## NEWMARKET ON FERGUS PARISH

# PARÓISTE CORA CHAITLÍN TRADAREE PASTORAL ĀREA

Parish Office opens on Mon to Thur 10.00 — 14.30 : Tel: 061 - 368127

Parish website: www.newmarketonfergusparish.ie / email: office@newmarketonfergusparish.ie Fr Albert McDonnell Co PP, VF 085 7811823 / email: a.mcdonnell@killaloediocese.ie Fr Tom Whelan Co PP 087 2730299 / Fr Michael Geraghty Co PP 097 9926519 / Fr Damien Nolan Co PP 086 8396636

Newmarket			
Sun	24th	10.30	John Shanagher, Old Road, Ballycar. Month's Mind
			Jacinta Kelly, Woodland Heights.
Tue	26th	09.30	Weekday Mass
Wed	27th	09.30	Weekday Mass
Thur	28th	09.30	Weekday Mass
Fri	29th	09.30	Weekday Mass
Sun	31st	10.30	Sunday Mass
<u>Wells</u> Sat Sat	23rd 30th	18.00 18.00	Vigil Mass for Sunday Seán Cleary, Hill Road, Bunratty. Month's Mind Gerard Howard, Drumline. 1st anniversary John, Bridget, John Jnr and Martin McInerney, Knockane
<u>Carrigerry</u>			
Sun	24th	09.00	Sunday Mass
Sun	31st	09.00	Sunday Mass



#### **Recent Deaths**

Your kind prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of Bernie Loftus, sister of Pauline Kilmartin, Granaghan and Thomas Ryan, Mooghaun May her soul and the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace.

Many thanks to all who contribute



so generously each Offering weekend to church

—€ 175.00 Aug 15th Aug 16th/17th — €1486.89

## Burren Chernobyl Project has



permit to hold a church gate collection at our churches this weekend. Your support is very much

appreciated.



Grow Mental Health- Friendly Community based groups for anyone experiencing mental health issues through 12 Step Program of connection, hope, identity by empowering people to nurture their positive wellbeing by supporting personal growth through education, peer support and selfteaching. Ennis Meeting- Maria Assumpta Hall. Monday 7.30pm/Tuesday 2pm. Contact Celia

086-1526966/www.grow.ie

The Alzheimer society of Ireland are having a Memory walk @ Lee's Road Park Ennis on Sunday the 21st of September Start time: 11 am/ Distance: 1.5 km and 3.5 km Meeting Point: Entrance to Woodland Walk beside Astroturf pitch. 1.5km walk suitable for buggies, 3.5 km some rough ground. If anyone is interested they can register on the Alzheimer society website : Adults: €20 Child: €5 OR alternatively turn up on the day to register

A number of one-day pilgrimages to Inis Meáin, Aran Islands will take place on Saturday 13th September, repeating again on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September. The pilgrimage will visit ancient monastic and historic sites with pauses for prayer and reflection along the way. The pilgrimage itself is free apart from travel costs by ferry or plane to the island. Group size is limited to 10 per trip. For further information please contact Denis Bates by email at dfdebath@yahoo.com

## Newmarket-on-Fergus Senior Citizens

Annual Church Gate collection will take place on Saturday Aug 30<sup>TH</sup> & Sunday Aug 31st. Proceeds from collection will go towards Christmas Party.



**Apostolic Work** wish to thank everyone who supported their recent church gate collection. The amount realised was €900.

**Changing Gears** is a free, five-week course in Ennis this October, designed to help people aged 50+ build resilience and navigate life transitions. Sessions run for 5 Thursdays from 10:30am to 1pm at Ennis Digital Hub, starting on 2nd October, 2025. To book a place please email Fiona at engage@ageandopportunity.ie or call (01) 913 3922.

**Burren Outdoor Retreat:** 5th to 7th September. A guided 3-day journey to some of the most secret and sacred places in the Burren. Let the beauty of this amazing landscape renew you in body and soul. Enquiries: Mary 087 970 1130/booking: Noirin 087 447 9115

#### Day of Prayer and Reflection for Gaza on Sunday, 24 August 2025

Dear brothers and sisters.

A few weeks ago the Catholic Bishops of Ireland dedicated the month of June as a special time of prayer for peace and for solidarity with the suffering people of Gaza. Following on from this, I call on all parishes to once more set aside Sunday, 24 August as a day of prayer and reflection for Gaza and for a renewed commitment by the international community for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Sadly, since June, the situation in Gaza has become steadily worse. The people there continue to be cruelly crushed by hunger, violence, death and destruction. I join the heartfelt appeal of Pope Leo XIV this week for "a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and full respect for international humanitarian law." As the Holy Father said, "Every human being has an intrinsic dignity bestowed by God Himself."

I also echo the recent words of Cardinal Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, and Patriarch Theophilus III, who said on 22 July, "Humanitarian aid is not only necessary, it is a matter of life and death. Refusing it is not a delay, but a sentence. Every hour without food, water, medicine and shelter causes deep harm."

The Irish Bishops made it clear in June that genocidal actions sanctioned by the government in Israel are resulting in the death of tens of thousands of non-combatants, many of them women and children. "This is unconscionable and disproportionate. It is immoral for world leaders to stand by inactively in the face of this outrageous tragedy for humanity."

We know that people in parishes across the country are deeply troubled by stark and horrific images from Gaza of starving children and helpless, hungry families. The cruel actions of Hamas in continuing to keep hostages, and the bodies of hostages, away from their families is also to be unreservedly condemned.

I encourage you to continue to show solidarity in whatever way you can: by lobbying your political representatives, supporting humanitarian aid and, above all, by continuing to pray for an end to the conflict and the resumption of peace, including the return of all hostages and prisoners. Pray also for our Christian brothers and sisters among the Palestinian populations in Gaza and on the West Bank who are witnessing daily to peace and non-violence, even in the midst of provocation and attacks. As Cardinal Pizzaballa said:

"Christ is not absent from Gaza. He is there, crucified in the wounded, buried under rubble and yet present in every act of mercy, every candle in the darkness, every hand extended to the suffering." Please join in 24 hours of prayer and reflection in your parishes and homes on Sunday, 24 August. Light a candle in your family home or local parish church; attend Mass, spend time before the Blessed Sacrament; pray the Rosary; make some small personal penance or sacrifice, and on that day let the light of hope radiate out from the island of Ireland for peace, for Gaza and for the future of its people.

Yours sincerely in Christ,



Fintan Monahan