



Spring New Beginnings

Spring is the most awaited season of the year. It is a heavenly respite from the harsh, dark winter. It is when nature enters into its festival mode. Spring is the time of renewal, rebirth, greenery, and life sprouting all around. Gardeners love spring, for it gives them more light and the pleasant warmth to go out and sow the seeds. As temperatures increase, both flora and fauna get a

long-awaited relief from the cold winter.

Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!' **Robin Williams**

It is spring again. The earth is like a child that knows poems by heart.

Rainer Maria Rilke

If people did not love one another, I really don't see what use there would be in having any spring.

Victor Hugo

An Cailín Ciúin, The Silent Girl

Happy are the poor, theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy are those who mourn, they shall be comforted. The film An Cailín Ciúin, The Silent Girl is built around those two Beatitudes or two Blessings. The film shows the pain and shame of both situations in two rural Irish families in 1981. There is nothing happy about being poor or mourning. Most of the film is in Irish (with English subtitles) and some English chat. While saying that there is very little dialogue. The setting is mostly on one rural Irish farm. The girl, Cáit, comes to this married couple whose only child and son died in a slurry pit. Cáit is coming from a farming family that is very poor. Her family situation smacks a little of Frank McCourt's Angela's Ashes. Shame is a theme that permeates the entire film. It shows the pain and isolating effect of shaming a person. But it also shows how a person blossoms when shame is avoided and a person's dignity respect-

ed despite their situation. The simplicity of this film cannot be overstated. There are few characters, little dialogue, beautiful farm and farmyard scenery in a sunny summer setting during the school holidays. It's simplicity actually augments and amplifies its profound message: the power of love. It's deserving of international acclaim and Oscar Nominations. Andrew Bennett, the foster father grew up in High Park, our neighbouring parish and Siobhan Sheehy comes from Grannagh outside Croom. Cáit is shamed at home and at school by her older sisters and pupils because she's a wanderer and they shunned and snubbed her. Her family are mortified that they haven't the money to pay to cut the hay unlike the other farmers. She goes to her cousins because they haven't the wherewithal to look after her. She arrives just for the summer with nothing but the clothes she's wearing. Her father shames her by saying that she eat them out of house and home. The foster father shames her by referring to her father who couldn't even teach her to wash her hands and face. The foster parents experience the shame of failing to protect their son from the farmyard tragic death. Every shameful word and action should be banished from our lives. Every effort should be made to foster the dignity of ALL people starting with oneself! Things change for Cáit with her encounter with her foster mother. She says, 'there's no secrets in this house. When there are secrets in a house there's shame.' Rather than shaming Cáit after wetting the bed, she responds in a very dignified manner, 'I shouldn't have put you into these old mattresses. They are always weeping.' The foster father reaches out to her by bringing all three of them to town and dressing her up in the best clothes for Sunday Mass. The final minute of the film is the climax and moment of redemption and deliverance for Cáit and her foster parents. I won't spoil it on you. Then you see it in action, Blessed are the poor and Blessed are those who mourn.



Parish Funeral Teams are becoming part of ministry in our parishes in the Diocese and throughout the other Diocese of Ireland, to support families in bereavement times and with the priest of the parish and in the Pastoral Unit, it's a Ministry of Accompaniment and Consolation to the bereaved. We really appreciate a few of our parishioners who attended a funeral ministry training reflection evening in the Diocesan centre last November and have now decided to become part of this special ministry in our Parish. On receiving word of the death

Remembered In Mass

Donoughmore



Sat 4th	7pm	Parish Intentions
Mon.6th BH	10m	No Mass
Tues 7th	10am	
Fri 10th	10am	
Sat11th Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Day of Prayer for the Sick,	7pm	(MM) Thomas Fleming
Knockea		
Sun 5th	11am	Molly Keane (2nd) Maire Hourigan (14th) Ann O'Brien (8th)
Wed.8th	10am	
Sun 12th	11am	Nonie Shanahan. (M) Desmond & Kathleen Conway

of a loved one from the family and funeral undertaker one or two members of the Funeral Ministry Team will meet the bereaved family, possibly in the parish office either on their own or with the priest to support and assist you in whatever way they can in organising the funeral mass. They will discuss the liturgy, readings, prayers, music and symbols and help the family make the decisions on choosing the appropriate readings and prayers for the deceased person. Members of the funeral Ministry Team may be involved in leading some of the prayers at the family home or the funeral home, in the church or at the graveside or crematorium. We thank those in the parish who have come forward to support families and the priest with this ministry. We welcome others in the community, if you feel you would like to be part of the team and would

**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**

like to know more about it, please let Fr Tom know.

Our Prayers and Sympathies: to the Kirby family on the passing of Ger Kirby, Parkroe, Ballynetty. Reposing at his home Sunday eve. 2-5pm, funeral Mass Monday at 11am Knockea, burial in Raaheen cemetery. We keep in our thoughts the Greaney family Ballinagarde on the death of Danny, the Moloney family, Ballinagarde on the death of Colin., the McDonagh family on the death of Myra, May they rest in Peace.

Weekly Lotto €3,100 no winner winning no's 1,10,16,25 Lucky dips.1.Tom Kennedy 2.Billie Butler 3.Geraldine Kelly 4.Rose Connolly 5.Mary Moloney 6.Marion Lynch Next Jackpot €3,200 Draw Tues 7th Feb. 9.30pm Four Elms

