



National Ploughing Championships during the week had been warned by organizer's to bring their wellies, but at times many probably wondered whether waders would have been the more appropriate footwear. Persistent rain reduced the ground in Ratheniska, Co Laois to mud baths and brown rivers on the opening day of the event. The undesirable conditions saw a

significant drop in attendance figures when compared to last year's opening day. Just over 66,000 people passed through the entrance gates, compared to 91,500 on the first day last September. While farmers may be well accustomed to miserable weather and have the appropriate clothing to battle the elements, some were not so prepared. Pairs of Converse, Nike trainers and Dubarry shoes were spotted discarded on site, with stalls selling wellies profiting from those who underestimated the weather. Despite undergoing elective surgery to relieve back pain earlier this year, Mr Higgins still braved the soggy and mucky conditions as he made his way to the horse ploughing plots with his wife Sabina. He commended the "loyal supporters of the ploughing" and said the weather was a reminder of the challenges farming people have to confront on a daily basis. Parts of Mr Higgins' opening speech matched the sombre weather as he also warned how the world is "at a point of multiple crises". "We are, all of us, as citizens, producers, consumers, farmers, asked to play a critical role in combating some of our greatest challenges, including climate change and biodiversity loss," he said. Enterprise Minister Mr Coveney said that the anticipated crowd of up to 300,000 expected to gather across the three days is a sign of the strength of the rural economy. "Whether it's raining, or whether the sun is shining, tens of thousands of people flow in" he told media at the event "We have something very special in Ireland in terms of a rural festival in the form of the National Ploughing Championships which we should cherish and enjoy."



During the month of September, we celebrate the Season Of Creation and it finishes on October 4th, the feast day of Saint Francis. It is a time to reflect

on bigger issues, particularly on climate change and what we can do to play our part to limit its effects. But the Season Of Creation is much wider than just climate change. It is also about noticing the little moments, in the beauty of creation all around us. We believe that the presence of God can be found in many places but can also be found in the beauty of nature all around us. It is the little moments of beauty that catch our eye, that remind us there must be something more, a creator who makes all of this possible. The season of creation reminds us that our world resources are finite. For example every minute we lost the equivalent of thirty football pitches of fertile soil across the world. Climate change, the spread of intensive agriculture, deforestation and industrial activity have accelerated the loss of soil in almost every country. We are encouraged to appreciate the gift of soil and not to take it for granted. This summer there has been a huge swing towards growing vegetables in our gardens. There has been a bumper harvest thanks to the lovely warm weather. The savings are significant too particularly with the price of food going up so much. It is also well known that your own vegetables taste so much better. So instead of using chemical fertilisers, we are encouraged to use natural mulch and organic matter in our garden soil. The soil needs to be nurtured and minded too. This season of creation is a lovely time of year. I encourage you if you can this week to go for a walk, a stroll, sit in your garden and notice the beauty of creation all around you. It is God's most precious gift to us. We are encouraged to enjoy it and allow it to touch our soul.

A Prayer for our Earth

All powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Help us to choose love, to change ourselves and not the planet, to act justly for the sake of the vulnerable, and to make a difference today for the life tomorrow. **Huge thanks** from Tony & Bridget O'Callaghan to the community for your very generous support through baking and financially the fundraiser in aid of the peo-

Remembered In Mass		
Donoughmore		
Sat.23rd Sept	7pm	Alice O'Connell (1st) Ann Costelloe (2nd) Carmel McGill (7th) Lil Halpin (8th)
Mon. 25th	10am	
Tues 26th	10am	No Mass
Fri 29th	10am	No Mass
Sat. 30th Sept	7pm	Alice Kirby
Knockea		
Sun 24th	11am	Colm Walsh (21st) Betty Gleeson (15th) Charles Godfrey Michael & Sheila McQuaid & Jim Fagan
Wed.27th	10am	No Mass
Sun 1st Oct	11am	John Browne. John Sheehan (1st)

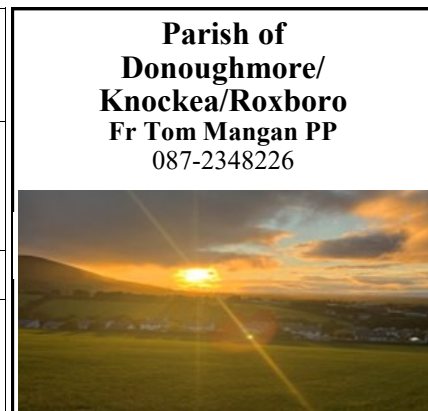


ple of Morocca in the Courthouse Ballyneety last Sunday, total €1,110 was raised and will go towards the relief fund.

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 10.30am call in for a free cup of tea/coffee on Fri. morning

Wedding Congrats to Stephen Simmonds & Alison Quinlan who got married in Knockea Church We wish them both all the health and happiness for their future.

Recently deceased Our sympathy to the Gregg and Bennett family on the death of Antoinette, late of Pearse avenue and Boherlode, Ballyneety. Funeral Mass at Knockea Church. May she rest in Peace.



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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

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



Welcome back to Fr Oliver who is covering Mass this Sat. eve at Donoughmore and Fr John Duggan on Sunday at Knockea.

Weekly Lotto €6,400 no winner, winning No's 11,17,24,28 Lucky dips. 1.Breda & Kathy Flood 2.sean Lyons 3. Kevin Sarsfield 4 Thomas, bella & Alex 5 J.Wade 6.Patsy Ryan Next Jackpot €6,500 Draw Tues 26th Sept 9.30pm The Catt's Cradle Many thanks.

