

ICMA (Irish Church Musical Academy)
Virtual Summer School, 7-10pm, July. Join on Facebook - For more info visit
<https://www.facebook.com/IrishChurchMusic/>

Accord – Relationship Counselling

Accord is open for relationship counselling in these difficult times. Professional Counsellors are available to help explore any difficulties you may have in your relationship in a safe and friendly atmosphere. Please contact Ann at 087-6765425 for more information. All HSE guidelines observed for Counselling.

Peace and Hope in Iraq

Pope Francis' visit to Iraq has been described by many as the most important of his pontificate. Jesuit News (Rome) looks back on the visit.

Pope Francis' visit to the grand Ayatollah and the holy city of Shiite Islam, was 'a gesture that mirrors St Francis' visit to the Sultan'. This visit was important to heal the many wounds that have been inflicted on Iraq by so many years of mutual suspicion between the various communities. The meaning of this meeting goes in the sense of what the Pope said: "the peace of God is stronger than violence and war". Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi declared 6 March as the National Day of Tolerance and Coexistence in Iraq in memory of the Pope's visit.

According to Fr Cassar SJ, director of JRS in Iraq, 'This visit was a kairos, a moment of value, which goes beyond the immediate time in which we live and which lies entirely in the hands of God. The whole visit had a prophetic dimension, which for its relevance goes beyond the boundaries of what is now a very small Christian community: I believe that Pope Francis sowed seeds of hope and peace in this country, where so much evil has been poured: conflicts, bombings, ISIS. So much evil, so much violence, so many people have suffered.'

Fr Cassar had the opportunity to meet briefly with Pope Francis on Sunday as he prepared to celebrate Mass in Erbil, Iraqi Kurdistan. 'My two minutes with the Holy Father were beautiful: he was very tired, almost exhausted, but also very, very happy'. Two years ago Fr Cassar met Francis at the Vatican, 'I had introduced myself as a Jesuit working in Iraq,' he recounts, 'and then he called me back and said, "Pray for me because I want to go there so much". Yesterday I heard that he was very happy to have made that visit'.

The reception given to the Pope, 'both by Christians and believers of other religions, was beautiful, everything worked very well,' said the Jesuit, 'there were people who came from the district of Amadiya, on the border of Turkey, from the monastic community in Syria founded by Paolo Dall'Oglio, who is still missing. Many shared the joy of seeing the Holy Father in Ur, the ancient city of Abraham, or of seeing him enter Mosul, this city of so much bombing.' 'Christianity in Iraq belongs to Iraq, it is not a foreign body. Christians have been in these lands since before Iraq was established as a modern state',

Fr Cassar stressed, adding, 'It is a great pity that this country has emptied itself of the Christian population. Those who stayed either consciously chose to stay or were stranded because they did not have the means to leave. I think that of all who are in the limbo of exile, in Jordan or Turkey or Lebanon, these in Iraq are not to be forgotten.'

In Qaraqosh, a predominantly Christian City devastated by ISIS, joy was mixed with astonishment: 'The local head of JRS, Fadi Yabbo, told me that he never imagined that the Pope would visit this small town. "Abuna, Father," he told me, "you have no idea what this has meant for me and all the people, more than Hoshana," the greatest celebration of the Syriac Catholic rite.'

For Fr Cassar, the first challenges to be faced are those related to the dire situation of the refugees.

'During the Mass, the Pope said "there are so many people who still suffer, physically and psychologically, after being displaced, kidnapped: or having seen relatives killed before their eyes".'

Hence the hope that the seeds sown by the Pope will flourish, 'I hope that there will be a great openness to one another, I hope that we can undertake common initiatives among religions to respond to the needs of those who are most in need. I hope that the Pope's message that we are all brothers and sisters permeates the hearts of people of good will.'

Parish of Ahamlish and Inishmurray

Grange ♦ Cliffoney ♦ Mullaghmore

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Issue 233, Saturday 17

17th July 2021



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Call to be Shepherds

To teach, to be compassionate, to care

Visit us on ahamlish.com

&

Ahamlish Parish Sligo Facebook Page.

Adoration every Thursday, 7-9pm Grange Church

Join us for every mass online through our FB Page at Grange Church

| Masses Cliffoney | | |
|---|---------|--|
| Sun 18 th July | 10.30am | Mary O'Connor (4 th Anniversary) Thomas McGee (8 th Anniversary) Paddy Gallagher (7 th Anniversary) |
| Sat 24 th July | | Baptism |
| Sun 25 th July | 10.30am | Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Feast of St. James |
| Sunday Collection: <i>Collection: 615</i> <i>Fund for Formation of Future Priests: €85</i> | | |

Star of the Sea Retreat Centre - Mullaghmore

New events added at Star of the Sea, Retreat & Conference Centre, Mullaghmore. Details on www.staroftheseacentre.com For information and bookings please contact Louise or Frank at staroftheseacentre@gmail.com or on 071 9176722.

The Faith Café for Grandparents

The Faith Café is an initiative of the Catholic Grandparents' Association which was introduced during the Covid-19 pandemic as a social and spiritual space for Grandparents to meet online once a month to chat, to offer prayers and intentions and to just be together in the spirit of faith. It has been a lifeline for so many people during this time of pandemic and has connected Grandparents across the world from Ireland to the USA, from the UK to Australia. Register for the Faith Café by email

to info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.com Once you register for the Faith Café, you will receive the details of how to connect in for the gathering on Zoom. We look forward to welcoming you to the Faith Café

GoFundMe Campaign for Mona & Christopher

Visit <https://ie.gofundme.com/f/chris-and-mona-for-olympics>

Have you see the GoFundMe Page for Mona and Christopher?

Ask your grandchild or your young adult or teenage son or daughter?

A small donation is all.

They have got this far on their own, they have spent the last 16/20 years training and paying for their own gym, hot weather training etc. Tokyo is not cheap and they don't get sponsorship.

Reek Pilgrimage on Croagh Patrick

The annual Reek Sunday Pilgrimage on Croagh Patrick, which was cancelled last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, will be going ahead this year albeit in a much extended format from Wednesday to Saturday, 1- 31 July. The Masses (Wednesday – Saturday) will be limited to the numbers permitted for outdoor gatherings at that particular time, which currently apply to 100 people up to 4 July and 200 people from 5 July. Details of how to fulfil the spiritual requirements of the pilgrimage are available on www.westportparish.ie and on signage in the carpark at the start of the ascent. Pilgrims are asked to plan their trip to Croagh Patrick as early as possible and keep in mind that mid-week is traditionally a quieter time to climb. Please remember that all Covid-19 guidelines and precautions followed on the ground must also be followed on the mountain.

Olympics

Christopher O'Donnell, Grange began his 30hr trip to Tokyo on Friday morning July 16th where he will join with the rest of the athletic team. Mona McSharry is already in Tokyo, and now in the midst of last minute training. Circumstances due to Covid make the Olympics more difficult as all athletes are tested daily and movement is quite restricted. The games officially begin on the 23rd July. If you are on Facebook, keep an eye on the North Sligo Athletic FB page as updates will be given there on Christopher and Mona. Tom Haran of Grange, at age 91 can be seen on this FB page sending a message of good wishes to Christopher and Mona. Well done Tom.

We are assured that this was not photo shopped.

Whilst we are all proud of Christopher and Mona, we also join and wishing good luck to Sarah Hawkshaw of Dublin and Mullaghmore who is part of the Irish Hockey Team, taking part in the Olympics too. Our congratulations to her family, supporters and team.

| Masses Grange - All these masses available on Facebook | | |
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| Sat 17 th July | 2pm 8pm | Baptism Kathleen Lovell (19 th Anniversary) and deceased of the Lockhart Family |
| Sun 18 th July | 12.00 | 16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time John Moran, Grange |
| Mon 19 th July | 9.30am | Mass for the People of the Parish |
| Tue 20 th July | 9.30am | Feast of St. Apollinaris |
| Wed 21 st July | 9.30am | Feast of St. Lawrence of Brindisi |
| Thur 22 nd July | | Wedding, Sligo Cathedral |
| Fri 23 rd July | | Wedding, Westport |
| Sat 24 th July | 8pm | Vigil Mass |
| Sun 25 th July | 12.00 1pm | Elizabeth + Richard Kilcoyne Matt Gilsean (22 nd Anniversary) Baptism |
| Sunday Collection <i>Grange Collection: €895</i> <i>Sick & Retired Priests Fund: €10</i> <i>Fund for Formation of Future Priests: €107</i> | | |

Please remember in your prayers:

Noreen McMahon (nee O'Connor), Dublin + formerly Streedagh died 6th July. Our sympathy to her daughters Deirdre, Nóirín, Emer and Anne-Marie, wife of the late Michael, son-in-law John, sister Rose (English), bro-in-law John McMahon, sis-in-law Rose Fahy + Mary McMahon. Funeral took place on 8th July at St. Sylvester's Church, Malahide.

Joseph Hargaden, Glangevlin + Fenagh. Our sympathy to his wife Angela, children Honor, Inez + Emmett, brothers + sisters, especially Joan Healy, Drumfad.

Pray for Afghanistan that the vacuum left by the American + Nato withdrawal may not lead to civil war.

Pope's Intention (universal) for July 2021

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

Sligo County Council

Our thanks to Sligo County Council for the recent road improvements at Mullaghmore Head, Ardnaglass, Grogagh and Cloonagh.

Garland Weekend 23-25th July – Tovernalt Holy Well

The Garland Weekend ceremonies usually take place on 23-25th July. Due to the prevalence of the Delta variant and in the interest of safety of all pilgrims and the many helpers in the Carraroe Parish we have decided to cancel the ceremonies this year at the Holy Well. We are also conscious that many people are not as yet fully vaccinated. Weekend Masses reflecting on the Holy Well will take place in Carraroe Church and people are invited as usual to visit the Holy Well throughout the weekend. Mass from the Holy Well will be broadcast on Sunday 25th July on churchtv.ie/carraroe at 3.00pm. Small group will continue to gather at the Holy Well for the Rosary and various Prayer Services.

Lough Derg

The Lough Derg Pilgrim Path on the lough shore is now open daily. The full route is a 12km loop, with a shorter 8km option, and several information boards highlight features of particular interest. Leaflets are available at the Visitors Centre.

A guided walk experience will be offered *on Sunday 25th and Saturday 31st July*, with Mass outdoors, weather permitting. Further dates for these guided walks will follow for late August and early September. For bookings and further information email info@loughderg.org or telephone 0(0353) 71 9861518. www.loughderg.org *Lough Derg Pilgrim Path, Pettigo, Co Donegal. F94 N289*