

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### SAVE THE DATES

#### **FATHER MICHAEL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**This Saturday April 20th**

Join us for a Parish Celebration for The 50th Anniversary  
of Father Michael's Ordination

We will be hosting a Cream Tea from 2.30pm —5.00pm  
followed by evening Mass at 5.30pm

A sign up sheet for catering numbers  
is now available at the back of Church

#### **BOOK AND PLANT SALE ON MAY 12TH**

We are holding a book and plant sale at the beginning of May.

Please consider donating any plants or books  
(please only good as new ones).

Donations can be left on the table in the office.

All proceeds will be given to the charities the Parish supports.

For more info contact Krissie in the office—Please be aware  
that Krissie is away on annual leave from 16th –24th April.

**FIRST COMMUNION MASS - SUNDAY 16TH JUNE AT 10.30AM**

**CONFIRMATION MASS - SUNDAY 30TH JUNE AT 12.00PM**

**ECUMENICAL SAFARI SUPPER Saturday, 6th July.**

This is a free event and a sign up sheet will be put up nearer the time.

## **Thought for the week 21st April, 2024 4th Sunday of Easter**

Stones and Scruffiness

I've always found the refrain from today's psalm something that catches my imagination.

*"The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone."*

We heard it in the pre-Gospel Alleluia in the Vigil Mass; again at the Easter morning Mass; on the Second Sunday of Easter and now this weekend. It's repetition emphasises it's importance. At one level we see Jesus rejected by the establishment of his day, murdered and discarded and yet his resurrection underpins our whole faith.

However, I think that there is a second message here, echoed in today's Gospel. Are we, you and I, rejected stones? Or, perhaps, just ordinary stones lying around on God's building site? Yet he has a place for each one of us, a vocation and a mission just for you and just for me. When we accept that and try our best to live out his call to us we become more than loose bits of rock, we are key building blocks of God's kingdom here and now and forever.

On today's Good Shepherd Sunday St John's Gospel clearly portrays Jesus as a caring shepherd willing to do anything for his sheep. The sheep that Jesus' first listeners would have been familiar with were not the neat, fluffy lambs we see in devotional pictures. They were scruffy and perhaps undernourished, living on dry, craggy ground with a tendency to wander off, get lost and get into trouble. A bit like us too!

When we are feeling scruffy and sinful; when we stray, get lost and feel far from God – our Good Shepherd needs us and cares for us. He will search us out if we call to him and then he has that special job for us, the job that only you or I can do for him.

A Parishioner



**We ask you please, to pray for the following people who need your prayers:**

Please pray for Sarah Britton .

Please pray for Mary Edwards who has had hip surgery, after a fall at home, and is now recovering in The RBH.

Please pray for Carl Stitt the Uncle of Krissie as his operation was not successful and will have to be repeated.

Thank you for your continued prayers for Robert Brooks who is now back at home and continues to improve.

Rosemary continues to need our prayers having undergone major surgery, as the recovery will be long and slow.

Please pray for Kim, Paul and Joe Bunton (Joe has severe learning difficulties ). Please pray that they get the help they need.

Please continue to pray for Father Paul Rowan. Both cancer surgery and corneal graft are at last showing positive outcomes.

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who continues to need our prayers following his bone marrow transplant,

Please Pray for Jim Hardiman.

Please Pray for Maria McNamara's niece who is undergoing chemotherapy. Her name is Alison Flynn née McNamara.

Please pray for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who had Aplastic Anaemia. He still needs our prayers that he will continue to improve.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (aged 2 with eye trouble).

Please pray for Shirley Trollop.

Please pray for Isobel Messenger (Vera Bird's great granddaughter) she has now had her operation to improve her hearing.

Please pray for Simon Keen who is recovering from an operation.

Please pray for Mary Hagger.

Please pray for Vivien Kear (Krissie's friend) who has cancer.

Vera Bird has asked for our prayers for her Great, Great Grandson Harry.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has long covid.



**Please also remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time including;**

Raymond Taylor, Maurice Bowell,

Michael Austin MacDermott, Colonel Patrick Francis,

Gavin Barry, Harry Gardner, St George, George Hajdu,

Ilona Bakacs, Rima Dwyer, Sean Bannon,

Julia Welemars and family, Norah Bourne, Edna Walsh,

Peadar Farrell, Charles Halter.