



.The Season of Creation has a special significance for the Catholic Church, particularly since Pope Francis established 1st

Sept. to 4th October (Feast of St Francis of Assisi) as an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, celebrating the joy of creation as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment. We are all custodians of our Common home.

Small steps can have big impact on our climate journey After weeks of scarcely being able to see out the window because of the heavy curtains of rain, it's easy to lose sight of the fact that global temperatures crossed the crucial 1.5C warming threshold in June, and the world's oceans hit record-high temperatures for two months running. With this in mind, it is heartening to learn a majority of Irish people are prepared to make important changes to their lives to reduce environmental damage. A major survey reveals 60pc of those questioned were willing to adapt how they travel in order to try and reverse global warming. The Red C poll conducted for the Department of Transport, revealed that 73pc of car drivers and passengers would swap from using a car for walking, cycling and public transport for journeys less than 2km. The message has struck home that our decisions have a big impact, and personal responsibility is key to managing the green energy transition. Seventy-two per cent accept each journey choice can affect carbon emissions. But the more people commit to adapting their lifestyles, the more the onus on the State to facilitate and stimulate the transition. Clearly, this means improving public transport so that the need to use the car is taken away. To give the Government its due, this year, the State has allocated almost €2bn to green, cleaner travel options. It will be directed at public transport, walking and cycling infrastructure. The approach has to be multi-faceted and integrated. For instance, traffic volumes in cities can make cycling unattractive despite the provision of cycle lanes. Luring people away from car dependency is also far easier where there are regular and reliable commuter and inter-county bus and rail services. The Government recognises as much

and has committed to imaginative and creative alternatives. How effective it all is remains to be seen but it is undeniably putting its money where its mouth is. Every day this year, we are told, €1m will be invested in creating safe and sustainable routes in our towns and cities. Transport Minister Eamon Ryan feels the range of options ought to make it easier to reduce reliance on the car. The initiative to get the message across that "your journey counts" is both timely and laudable. People will need to be connected to transport hubs and costs can't be prohibitive. Experience backs this up. Since the Government cut fares in May of last year an extra 240,000 young people used public transport daily. We have to think of the bigger picture if progress is to be made. For instance, one inter-city train from Cork to Dublin can replace 90 cars on Irish roads. And it achieves a saving of 1.6 tonnes of CO2 with each journey. There used to be a slogan, you are never stuck in traffic, you are traffic. With our planet burning, it's worth thinking about. We can't walk back climate change alone, but collectively the journey is far less daunting if we take small steps together.

We owe it to the grieving families to act on road safety Seldom, if ever, have we had such a sorrowful six days on our roads, with such a harrowing toll. "It is such a secret place, the land of tears," the French writer and poet Antoine de Saint-Exupery wrote. But the sense of shock and anguish at 11 lives lost so tragically is shared by the whole country. The personal pain was summed up yesterday by Nicole Murphy's mother as she described her family's "broken dreams and broken hearts". Serena Murphy described her daughter as "the light of our lives". Nicole, Zoey Coffey and Grace McSweeney, all 18, and Grace's 24-year-old brother Luke all died after their car overturned in Clonmel, Co Tipperary, a week ago. Since then, two grandparents and their three-year-old grandson died in a single-vehicle crash near Cashel, Co Tipperary, on Tuesday. Another three-year-old, a girl, died in a road accident in Co Laois on Wednesday. All these have been devastating for the families and their communities. Understanding the causes and combination of circumstances that can result in road accidents demands constant attention. So far this year there have been 125 fatalities. There are too many contributing factors to generalise, but Assistant Garda Commissioner for roads policing Paula Hillman has identified key issues that could help. "Speed limits are not targets. They're there as guidance, but also take into account the road and weather conditions," she said yesterday. Road safety was "not just totally one-dimensional", she also said, calling for a "holistic approach". She has urged drivers to be mindful of others

Remembered In Mass		
Donoughmore		
Sat. 2nd Sept	7pm	Billy Brosnahan Maire Power (5th)
Mon. 4th	10am	
Tues 5th	10am	No Mass
Fri 8th	10am	
Sat. 9th Sept	7pm	
Knockea		
Sun 3rd	11am	Parish Intentions
Wed.6th	10am	Patricia Dillon (1st)
Sun 10th	11am	Brian Clancy (10th) Dan Godfrey (6th)



Rest In Peace

using the road and to recognise what level of speed was appropriate. Transport Minister Eamon Ryan described the latest road deaths as "heartbreaking" and said the Government must respond to the increase in fatalities. One of the key responses – which is in the Programme for Government – is a commitment to review speed limits, Mr Ryan said. This includes the potential for different standard speed limits, such as a 30kmh limit in urban areas, and lowering limits on other roads. One of the delusions of driving is the sense of security when behind the wheel. The hazards of looking out for the next speed camera or speed limit sign while at the same time watching the speedometer have been well documented. Road Safety Authority chairwoman Liz O'Donnell also feels too many deaths are happening on country roads with 100kmh and 80kmh speed limits. Lower limits and more visible policing could make a difference, she feels. For bereaved families there may be no appropriate words of comfort, but the least we owe them is to do all we can to prevent such tragedies in future.

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Knockea is **V94 D938**.
Pastoral Unit 'Sli Padraig' Patrick's Way ;Donoughmore /Knockea/ Roxboro, Queen of Peace, Holy Family

Our Sympathy to the families of Willy Browne Rathuard and Martin Burke, Lynwood pk, to Fr Pat O'Sullivan on the passing of his sister Anne Delaney, Skerries, Dublin. . May they rest in Peace.

Dkr Comm. Assoc. this Monday 4th Sept. 8pm , Court house Ballyneety

Pop-up Bakery with Bernie Kett last Friday in every month starting the 29th Sept. at the Day Care Centre 9-11.30, all welcome
DKR Comm. Café courthouse Ballyneety Fridays 10.30amc call in for a free cup of tea/coffee on Fri. morning

Weekly Lotto €6,100 no winner, winning No's 6,23,10,7. Lucky dips.
1.Becky & Trevor 2.Yvonne carey
3.Angela Butler 4.Helen Burke 5.Tess Farrell 6.James & Finn Kelly Next
Jackpot €6,200 Draw Tues 5th Sept 9.30pm The Four Elms Many thanks.

