



What is a Church? Part 3 of 3

The ultimate question that I am chasing after in the study of lighting churches naturally is this: will the nave, the main aisle in Donoughmore church experience a summer solstice on June 21? Will the rising sun shine through the sanctuary window and remerge through the opposite facing window?

The word solstice is derived from the latin word *soul*, which means sun, and *sistere*, which means to stand still, because at the solstices the sun appears to stand still. That is the seasonal movement of the sun's path as it pauses at the northern limit before it starts its reverse journey to the southern limit.

The sun will begin rising and shining on Donoughmore at about 5:13 a.m. on June 21. As the rising sun peaks over the horizon know that it rays will be shining over Drogheda on its way to Donoughmore.

Donoughmore Church is aiming at a point just a few kms north of Drogheda. Will the sun strike the sanctuary window straight on as it rises on June 21 before it moves south? Did those historical architects design the church with that in mind? They scripted their plans for Donoughmore Church which we can no longer locate. But they also scripted their plans on a green site which we do have. From that script we can decipher what they were thinking? Had they some clandestine message from the pages of the bible dictating the church's design? Have they left us with some cryptic clues as to what it is? Clear skies with no clouds, fog or mist are needed to verify this on June 21. The local horizon rather than the geographical horizon will be used, which includes the landscape, trees and buildings. That is what the architect would have seen in his time.



On June 2nd last, the photo shows the rising sun at 5.27 am. It strikes the window at 88 degrees. As the month moves on that angle will increase to 90 degrees. It could happen that the trees between the church and the Hickey's Cross might obstruct some of the sun on June 21. At

the writing of this article we can be sure that the rising sun on June 21 (the summer solstice) will shine down the nave, the main aisle of St. Patrick's Church, Donoughmore. Due the width of the sanctuary window it might also shine directly through the church to the main door and the window in the organ gallery. The sun moves rather fast as it leaves the horizon. **Do not look** or point cameras directly at the sun.

I'd like to think the gothic architect positioned the Donoughmore Church and placed that large sanctuary window to give us a Donoughmore Summer Solstice. Or was it all by chance? That question awaits an answer. JK

Our Prayers and Sympathy to Ger and the family of Anne Plunkett, Drombanna May she rest in Peace.

Benerementi Medal Congratulations to Pat Hayes, Bernie Hartigan and Dermot Hurley who received the Papal award last weekend

State Exams We remember all who are doing the junior and leaving cert exams which begin officially next Wednesday 7th June. Best of luck

On this Monday, the 5th, we celebrate World Environment Day. We pray that the Spirit guide us to protect the wonderful gifts of water, land and climate that our Creator has bestowed on us

DKR Comm. Café in the courthouse Ballyneety on Fridays 10.30-call in for a free cup of tea/coffee,.

Multi-agency water safety appeal for June bank holiday weekend

The Coast Guard, RNLI and Water Safety Ireland have issued a joint water safety appeal as people are expected to enjoy the water this bank holiday weekend. Even in good weather, water temperatures remain cold and the organisations have advised that those taking part in any water-based activity should make sure they have the proper equipment and know how to do it safely. The Coast Guard, RNLI and Water Safety Ireland advise to always carry a means of calling for help and to keep it within reach at all times While the good weather is set to continue, always check the forecast, tide times and sea conditions before setting off. Get regular updates if planning to be out for any length of time. And be prepared to change your plans or cancel the trip if the forecast is unfavourable. For those swimming, remember to acclimatise slowly, wear a bright swimming cap and consider a tow float to increase visibility. Never swim alone and always ensure that your activity is being

Remembered In Mass

Donoughmore

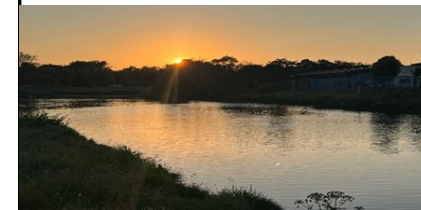


Sat.3rd June	7pm	Frank Ahern (5th) Peg Noone
Mon.5th June Public Holiday	10m	No Mass
Tues 6th	10am	No Mass
Fri 9th		Ita Keane (5th)
Sat. 10th June	7pm	
Knockea		
Sun 4th	11am	Frank & Hilda Mad-den Luke Buckley (1st)
Wed. 7th	10am	No Mass
Sun 4th	11am	Joseph & Annie Hartigan

monitored by a colleague. Swim in areas that are life-guarded or are known locally to be safe. "We appeal to everybody to plan for and attend to their personal safety. We again are warning on the dangers of using inflatable toys such as LiLo's on or near the water, be it seaside, lake or river. Please do not bring such items with you," says Irish Coast Guard Operations manager Micheál O'Toole. "We again express our thanks to all members of the emergency services who will be on duty over the weekend, in particular volunteer members of Coast Guard, RNLI, Community Inshore rescue boats and mountain rescue teams. **Have a safe and enjoyable weekend & Careful on all roads**"

Weekly Lotto €4,800 no winner, winning No's 4.13.16.27. Lucky dips. 1.Peter Gregg 2.Michael O'Meara 3.Vin. Joe & Becky Hayes 4.John Hanly 5.Raymond Quinn 6.Myra Chapman Next Jackpot €4, 900 Draw Tues 6th June 9.30pm The Cat's Cradle

**Parish of
Donoughmore/
Knockea/Roxboro
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Sacristan**

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The Eircode for St. Patrick's Church, Donoughmore is **V94 V6T3**. Knockea is **V94 D938**. **Pastoral Unit 'Sti Pdraig' Patrick's Way ;Donoughmore /Knockea/ Roxboro, Queen of Peace, Holy Family**



**PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATOR COURSE
WEDNESDAY, 7TH JUNE
THE COURTHOUSE BALLYNEETY
7PM TO 9PM**

Delivered by trained instructor. Certificates of completion issued on the night.

SUBSIDIZED COST OF JUST €5 PER PERSON

- Ballyneety Defibrillator is available 24 hrs a day for public use in an emergency.
- The phonebox is accessed by using the key code printed on the door of the phonebox.
- **Please note, this defibrillator is not attached to a Community Response Team.**
- In the event of an emergency dial 999/112.
- If instructed by the operator, you must arrange to have the defibrillator collected by family / neighbour.
- After use, please phone the number on the back of the carry bag to inform the Committee the defib has been used.
- Anyone can use a defibrillator, it has voice led instruction but we encourage you to attend training on its use and to also learn CPR.

It could save a life!

If you would like a place on this course please text 087 - 2489322 with name and number attending **before Friday the 2nd June 2023**. Thank you.

Ann Rowsome, Naomi Cleary Graham, Denise Leahy (Committee)

