



# The Parish of Mungret ✠ Crecora ✠ Raheen

Third Sunday of Easter

30<sup>th</sup> April, 2017



*Did not our hearts  
burn  
within us as he talked  
to us  
on the road and  
explained  
the Scriptures to us?*

**The Road to Emmaus.**

## **Why are 78% of our population belonging to the Church but not really connecting?**

Bishop Brendan reflecting on this at the Mass of Chrism 2017 said:

We have wonderful news to offer, the very promise of God himself that we heard in today's readings: liberty, freedom, comfort, gladness. We have the wonderful example of people working in or on behalf of the Church; lay people giving up their time voluntary in so many instances, giving true testimony to the word of God by helping others less fortunate. So, why are 78% of our population belonging to the Church but not really connecting? Belonging but not always attending and hearing the powerful message of hope and love that is communicated each week in our liturgy?

I know many would answer that the reasons why people don't come to church are obvious: historical and horrific scandals of abuse, priests living double lives, an overly authoritative institution, a church that wants to dominate all the public space, a church that seems to exclude so many...

I wonder, however, do we need to dig deeper as a society and ask if the phenomenon of people not coming to church with the regularity and fidelity of previous generations, is part of a deeper cultural crisis we are working through.

Christian faith is so deeply rooted in Ireland that it's no surprise that as time advances, with the Church chartering new waters of thought, ways of communicating and social mores, our collective faith experience is undergoing a profound conversion. We are being called to move from a particular form of Church life to a new discovery of the Church as community.

In previous generations, the Church often anchored the sense of community in an area. In our time, we have to rediscover our contribution as Church to society precisely as community. For that to happen, we also need to recognise while there is a sense of community to be found in our rituals or novenas, the deepest experience of God comes in the very person of Jesus Christ who has promised he will be found when two or more gather in his name, that is, in the genuine community-building power of love for one another.

In many ways, however, what marks our particular experience of Church in Ireland is that at the very time we need to move into this new experience of God, we have been damaged by the unveiling of sinister elements of our past and the revealing of wounds still very much present.

**Full text available on Diocesan Website. Bishop Leahy's Homily Chrism Mass 2017**

## **Contacts**

**Fr. John O'Shea P.P.** The Presbytery, Raheen • 087 9708282

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**Fr. Robin Thomas**, "St. Joseph's", Lifford Avenue. 089-4333124

**Mary Egan, Parish Secretary** • 061 210869 • 10am - 4pm



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## **MASS TIMES IN THE PARISH :**

**Raheen: Vigil 6pm Sun 11am & 12.30 pm.** Mon 11 am. Tue to Fri 10am Eucharistic Adoration 10.30am – 10 pm

**Crecora: Sunday 10 a.m.** Tue.Wed.Thurs 9.15am. **Eucharistic Adoration:** Thurs to 12noon & 6p.m. - 10 pm

**Mungret: Sunday 11.30 a.m.** Wed. & Fri 9.30 a.m. **Eucharistic Adoration:** Wed 10am–12 noon.

**Mass of the Sacred Heart at 10.15 pm and Immaculate Heart at 12 midnight on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May, in Raheen Church.**

### **Mass Times 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> April Raheen:**

Raheen: Pray for Meadhbh Harney R.I.P.  
6 p.m. Regina Long (1<sup>st</sup> A)

& Michael Cantillon (Months Mind)

11. a.m. Seamus & Irene McCarthy (A)

12.30 pm Michael & Patrick Kirby (A)

**Crecora:** Lena Kirby & Frances Toomey (A)

### **Week ahead: 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> May.**

#### **Raheen**

Mon 10 a.m. Pro Pop

Tuesday: Fr. Andrew Kennedy RIP

Wednesday: Johnny Stapleton (A)

### **Weekend 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> May**

#### **Raheen:**

6 p.m. Majella Strinati (1<sup>st</sup> A)

11 a.m. Lil Greensmith (A)

12.30 p.m. Robert Dinneen (2<sup>nd</sup> A)

**Crecora:** Frank & Margaret Dillon (A)

### **Bank Holiday Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May.**

### **Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.**

Mass in Raheen 11 a.m.

### **Parish Dues for the support of the Clergy:**

The priests of the parish are grateful to all who have returned their Easter Dues envelopes. Thank you very much.



### **First Friday:** Friday next 5<sup>th</sup> May.

Holy Communion will be brought to the sick and housebound on this Friday. If you would like a call please ring Fr. John or Fr. Richie, with a suitable time for them to call.

**Baptismal Meeting:** Next meeting will be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May in the Millennium Centre.

**Maranatha Prayer Ministry** invites you to our Maranatha Healing Retreat on next Sunday, 30th April, 2017 at 2.30pm at St. Pauls Church, Dooradoyle, Limerick. Tea after in hall.

**Youth Ministry Co-ordinators:** We are looking for interested people who would like to be trained in Youth Ministry between September to December (one night a week) with Fr. Chris and Aoife.



**Ice-Cream Sunday:** Please come and join us on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May after the 11a.m. Children's Mass, in the Millennium Centre for HB Ice-cream as we support our friends with Down Syndrome. This is a very worthy cause and is deserving of your support on this one occasion.

**Lay Led Liturgy:** Bishop Brendan would like to thank all who were involved in the Lay Led Liturgy on Tue 26<sup>th</sup> April, when the priests of the diocese were on an Inservice Course. This was an important day in our Diocese. It was amazing to think that over 120 people preparing and leading Liturgies across our churches and it brought confidence and delight to know that the Laity were capable of stepping up and making a difference.

**Barrington's Hospital Great Limerick Run** – this Sunday. Certain road closures and parking restrictions will be put in place across the race routes. Starting in Pery Square at 9 a.m. 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. *See notice board.* [www.greatlimerickrun.com](http://www.greatlimerickrun.com) or phone 061- 609627.

**First Holy Communion:** We welcome the children from Gael Scoil Raithín and Crecora National School who will receive Holy Communion for the First time on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May in Raheen and Crecora. May it be a happy time for each girl and boy.

**Vocations Sunday** is the weekend of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> May. The priests of the parish would welcome enquiries from any young person interested in discerning their vocation and God's call at this time. Collection will be taken up after Communion to support the education of those preparing for the priesthood in our seminaries. Please keep them in your prayers.

**Vigil of Prayer for Vocations** again this year in St. Nessan's Church, Raheen, on Sat 13th May. The vigil commences with Mass at 6pm and is followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. During Adoration there is recitation of the Rosary, the Divine Mercy chaplet, a reflection by one of our priests, and the Vigil concludes with Benediction.

**Trócaire':** If you have been using a Trócaire box, you are asked to convert the contents of the box into notes or cheque and use the blue 'Trócaire' envelope which was in the 'Trócaire' pack you received. If you have a box of weekly envelopes, there is a special Trocaire envelope in your box, if not write Trocaire on a blank envelope. Thanks to your generosity we have lodged €6,838 so far.

**alleluia!**  
*Christ has Risen!*