

NEWMARKET ON FERGUS PARISH

PARÓISTE CORA CHAITLÍN

Parish Office open on Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 10.00 — 14.30 : Tel: 061 - 368127

Parish website: www.newmarketonfergusparish.ie / email: office@newmarketonfergusparish.ie

Fr Michael Collins, Tel: 087 6389847

Newmarket

Sat	16th	18.00	Eileen Meehan, Drumline. 20th anniversary
Sun	17th	11.00	Joseph and Frances Hayes, Limerick Road. 10th & 8th anniversary respectively
Mon	18th	10.00	Eamonn McNamara, Ennis. Month's Mind
Tue	19th	10.00	Daily Mass
Wed	20th	10.00	Daily Mass
Thur	21st	10.00	Daily Mass
Sat	23rd	18.00	Pat Carroll, Glencragga. Month's Mind Pat Hannon, Lisduff. 1st anniversary Laurence Hannon, Crussa Mary Ryan, Mooghaun. 8th anniversary John Lovett, Ballinacragga Mrs Anna O'Neill, Ballincragga and deceased family members
Sun	24th	11.00	Mass for the people of the Parish

Wells

Sun	17th	10.00	Don Nolan, Killula. 1st anniversary. Moira and Jim Toomey, Hill Road & Sixmilebridge
Sun	24th	10.00	Kitty, Shom and Ann Quinn, Drumline

Carrigerry

Sun	17th	09.00	Tom Donlon, Stonehall
Sun	24th	09.00	Sunday Mass



Weekly Offering

A sincere thanks to all who contribute so generously to last weekend's church collection. The amount donated €1899.39.

In addition the following amounts were donated to other diocesan collections

- Benevolent Fund €20 (in total = €769.50)
- Lourdes Sick Fund €50 (in total = €846)
- Missions €50 (collection in October)
- Trocaire €50 (in total = €5422.59)
- Education Fund €10 (in total = €612)
- Bishops Conference €20 (in total = €670)
- Diocesan Needs €10 (in total = €580.40)

Míle Buíochas

Newmarket on Fergus Tractor Run 2023

Newmarket on Fergus tractor run this Sunday 17th of September.



This year the chosen charity that we are raising funds for is our local Clare branch of Down Syndrome Ireland. We welcome all tractors, trucks, motorbikes and cars (old and new) to assemble in the Show field on the old Dromoland Road from 11am for registration. The run will begin at 12:30

sharp and it will take off in the direction of Newmarket village. The event will conclude at the Crabtree Tavern where there will be a much anticipated tractor run for the children. Please support this event and help us to raise funds for a local charity. There will be collection buckets in the show field and in Newmarket village for those wishing to give a donation on the day.

St Vincent de Paul

**Local SVP Conference
Number:
086-3024238.**

This is an unmanned phone number where you can leave your name and number and a member will call you back.

Cahercalla Community Hospital & Hospice Weekly Draw

**1st Prize €650.00.
Barry Smyth, Ennis
2nd Prize €200.00.
Martha McEnery, Ennis**

**Only €1.27 weekly.
To Join; Contact Fundraising Office 065 6821966
www.cahercalla.ie**

Local drama group Muse

Productions are running their next play, 'Stones in his Pockets' by Marie Jones from Thursday 21st to Saturday 23rd September at The Hope Café, Shannon at 8pm nightly. Tickets are currently available online at www.ticketsource.eu/muse, or by phone on 087-4136822.

Ennis flower and garden club

present Helen Cusack, Limerick, at Treacys' West County Hotel Ennis on Tuesday September 19th, doors open at 7.30pm and demonstration starts at 8.15pm sharp, all are welcome, €10 non members, demonstrators arrangements raffled on the night, contact ennisflow-erandgardenclub@gmail.com

TULLA COMHALTAS CULTURE CONCERT with members of the Tulla Céilí Band

On Friday next, September 22nd, @8PM as part of Culture Night, Tulla Comhaltas are staging a FREE concert at Cnoc Na Gaoithe, Tulla, with members of the Tulla Ceili Band including fiddle player Mark Donnellan, Jim Corry on piano and Brian Donnellan on concertina/bouzouki. Also Tulla Comhaltas All Ireland Fleadh Finalists from Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann - Flute player/Dancer Stephen Kennedy, Singer Cara Hely, Concertina ALL Ireland Champion, Edel Cusack, and the trio of Orla Cusack, Rianagh Murphy and Aishling White. Also the u12 set dancers will be stepping it out. Bringing the 2023 Culture Night to a close is an open trad session headed up by Cushla Murphy, Éabha McInerney and Ronan Kennedy where everyone is welcome to play along or just listen to some great trad music.

“We must all share a portion of blame for each road accident”

It is the dream of many young people to pass their driving test and gain the freedom of lawfully driving on our road network. In recent times, this dream has been thwarted and replaced with the feeling of impatience amongst young people due to the length of time it can take to be allocated a slot to undergo a driving test.

One of the defining characteristics of adulthood is to develop the skill to manage impatience. Indeed, patience and courtesy on our roads are essential driver-safety skills.

Unquestioningly, success at a theory and practice test is a big moment for every new driver. We all shared that euphoric feeling of acknowledgement that we had finally ‘arrived’ into adulthood. Young drivers in particular feel they have invested a lot in their driving licence, and while this is true, unfortunately it does not signal the end of learning. Experience is the greatest teacher of all and that will only come in time. The driving test is merely an entry point and it does not guarantee safety on the road – safety is something one learns through careful practice over time.

Older drivers are not exempt from bad driving habits, which tend to become ingrained with the passage of years. So, for those of us who have previously passed their test, I invite you to take the following refresher three-question test below.

Sadly, for some, a collision on the road can end or irreparably damage a young life, or that of others. All of us feel the deep pang of pain when we hear of a young life, with all of its wonderful potential, being destroyed in seconds in a vehicle-related accident. The depth and breadth of each tragedy resonates further to violate forever the lives of loving parents, siblings, relations, friends, neighbours, school/college companions, and that of the wider community.

As we are all road-users, when hearing of an accident - whether as a pedestrian, cyclist, motor-biker, car, bus, lorry or tractor driver - some may immediately reflect: ‘There but for the grace of God go I?’ We are all vulnerable and this reaction is a natural expression of humility and reliance on God’s grace. It is, of course, also an instinctive recognition that road accident statistics are first-and-foremost about people, not just raw data. Others may feel, somewhat arrogantly, that a collision ‘will never happen to me’ – it is an unfortunate occurrence that happens to others, not to me. This latter mind-set is so flawed that it might be called out as no more than an accident waiting to happen!

Following our immediate reaction to the heart-breaking news of a serious road accident, our analysis may move on to where to apportion blame. The so called ‘blame game’ is a futile exercise if we do not take our own particular share in the blame for all accidents. Yes, our collective responsibility. Our taking a share of blame arising from a collision that we are not involved in may seem to be an outrageous statement, but this represents our shared reality. It points to the core of all good driving habits, namely personal responsibility. It is about you and me, as individual drivers and our standard of road safety that we practice.

In this context, I invite you to put your own driving to a test and answer three relevant road-use questions derived from the parable of the Good Samaritan:

Am I a considerate and careful road user?

Do I actively and regularly think about other road users?

Do I follow up to ensure a high standard of road use that serves the common good?

Road collisions are not confined to young people alone, but they involve all age groups from children right through to the elderly. All ages of people are represented in the annual statistics of road fatalities. In our compassion we are moved to accept that one death on the road is one death too many.

While there are many factors that contribute to death on our roads - speed, carelessness, poor conditions, inexperience, alcohol/drug consumption and driver-distraction - a main factor is over-confidence, more traditionally referred to as ‘bravado’, and this finding is reflected by evidential research. According to the latest figures published by the Central Statistics Office*, young males (aged 18 – 24 years old) had the highest collision rate of that age cohort, while females aged 55-64 years had the lowest collision rate.

So, what can each of us do to help avoid the loss of life on our roads – a loss that is so, so unnecessary?

We can offer the victims and the bereaved our support through sympathy, solidarity and our crucially with our prayers. We can also check our own driving behaviour on a daily basis.

People often ask me about prayers to say before embarking on a journey. There are many such prayers and none as easy as “Jesus help me drive carefully and bring me safely to my journey’s end.”

Equally as important is our behaviour when we are driving a vehicle, or using a road in any capacity. When we practice attentiveness and vigilance at all times we show respect for God and all of humanity. Exercising vigilance and attentiveness is a practical form of prayer.

Drive safely and arrive safely.

Fintan Monahan – Bishop of Killaloe

A contemporary prayer

Holy Mother, hear our prayer,
Keep us in your loving care,
Whatever the perils of the way,
Let us not add to them this day.
So to our caution and attention,
We add a prayer for your protection,
To beg God’s blessing on this car,
To travel safely near and far.
Amen.