

Changing Years Each passing year brings change. Moving from the early days of infancy to our arrival at a time of old age we are in a culture of altered circumstance, little remains the same. From the buzz and excitement of our early years, through school attendance and on into the teenage times, the web of our experience grows, and we have to constantly adjust our position. We do so often by testing the patience of those around us be they parents or teachers or others of comparable age to ourselves and slowly we have our views shaped and our opinions formed. Often the taunt thrown at us by others regarding our 'immaturity' fails to realize it is all part of our common journey. We move, step by step, exploring the pathways that are available to us, making decisions on our own account, both small and great. Those that have nurtured us have gradually to relax controlling voices, allowing us to make our own mistakes and, hopefully to learn from our fractured days and ways. The experience of middle teenage years adds to the totality of who we are and whom we are becoming. But parents don't give up and having withdrawn into the background, they hang around to pick up the pieces, ever attentive to family needs, ever willing to repair what is broken. And so, one generation merges with the next generation, dark hair of youth turns grey and then white. Once full and upright shoulders stoop now over the tapping of a walking stick and feet shuffle rather than stride. Slowness of response sets in and greater time is required for simple actions. Others who walk with us have their tolerance tested in these passing years. Just as we physically change with the passing years, so too does our faith. Simplicity of childhood faith has been tested by the reality of life's experiences. The simple answer YES or NO will no longer satisfy a question simply put as we confront the many shadows that hover between sharpened clear-cut boundaries. And yet we are urged to have a child-like faith, even in older age. Maybe that faith in the Lord doesn't mean having all the answers ready to match the myriad of questions that arise. I have always told my grandchildren they can ask me anything but not always to expect an off the shelf answer. Gradually they have become used to the grey tones. Paul's letter to the people of Corinth reminds us of that story. "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the

heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

SYNODAL PATHWAY On 28 June members of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference met with the National Steering Committee and Task Group of the Irish Synodal Pathway, in Maynooth, for a day of dialogue and reflection as the Steering Committee continues to formulate its recommendations regarding the structure and content of the synodal pathway for the coming years in Ireland. The Steering Committee is due to make its recommendations during the Autumn General Meeting of the Bishops' Conference and thereafter hold a second national gathering towards the end of the year. The purpose of that gathering will be to explore together the learning from the process to date and to outline the recommendations for subsequent steps along the pathway. At the Maynooth meeting, some of the questions reflected upon included consideration of the format and methodologies for the Synodal Pathway; themes to be explored synodally across the Church in Ireland, and other planning and governance questions. All those gathered noted and welcomed the publication of the *Instrumentum Laboris* (working document) for the first session of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, which will take place from 4 to 29 October. At the conclusion of the meeting, Bishop Brendan Leahy of Limerick, who serves as deputy-chairperson of the Synodal Steering Committee, expressed gratitude to the countless number of people who invested their commitment, time, energy, and prayer to each stage of the synodal process which has led to the publication of the *Instrumentum Laboris*. Bishop Leahy said, "In looking at what has happened so far, we can be very grateful for the commitment of so many. The journey continues and I wholeheartedly encourage Catholics across Ireland to continue to engage with the universal synodal process through ongoing prayer and discernment. To date, Ireland has made a valuable contribution to the Universal Synod with the *National Synthesis* that was prepared last year and the presentation of the Irish delegation at the Continental Assembly in Prague in February. We are awaiting the official confirmation from the Holy Father of the various delegations to the October assembly in Rome. That gathering, of course, isn't just for those going to Rome. Each of us can continue to contribute in prayer and reflection to what is this Spirit-led ongoing conversation of renewal that aims to generate a pastoral and structural conversion in the life and mission of the Church at every level." Bishop Leahy also renewed the invitation from the Bishops' Conference to join spiritually and, where possible, in ecumenical groups, in the ecumenical prayer vigil taking place on 30 September in Saint Peter's Square, Rome, where leaders of other Christian Churches will gather with Pope Francis ahead of the opening of the Synod.

Our Prayers and Sympathies to the family of .Nancy Shanahan (nee Brosnahan), Firhill, Parteen & formerly Drombanna, reposing at Cross's funeral home Ballyneety 5-7pm to Donoughmore Church, funeral Mass Monday 11am to Donoughmore cemetery, to the fami-

Remembered In Mass		
Donoughmore		
Sat. 1st July	7pm (MM)	Jackie Nolan
Mon. 3rd	10m	No Mass
Tues 4th	10am	No Mass
Fri 7th		William Connolly (4th)
Sat. 8th July	5pm	
Knockea		
Sun 2nd July	11am	Mary (Dolly) Woods (5th) Charlie Godfrey
Wed. 5th	10am	No Mass
Sun 9th July	11am	Willie Aherne (1st) & Mrs Annie Smith Tom Hanrahan (5th)



ly of Moira Kearney (nee Hurley) Ennis Co. Clare, sister of Bill Hurley Rathuard, reposing at her residence Sunday 4-5pm to St. Josephs Church Ennis, funeral Mass Monday 10.30am May they rest in Peace

Knock Pilgrimage: Thursday 17th Aug 2023. €35. Bus is filling up, book your place asap. Please give your sealed envelope with your name and money to any of the three below before 1st Aug. Bus will depart Day Care Centre @10am SHARP. Bridget 061 351023. Naomi 086 6072593 Margaret 087 2775103

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

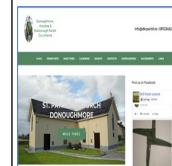
All Ireland Hurling Semi-final Limerick V Galway Sat. eve 6pm, please note evening Mass in Donoughmore will be 5pm

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

Parish Insurance €4,686.93



On-line donations system An alternative facility to allow parish-



ioners 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

Weekly Lotto €5,200 no winner, winning No's 1,13,21,23. Lucky dips. 1. Neilus Wade 2. Mairead Wharton Evans 3. Ann Rowsome 4. Deirdre O'Neill 5. Joe Hennessy 6. Doli Whelan Next Jackpot €5,300 Draw Tues 5th July 9.30pm The Cat's Cradle

