



The Parish of Mungret ✠ Crecora ✠ Raheen

Farewell to Canon John O'Shea.

On Friday night last we bade a sad farewell in Mungret / St Paul's GAA Community Hall to Canon John O'Shea on his Retirement, having served ten years here as our Parish Priest. Canon John arrived in 2016 from Abbeyfeale (where he spent fourteen happy years).

He has enjoyed fifty-five years of priestly ministry, starting out in Denmark St and taking up many varied roles along the way, including a ministry in Moyross, serving as Chaplain to the Defence Forces (which included two terms in the Lebanon), serving as Chaplain to what was then NIHE and is now UL, serving as a director of Limerick Social Services for many years and subsequently as a Board member, and also somehow finding time along the way to be instrumental in establishing GAA as a sport (in particular hurling) in UL, and on top of all that, to find time for a bit of farming too! A busy life by any measure! It is hardly surprising therefore that he has a reputation to be a great man for getting things done!

His dedication, his compassion, his positivity, his energy and enthusiasm, his charisma are all hallmarks of the man, who has brought a tremendous personal touch to everything he does. His homilies are engaging, relevant and thought provoking, full of personal anecdotes that often evoke memories for all of us. We will miss him dearly and we wish him health, happiness and contentment in his retirement.

It was wonderful to see such a huge turn out on the night showing their gratitude and appreciation for Canon John's great work in our parish.

We also look forward to working with Fr Seán Harmon, his successor here, and will support him in every way.

Betty Walsh, Chairperson of MCR Parish Development Group.

25 April 2026