

Reflections on the Donoughmore Summer Solstice 1

The sun rose on 21 June 2023 and its gentle golden rays peaked through

the shrubbery and straight in through the sacristy window at about 5.15 am. Then it traced its light along the church wall until it reached the sanctuary window. The picture below shows the glowing effect the summer solstice had on the frosted sanctuary window from the window in the organ loft. The magnificence of this light spectacle would be highlighted so much more if all the other windows in the church were cloaked over and the sanctuary window had plain glass. After speaking with some confreres it's thought that the architect didn't align the church to give us a summer solstice. He simply aligned the church with the road which happens to be pointing in a north-easterly direction. But God works subtly through the thoughts and actions of people. Responding innocuously to the promptings and plans of God,



people and beast traced out the road over centuries that ultimately gave us the current alignment of the church. But what golden nuggets can be gleaned from this miraculous phenomenon of astronomy? We speak about the sun, our closest star as rising and setting. That's a misnomer. Actually, the sun does not move within our solar system, it just continuously spins in an anti-clockwise motion. Our planet earth is tilted, spinning and moving. It's that activity that gives us our night and day, as well as our seasons; it also gives us our summer and winter solstice. Donoughmore church is planned and placed, tilted and turned in such a way that it funnels the golden glow of the morning summer solstice light down its nave and as far into the church as was possible so it could reach the distant wall and remerge through the window of the organ loft. It is also trying to illuminate as much of the three walls of the nave as is possible. The architects innocuously exploited the tilting and turning of the earth so that distant wall could get the greatest amount of the sun's rays on these few days before and after June 21. It's the light of

the enchanting summer solstice, the day when the sun is casting and hurling the greatest amount of lifegiving light and heat on the northern hemisphere and on St. Patrick's Church, Donoughmore. The sun is endeavouring to bath the church both inside and outside with the greatest amount of lifegiving light and heat on June 21.

DKR Comm. Café courthouse Ballyneety Fridays 10.30am....call in for a free cup of tea/coffee any Friday morning

School Graduations took place during the week from our 3 schools, we wish these young people the very best as they continue to secondary school in a few months times. Thanks to the teaching staff, Boards of Management and Parents Council for all the hard work and support around these special occasions

60th wedding Congratulations on Thursday to Eva & Denis Griffin, Robinhill Drombanna.

Our Prayers and Sympathies to the family of Una Kelly, Perrystown, Dublin, Mother of Elaine Hickey and son-in-law Larry and to the family of John Joe O'Dea, (Gerry O'Dea's) Mulgrave St. May they rest in Peace

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2023 We wish every success and blessing to all who are travelling to Lourdes this week for the Limerick Diocesan Pilgrimage,

On-line donations system An alternative facility to allow parishioners make financial contributions to the parish Use the camera on your smartphone to scan this QR Code our parish website



www.dkrparish.ie follow the Donate button

Haunting end to Titan's last expedition It is unlikely there are many of us would choose to take their pleasure by climbing into a cramped mini-submarine and diving into the inhospitable and unforgiving depths of the Atlantic Ocean. But that is just the way that some people, the risk-takers of this world, roll when they seek adventure. After several



Remembered In Mass

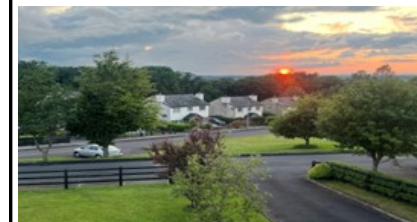
Donoughmore



Sat.24th June	7pm	(MM) Anne Plunkett Mary Keogh (1st), Cloughjordan / Bawnmore Peggy, Theresa, Kitty & Ita Flynn
Mon.26th	10m	
Tues 27th	10am	No Mass
Fri 30th		
Sat. 1st July	7pm	(MM) Jackie Nolan
Knockea		
Sun 25th	11am	Aggie Kimmons (3rd) late of Ballysheedy & Riverstown, Castlecarra, Dundalk. Co.Louth Bridget Begley (13th)
Wed. 28th	10am	
Sun 2nd July	11am	

palpitating days of search we now know the five members of the Titan submersible, including a father and his 19-year-old son who reluctantly joined the expedition, it is reported, "because it was Father's Day" lost their lives early in the voyage due to a catastrophic implosion of the vessel. Reports attributed to the US navy say experts conducted an analysis of acoustic data and "detected an anomaly" consistent with the area of operations when communications were lost on Sunday. James Cameron, director of the movie *Titanic*, who is an experienced submariner and has visited the wreckage 13,000ft down on the ocean floor 33 times, said he had been worried by the submersible's composite carbon fibre and titanium hull design and wished that he had spoken up earlier. He commented also on the "similarity" between the tragedy of the Titan and

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The Eircode for St. Patrick's Church, Donoughmore is **V94 V6T3**.

Knockea is **V94 D938**.

Pastoral Unit 'Sli Padraig' Patrick's Way ;Donoughmore /Knockea/ Roxboro, Queen of Peace, Holy Family

the sinking of the Titanic in 1912 after its departure from Queenstown, now Cobh. Both involved a series of unheeded warnings he told ABC. Both now lie within 1,600ft of each other on the sea bed. In his memorable poem, *The Convergence of the Twain*, written shortly after the Titanic disaster, Thomas Hardy compares the hubris of mankind with the power of nature. Five more lost lives 600km off the coast of Newfoundland are a sad reminder of taking on the untamed forces of the world.

Weekly Lotto €5,100 no winner, winning No's 10, 13, 19, 25 Lucky dips. 1. Marian Sheahan 2.Patrick Galvin c/o Ray 3.Tommy Ahern 4.Hugh Dunne 5.Karen Lee 5.Kathy O'Riordan c/o Breda Next Jackpot €5,200 Draw Tues 27th June 9.30pm The Four Elms

