

Natural disasters like the quakes in Turkey and Syria open our eyes to the fragility of life. Natural disasters remind us how frighteningly finite and precious our existence is.



The terrifying destruction in Turkey and Syria was unleashed by forces beyond our control. The whole world is touched by the tragedy of thousands of people taken within a few moments. The rescues bring joy, five members of a single family alive from the wreckage of their home, 129 hours after a powerful earthquake struck the region amid overwhelming devastation days after Monday's 7.8-magnitude quake destroyed thousands of buildings, killing more than 24,000 people, injuring another 80,000 and leaving millions homeless. Another quake nearly equal in power and likely triggered by the first caused more destruction hours later. Temperatures remain below freezing across the large region, and many people have no shelter. The Turkish government has distributed millions of hot meals, as well as tents and blankets, but is still struggling to reach many people in need

World Day of Prayer for the Sick Sat. 11th Feb. 2023–



On 13th May 1992, a number of years following an assassination attempt on his life that led to a time of suffering and the experiences of being

seriously ill in hospital, Saint Pope John Paul II launched a world day of prayer for the sick which coincides each year with the Feast Day of our Lady of Lourdes on 11th February. Pope Benedict and Pope Francis have continued this special world day. Bishop Michael Router, chairperson of the Council for Healthcare of the Bishops' Conference, has welcomed Pope Francis message for the 2023 World Day of the Sick which takes place this Saturday, 11 February, This year's theme is 'Take care of him: compassion is a synodal exercise of healing'. and is inspired by the parable of the good Samaritan in the Gospel of Luke. Bishop Router said, "As a Church we are

journeying along a synodal path together and the experience of vulnerability and illness helps us to accompany each other, as Pope Francis says, in 'closeness, compassion, and tenderness.' Such care for those who are weak and sick is a "synodal exercise of healing". For some, illness can bring an experience of isolation and abandonment, which the Pope calls inhumane." "Referring to the parable of the Good Samaritan, Pope Francis makes the point that the man who was beaten by the robbers was abandoned when he needed help. Many are, unfortunately, abandoned and left without care and assistance in today's world and there are frequent assaults on human life and dignity caused by injustice and violence. While respectable members of society pass by the injured man on the road in Jesus' parable, a despised foreigner is moved by compassion to respond and treat him like a brother. "Pope Francis draws attention to the modern day 'pervasive culture of efficiency' which leaves no room for frailty and seeks to marginalise the vulnerable. The Church must stand against such a culture which allows such practices as euthanasia and assisted suicide to be presented as acceptable in a civilised society. The mission of the Church is manifested in acts of care and through such outreach she becomes a true 'field hospital' where no one is forgotten or disposable. Bishop Router continued, "The Pope also draws our attention to the pressing need for 'strategies and resources in order to guarantee each person's fundamental right to basic and decent healthcare.' The Covid-19 pandemic has exposed 'the structural limits of existing public welfare systems.' It seems that the prioritising of economic success over universal care and compassion is leaving more and more people on the margins – among them the homeless, the refugee, the poor, the patient on the hospital trolley, the drug addict" "As he brings his message to a close, Pope Francis reiterates the point that the sick are at the centre of the Christian community and that the "Church advances together with them as a sign of a humanity in which everyone is precious and no one should be discarded or left behind". The Holy Father concludes by entrusting all the sick, their families and carers, healthcare workers and scientific researchers, to the care and intercession of Mary, 'Health of the Sick,'" In this way the faithful express solidarity with those who suffer – this solidarity arises from our awareness of the mystery of suffering and its place in God's loving plan for every individual. Those who dedicate themselves to the world of health care enter the most intimate part of the individual, into his/her existence as a spiritual being. By caring for the sick and needy we bring the good news of the Gospel alive by offering an authentic sign of love that "the Kingdom of God is

Remembered In Mass

Donoughmore



Sat.11th Feast of Our lady of Lourdes. Day of Prayer for the Sick	7pm	Thomas Fleming (MM)
Mon. 13th	10m	No Mass
Tues 14th St Valentines Day	10am	No Mass
Fri 17th	10am	
Sat. 18th	7pm	
Knockea		
Sun 12th	11am	Nonie Shanahan. (M) Desmond & Kathleen Conway
Wed.15th	10am	
Sun 19th	11am	Vincent O'Donohue

close at hand" (Mark 1: 15) *May I find your light and hope even when I struggle to find it. I ask for healing, for a blessing and a sign of love today. Surround me in your healing and love today and every day. I especially include my family, our sick, our amazing doctors, nurses and caring teams. Keep us all safe in your love and your healing. Amen*

Our Prayers and Sympathies: to the Kirby family on the passing of Ger Kirby, Parkroe, Ballyneety, May he rest in Peace.

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



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Pastoral Area Donoughmore / Knockea/ Roxboro, Queen of Peace, Holy Family

Ministry of Accompaniment and Consolation to the bereaved. We 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. We welcome others in the community, if you feel you would like to be part of the team and would like to know more about it, please let us know.

Limerick Diocese Clergy Conference Sun. eve to Tues. 1pm, no 10am Mass Monday /Tuesday in Donoughmore

Weekly Lotto €3,200 no winner winning no.2,12,16,28. Lucky dips.1.Anita wade 2.Paul Monahan 3.John Leamy 4.Michael Malone 5.Aoife Butler 6.Seamus O'Connor. Next Jackpot €3,300 Draw Tues 14th Feb. 9.30pm Cat's Cradle

