

# Holy Family Parish, Askea

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 Vol 29 No 19

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Fr. Tom Little - 91-31559

Fr Tommy Dillon - 91-  
64882

Sr. Joan Pierse 91-42565

.....  
Emergency Priest on Duty

087 2588118

.....  
Askea Parish Community  
Centre Phone 91-42565

087 1269709

.....  
Mass Times:

Askea 9.30am Mon-Fri;

Sat 7pm; Sun 9am,

10.30am

& 12 Noon.

Bennekerry Sun 11.30am;

Tinryland Tues 9.30am &

Sunday 10am

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Deadline for items for

Newsletter is 5pm on

Wednesday by phone to

9142565 or email to

office@askeaparish.ie

Website: www.askeaparish.ie

*"You do not need to know  
precisely what is happening,  
or exactly where it is all  
going. What you need is to  
recognise the possibilities  
and challenges offered by  
the present moment, and to  
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faith and hope."*

**Thomas Merton**

# Keeping in Touch

St Mary's Parish, Bennekerry

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

Fourth Sunday Of Lent

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Thomas Merton

# St Mary's Parish, Bennekerry

Fr Tom Little PP - Ph 059 9131559. Fr Tommy Dillon PE 0599142565

Newsletter Items - 059 9143881. **Deadline for News items: - 9pm Wednesdays**

Emergency Number for the Priest on Duty 087 2588118.

Parish Office - 059 9142565 087 - 1269709.

Website: [www.askeaparish.ie](http://www.askeaparish.ie); email: [office@askeaparish.ie](mailto:office@askeaparish.ie)

## **Month's Mind 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**

Jack Mahon, Bennekerry

Seán Murphy, Tralee & Pollerton Little

## **Kildare & Leighlin Weekly Lotto Results**

For Wed 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Numbers drawn were 11, 14, 20 & 32.

No Jackpot winner. 20 Match 3s won €50 each. Askea / Bennekerry had 2 Match 3s.

Winner	Promoter
Jim Williamson	Margaret Kelly
B C	Olivia Alysburry

## **K & L Lotto Suspension**

Unfortunately in order to comply fully with the coronavirus restrictions and social distancing this is the last K & L Lotto draw until further notice. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

## **COVID-19 Support Line for Older People**

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

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**The Barn Dance organised in Eire Og clubhouse**, on Saturday, March 28, in aid of the Ugalrish Project, has been postponed, due to Covid-19. A new date will be announced later in the year.

## **Free Digital Resources for Staying in Touch with Daily Prayer**

The following resources can be accessed via computer and/or smart phone. Some are always free and others have been made available free of charge during this coronavirus pandemic. These are just a sample. We have plenty of tools to support us in our prayer life.

- **[PrayAsYouGo.org](#)**: A wonderful free website and phone app with reflections, music and daily Mass readings (both audio and written) as well as Lectio Divina, virtual retreats and much more
- **[Sacredspace.ie](#)**: A daily prayer resource on website and available as an app
- **[Magnificat](#)**: A website and app with Daily Mass prayers and scripture readings, Prayers for the Hours of the day, Meditations and Essays on the saints. This is being made free of charge at this time
- **[GiveUsThisDay.org](#)**: A daily resource from the US featuring daily Mass texts and Readings (using US readings and calendar), reflections and daily morning and evening prayer. Free at this time.

## **Message from Bishop Denis.**

I want to begin by thanking all parishioners for observing the cancellation of public Masses across the Diocese. In all honesty, neither I, nor any of us know when the 'normal schedule' might resume. It is very much in all our interests, and particularly the vulnerable amongst us, that we play our part to assist *in flattening the curve* of infection. We will be guided at all times by the Health Authorities who inform government and civic society on these matters.

In light of the seriousness of the continuing situation the regulation around Funeral Masses is very clear and strict, and I want to reiterate it. Funeral directors & bereaved families are asked to limit participation to family and close friends so that no more than 100 are present. Up to 500 could gather outside or at the cemetery. Members of the 'small congregation' are asked to observe correct 'social distance' between themselves and those next to them. People are asked to express their sympathies in a way that does not involve physical contact. It is essential that guidelines are followed.

Let us continue to pray and support one another at this time.

Every good wish & thanks,

✠Denis

Fr Peter Rodgers OFM read the following prayer during St Patrick's Day Mass on RTE TV. The prayer was written by a friend of his who lives in Rome.

## **Prayer during a Pandemic**

May we who are merely inconvenienced  
remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors  
remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home  
remember those who must choose  
preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children  
when their schools close  
remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips  
remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult  
of the economic market  
remember those with no margin at all.

May we who settle in for quarantine at home  
remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our  
arms around each other let us yet find ways to be the  
loving embrace of God to our neighbours. Amen.

## **Lock down** *by Richard Hendrick*

Yes there is fear.

Yes there is isolation.

Yes there is panic buying.

Yes there is sickness.

Yes there is even death.

But,

They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise

You can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet

The sky is no longer thick with fumes

But blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi

People are singing to each other

across the empty squares,

keeping their windows open

so that those who are alone

may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland

Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.

Today a young woman I know

is busy spreading fliers with her number

through the neighbourhood

So that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples

are preparing to welcome

and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary

All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting

All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new

way

All over the world people are waking up to a new reality

To how big we really are.

To how little control we really have.

To what really matters.

To Love.

So we pray and we remember that  
Yes there is fear.  
But there does not have to be hate.  
Yes there is isolation.  
But there does not have to be loneliness.  
Yes there is panic buying.  
But there does not have to be meanness.  
Yes there is sickness.  
But there does not have to be disease of the soul  
Yes there is even death.  
But there can always be a rebirth of love.  
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.  
Today, breathe.  
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic  
The birds are singing again  
The sky is clearing,  
Spring is coming,  
And we are always encompassed by Love.  
Open the windows of your soul  
And though you may not be able  
to touch across the empty square,  
Sing.

March 13th 2020

*Archbishop Eamon Martin invites us to join him, his brother priests and bishops at noon on 25<sup>th</sup> March, the Feast of the Annunciation in praying at home this Prayer of Consecration of Ireland to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for protection from the coronavirus.*

**Prayer of Consecration of Ireland to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.**

Most Blessed Virgin Mary,  
Mother of God and Health of the Sick,  
at this time of great challenge to our country from the  
coronavirus,  
we consecrate to Jesus through your Immaculate Heart:  
ourselves, our family, the members  
of our parish and Diocese and the people of Ireland.

O Mary, Queen of Ireland, when you appeared at Knock,  
you gave hope to your people in a time of distress,  
and brought them comfort in a time of sorrow.  
Be with us now as a sign of salvation and hope,  
as we entrust ourselves to your loving care.

We renew the promises of our Baptism and Confirmation,  
and ask your intercession that we may be always faithful to  
Christ and to His Church.

Bring under your mantle of protection all those  
who are suffering because of the coronavirus,  
and those who care for the sick and minister to their needs,  
as your Son implores us to do for one another.

O Loving Mother,  
at the foot of the Cross, with steadfast faith,  
your Immaculate Heart was pierced by grief  
at the suffering of your Son.  
You know what we need during these difficult days.  
Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform ourselves to the Father's will  
and to do what Jesus tell us –  
He who took our sufferings upon Himself,  
and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross,  
to the joy of the Resurrection.

O Blessed Mother, Our Life, our Sweetness and Our Hope,  
we wish that this Consecration before the glory of God  
and that it lead us safely to Jesus your Son.

A Naomh-Mhuire, a Mháthair Dé, guigh orainn na peacaigh,  
anois agus ar uair ár mbáis. Amen.