at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AdventWaiting>

Of Limerick Saints and Seekers’ book launch, Tuesday 22nd Nov. 7:30pm in Limerick Diocesan Centre.

**For Your Diary ‘A Christmas Spectacular’** Parish Christmas concert Monday Dec.12th Ballyneety Golf club at 8pm , all welcome

**Weekly Lotto** €1,900 no winner winning No 9,10,19,21 Lucky dips 1.Sinead Le Gear 2. Noreen O’Donoghue 3.Breda & Kathy Flood 4.Mike Keane 5.Mike Fitzpatrick 6.Kathleen Toomey Next Jackpot €2,000 Draw Tues 15th Nov. Four Elms 9.30pm

