

Quin Clooney Maghera Parish Notes

Fr. Tom O’Gorman - Co Parish Priest Abbey Cluster 087-2285355
 Parish Secretary, 065 6825612 www.quinclooneymagheraparish.ie
parishqcm@gmail.com Broadcasting on FM 107.9 mhz

Masses		Anniversaries	Mass	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Easter Vigil Mass Sat. Apr. 11th (Quin)	7pm	Louis Clune, Clooney.	Clooney 7.00pm		
			Maghera 9.30am		
Easter Sunday Sun. Apr. 12th (Quin)	11am	Patrick Conroy, Knockanoura.	Quin 11am		
			Eucharistic Adoration Quin Church, next Thursday and every Thursday, Vigil observed 9.30am to 5.30pm. Why not drop in for a few minutes?		
Divine Mercy Sunday Sun 19th (Quin)	11am				

Rest In Peace: Marie O’Connor, Ballyhahill, Limerick. Mother of Joe O’Connor, Spencilhill.

Daily Mass: (Quin), Mon: 11am, Tues– Fri: 9.30am.

Parish Mission 2020: "Rejoice and be Glad" Due to Covid-19, our Parish Mission has been postponed until further notice. A new date will be discussed after consultation with the Ceili Mission Team and the Pastoral Council. A sincere thank you to all on the Pastoral and Parish Councils and parishioners who assisted with initial preparations.

Community Support: If you require support with Doctor, Hospital Appointments, Collection of Medications, Shopping or any essential needs contact: **Kay O’Shaughnessy 087-2196141 or Tom Larkin 085-1346275. Clare Covid Helpline 1890252948.**

Weekly Contributions: The Parish Council thanks all those who have left weekly contributions into the Parish Office at this time. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Fitness for Fun for over-Fifties – Log in with Facebook for an exercise class online with John Conroy next Tuesday 14th April at 10am. Fund raiser for Clare Suicide Bereavement Support, who provide phone and text support to people bereaved by suicide in Clare -Call 087 3698315 or 086 0565373

Holy Hour: Thursday next, April 16th there will be a Holy Hour from 12 noon to 1pm.

Moveable Feast In A.D. 325, the Council of Nicaea was convened by Emperor Constantine. Until then Easter had been celebrated on different days of the week. That Council, however, decreed that Easter be celebrated on a Sunday -- between the dates of March 22nd and April 25th. The pagan festival of Eastre occurred at the same time of year as the Christian observance of the Resurrection of Christ. As Christian converts were slowly won over, it made sense to alter the festival and make it a Christian celebration. The early name, Eastre, was eventually changed to its modern spelling, Easter.

Easter Message 2020

New Dawn, New Hope

As I write this Easter message for the people of Quin, Clooney, Maghera Parish everyone in Ireland is invited to light a candle and put it in their window at 9PM Easter Sunday night to show solidarity with all those working on the frontline during this Coronavirus pandemic.

We are Christians because we believe in the Resurrection. The Easter challenge this year is to leave the darkness of our tomb and come into the light of faith in the Risen Christ. At this time of global crisis, we peer into the tomb of our own hearts and ask God to remove the stones that block our way to finding the Risen Jesus.

The heart of our Faith is the hope that every trial becomes a grace, every sorrow a joy, every death a resurrection and every fault may become a happy fault.

The Risen Lord is with us, for example, in all those who are working in the frontline caring for the sick and dying, the bereaved and with those delivering food, medicines and basic necessities to the isolated, fearful, and housebound. May the Lord help them to break out of the tomb of their suffering and pain.

We keep in prayer at this time Scientists and all who are tirelessly searching for a vaccine. We remember with grateful thanks the many volunteers who have signed up to help wherever the need arises. May all be safe and have blessings in abundance.

Easter is a time of renewal and a celebration of God's love that brings light into darkness, hope into despair and peace into our souls. This love has survived the deadliest situations. In the midst of this global pandemic, it is not all doom and gloom. Easter speaks eternally of hope and new beginnings. No matter how difficult things are or how the darkness seems to overwhelm us, we are not in despair. We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song. The promise of Jesus on Easter Day is that the light overcomes the darkness and that He is with us on every step of life's journey to be our Hope, our Strength and our Way.

May Mary, our Mother, who is "our life, our sweetness and our hope" continue to gaze upon us and lead us to the Risen Lord who comforts, heals and saves us during this difficult time.

Happy Easter! He is Risen! Alleluia!

Fr. Tom

Lockdown by Brother Richard OFM Cap:

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.