



WESTPORT PARISH NEWSLETTER

ST. MARY'S, WESTPORT & DRUMMIN



Presbytery Telephone Number: 098-28871
E-mail: stmaryschurchwestport@eircom.net
Parish website: www.westportparish.ie



Priest on duty this week: Fr Patrick Burke

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS, READERS, SERVERS,
ALTER SOCIETY & GOOD NEWS CLUB.**

Assisting in the Liturgy: *on Sat. 28th & Sun. 29th Oct 2017.*

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: TEAM A
GOOD NEWS CLUB: LUKE
ALTAR SOCIETY: TEAM 1 (27th October)

READERS WESTPORT:

Saturday 28th Oct 2017 6.30 p.m.

Moirá Dolan / Eamon Canning.

Sunday 29th Oct 2017 10.00 a.m.

Frank McCarrick / Sr. Kathleen Friel.

Sunday 29th Oct 2017 12.00 noon

Josephine McGreal / Patrick Durcan.

READER DRUMMIN

Sunday 29th Oct 2017 9.30 a.m.

Joanne Gibbons.

SERVERS: SAT. 28th & SUN. 29th OCTOBER 2017

6.30 p.m.	Conor Meaney / Martha Burns / Niamh Morrin / Danny Farrell.
10.00 a.m.	Olwyn Hastings / Joey Holmes / Liam Kerins / Katlyn McGreal.
12.00 noon	Cian Walsh / Anna Kate Maloney / Matthew Moran / Sile Staunton.

10 a.m. WEEKDAY MASS READER THIS WEEK:

Mon. 23rd – Friday 27th October 2017:

Mary Grady.

MORNING PRAYER THIS WEEK:

Mon. 23rd & Thurs. 26th Oct. – Frank Dolan & Gertie Foley.

Saturday 28th Oct. - Mary Grady & Bridie Horkan.

DEATHS: We remember...

Neill O'Neill, Rosbeg.

Josephine Salvador, Valencia, Spain, formerly Navin,
Ballinrobe Rd. Sister of Renée Moane, Carrowbaun.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

BAPTISMS: We welcome into the Christian Community –

Archie James Bredican. Cora Makenna Gill. Jack Anthony Grady.

Isabella Rose Silva. Katelyn Sarah McGreal.

WEDDINGS: Congratulations to –



CONFESSIONS: Every Saturday, 12.30 – 1.00 p.m.

DAILY READINGS: Mon. 23rd to Friday 27th October 2017.

Mon. 23rd Oct.	Rm 4:20-25. Ps Lk 1:69-75, R/ cf v 68. Lk 12:13-21.
Tues. 24th Oct.	Rm 5:12, 15, 17-21. Ps 39:7-10, 17, R/ cf vv 8, 9. Lk 12:35-38.
Wed. 25th Oct.	Rm 6:12-18. Ps 123, R/ v 8. Lk 12:39-48.
Thurs. 26th Oct.	Rm 6:19-23. Ps 1:4, 6, R/ Ps 39:5. Lk 12:49-53.
Friday 27th Oct.	Rm 7:18-25. Ps 118:66, 68, 76-77, 93-94 R/ v 68. Lk 12:54-59.

**MASS ON THE RADIO FROM ST. MARY'S CHURCH,
WESTPORT:**

Tune into 104.8 FM to receive all weekend; Sat. 6.30 p.m. & Sun. 10 a.m. & 12 noon and 10 a.m. weekday Masses.

NOTICES FOR INCLUSION IN THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Needs to be with the Secretary by 12.00 noon each Wednesday at the latest. Email - stmaryschurchwestport@eircom.net

Church notices will take precedence.

MASSES WESTPORT CHURCH

Saturday 21st October 2017

'Do This In Memory' Enrolment Mass 6.30 p.m.

Sunday 22nd October 2017

Months Mind: 10.00 a.m.

People of the Parish / Pro Populo 12.00 noon

Monday 23rd October 2017

Morning Prayer of the Church. 8.00 a.m.

1) Patrick, Mary, Margaret, Ciss, John & Beatrice Moran,
Mary Morrin & Johnnie Lehane.

2) Ellen Collins, Michael Davitt Pk. (2nd Anniv.)

3) Liam Walsh, baby Liam & all D.F.M. 10.00 a.m.

Tuesday 24th October 2017

1) David McDermott, Knockranny. 8.00 a.m.

1) Tess & Josie Moore, The Quay.

2) Ailish Flynn.

3) Nicholas Lambert, Altamont St. & D.F.M. Wexford. 10.00 a.m.

Wednesday 25th October 2017

1) Anne Grady, Woodpark & D.F.M. 8.00 a.m.

1) Siobhan Kelly, Pinewoods.

2) Edward & Mary Kearns, Carrowbaun, their grandsons John,
Denis & Sean, granddaughter Clair Hassett-Curran
& sons Michael & Bernard. 10.00 a.m.

Thursday 26th October 2017

Morning Prayer of the Church. 8.00 a.m.

1) Paddy & Celia Hastings, Derrygorman.

2) Maurlene Buckley & D.M. of the Buckley,
O'Flynn & Mullins families.

3) Special Intention 10.00 a.m.

Friday 27th October 2017

1) Special Intention. 8.00 a.m.

First Anniversary: Jimmy Noonan, Monamore. 10.00 a.m.

Saturday 28th October 2017

Morning Prayer of the Church & Rosary 10.00 a.m.

Mass 6.30 p.m.

Sunday 29th October 2017

Months Mind: 10.00 a.m.

People of the Parish / Pro Populo. 12.00 noon

MASSES DRUMMIN CHURCH:

Sunday 22nd October 2017

Mass 9.30 a.m.

Sunday 29th October 2017

1) Peigí McNally, Westport & Drummin. 9.30 a.m.

BAPTISMAL TEAM 5 MEETING ON WED. 25th OCT. 2017

Parents whose child/children are to be baptised *on Sunday 29th October, at 2.00 p.m.* are asked to attend a meeting with the Baptismal Team at the Presbytery *at 8.30 p.m. on this Wednesday 25th October.*

KNOCK SHRINE NEWS & EVENTS:

A sacred space to enhance, explore and strengthen our Faith:

E: www.knockshrine.ie or T: 094 93 88100 Ext. 164

'DO THIS IN MEMORY' PROGRAMME 2017 - 2018

The 'Do This In Memory' First Holy Communion Programme Enrolment Mass is celebrated *this Saturday 21st October at 6.30 p.m.* for all children who will receive their First Communion in the parish in May 2018.



SERVICES & MEETINGS AT CARROWBEG HOUSE THIS WEEK: ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Adoration takes place each weekday from 10.30 a.m. to 8 p.m. On each Tuesday evening The Adoration Committee and St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society host a Holy Hour, from 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. All welcome.

MORNING PRAYER & WEEKDAY MASS: at 8.00 a.m.

SATURDAY MORNING PRAYER & ROSARY: at 10.00 a.m.

ROSARY AFTER WEEKDAY MASS: at 10.00 a.m.

STUDY THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH:

Mon. at 11 a.m.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION: Each Wednesday, at 8.00 p.m.

GOOD NEWS CLUB: Each Thursday, at 8.00 p.m.

DIVINE MERCY & PRAYER CHAPLET:

Continues daily in the church, at 3.00 p.m.

LEGION OF MARY:

Meeting this Tuesday 24th Oct. at 7.00 p.m. at the Parish Centre, James St., (entrance through the Presbytery Yard, 2nd door on the right.) Our Lady of Fatima Statue is available to all homes for one week.

Phone Breda on 087 2747873. Friend us on Facebook.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE: 087 9334960.

WESTPORT REGIONAL P.T.A.A.

P.T.A.A., Annual Dinner Dance on Friday 27th October 2017, at Westport Woods Hotel. Music by Mick Mulhern Band.

Tickets €25 may be purchased at Westport Parish Office or from any member. All welcome. Anyone due a Gold/ Silver Pin (to be presented on the night) may order at the Presbytery, phone 098 28871.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH & SCHOOL NEWS:

Cake Sale takes place this Sun. 22nd Oct., at 12.30 p.m., at Holy Trinity School, proceeds for the school. Face painting etc.

Harvest Service at Holy Trinity Church, Newport Road, on this Friday 27th October 2017, at 8.00 p.m. Guest Speaker is Dr. Oliver Whyte Snr., who will speak on "Thanksgiving a lot".

All are welcome; your support is greatly appreciated.

IRISH MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE ASSOCIATION:

Pop-Up Shop for new / nearly new items of ladies clothing, handbags and shoes; opening at O'Connor's Fashion Shop, Shop St., on Sat. 28th Oct for one week only. To donate Tel. Clare at 086 8057106.

All proceeds to IMND. Please support this worthy cause.

Thank you.

ECO-CONGREGATION

"A flourishing humanity on a thriving planet rich in species in an evolving universe, all together filled with the glory of the Creator: such is the vision that must guide us at this critical time of Earth's distress, to practical and critical effect."

Elizabeth Johnston in 'Ask the Beasts': Darwin & the God of Love, p286

Up to 180 people attended the Zero Waste event at The Town Hall on Oct. 2nd. Roisín Brady offered great practical help/tips on how to reduce waste. Once we become aware of our power to change the world so much is possible. Minimizing the amount of waste you create can bring about a more sustainable environment for future generations... "Great things are done by a series of small things brought together"

Van Gough.

Roisín's top 4 tips:

1. Plastic bags: Use reusable shopping bags; buy loose fruit and veg.
2. Plastic drinking bottles: Use reusable bottles, aluminium cans.
3. Coffee/tea cups: Use a keep cup, ask for a real cup.
4. Plastic straws: just say "NO".

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE: 087 9334960

Our door is always open to those in genuine need.

KNOCK SHRINE NEWS & EVENTS:

A sacred space to enhance, explore and strengthen our Faith; offering Faith Renewal ~ Culture & Heritage ~ Religious Education ~ Spiritual Retreats and Daily Ceremonies.

Details at www.knockshrine.ie or Tel: 094 93 88100 Ext. 164

DROP-IN COUNSELLING SERVICE, for info. phone 094 93 75032 or email: counselling@knock-shrine.ie

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN - GARDA VETTING

Garda vetting for all volunteers and Parish staff working with children is now due to be renewed. This process will be rolled out over the coming weeks. While the application for vetting is now carried out through the e-vetting process, there is an initial invitation Form and guidelines which must be first completed. These forms will be distributed through the various sub groups such as Good News Club and Sacramental Preparation. You will be required to return the form within a week of receiving it in order to ensure swift processing. Again we deeply appreciate the co-operation of all involved in this vital element of the Parish's life. Details are available on the diocesan website at www.tuamarchdiocese.org where you will also find the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy and Vulnerable Adults Policy, which all parish volunteers and staff are asked to be familiar with. Links are also available on the parish website. Vetting for the parish clergy has already been completed.

CHY 3

Again we are deeply grateful to all who are so generous in many ways to the parish. Your support is vital to the running of the parish. In what are still for many, difficult times, we are deeply grateful for the financial support which the parish receives. As well as the contributions you make directly, the CHY 'Tax back' scheme is extremely valuable to the parish and in a time of increasing financial challenge is a very real life line. Many people have completed the forms and returned them. We are most appreciative of this. However there are a large number who haven't signed the form, to whom we hope to send them again in the coming weeks. We apologise for the inconvenience that this may cause but the money that the parish can claim back from the Revenue Commissioners is extremely important to us. Sincere thanks again for your support, generosity and co-operation.

CHURCH RENOVATION FUND – YEAR 2 INSTALMENTS:

Sincere thanks to all who signed up to the instalment scheme and have already paid up for year 2. While it was due earlier in the year we decided not to ask for it until work had begun on the church. We will be writing to all others in the scheme in the coming weeks. Sincere thanks again for everything, to one and all; whether you contribute on a yearly or monthly basis, all is most welcome and needed.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH RENOVATION FUND 2016 – 2019:

The monthly envelope contribution towards the renovation of the church is due next weekend, Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th October. Thank you.

CARE & REPAIR:

The Family Resource Centre and Westport's Men's SHED wish to announce that they have a pool of volunteers to carry out minor household tasks for older persons living alone or those with a disability.

Full details from Linda at FRC Office, The Fairgreen or Tel. 098 24419.

WESTPORT TOURISM ORGANISATION COMMITTEE MEETING:

This Thurs. 26th Oct. 7.30 p.m., at Westport Coast Hotel.

THE VISION PROGRAMME: Is a vision for living an abundant life through the power of the Eight Beatitudes; where we learn to let go of negativity in our lives and move towards love, peace and contentment. Mary Trench will present 'The Vision Programme', at Carrowbeg House, this Thurs. 26th October, at 8.00 p.m. All welcome.

THE GOOD NEWS CLUB:

We welcome Léonie Cunningham as she speaks at all Masses this weekend on the 'Good News Club' in our parish.

THE VISION PROGRAMME:

Following on from the very successful and due to the positive response to the evening of Reflection and Renewal for all involved in ministry in the church last November in Aughagower Mary Trench has been invited back to the parish to present the full 'Vision Programme'. It will be held at Carrowbeg House, The Mall on the four Thursdays of October, i.e. Thursday 26th Oct., 8 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.

The Vision Programme is a vision for living and abundant life through the power of the Eight Beatitudes. We learn to let go of negativity in our lives, changing fear, worry and anxiety into a world of Peace, Love and Contentment.

Mary Trench lives in Robeen. She had facilitated the 'Vision Programme' in different parishes throughout the Archdiocese and beyond over a number of years.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 22nd – 26th AUGUST 2018:

Some suggestions & resources for programmes on the **WMOF2018** website to highlight same: -
<http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/Resources>.
<http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/Resources/Amoris-Programme>.

THE FAMILY LIFE CENTRE PROGRAMME, CHAPEL ST. CASTLEBAR:

Tel. 094 9025900 or info@thefamilycentre.com

‘25’ CARD GAME AT BRACKLOON/ DRUMMIN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Have resumed and continue *each Wednesday at 9.00 p.m.*

WESTPORT I.C.A.

Meet each Tuesday, 8 p.m., at Order of Malta Building.

FOLK GROUP: Meet each Wed. for practise *at 8 p.m.*, at the Organ Gallery, St. Mary’s Church. New members always welcome. The Folk Group sing on the first and third Sunday of the month at 12 noon Mass and also at Christmas & Easter.

THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, JAMES ST.

Free & Confidential Service, for information on employment, training, supports, CV preparation and much more, call in or phone for an appointment on (098) 28583.

ACCORD CASTLEBAR:

The Accord Centre in Castlebar offers a safe, professional and confidential counselling process, facilitating couples and individuals to explore, reflect upon and resolve difficulties in their marriage and relationships. **For further information contact: 094-9022214.**

Marriage preparation courses may be booked at this number also or on line at www.accord.ie

ACTIVE RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION AT PLOUGASTEL CENTRE:

Sunday: Whist. **Monday:** Monthly Social with Pat Friel. Both at 8.00 p.m. **Wednesday:** Bingo at 3.00 p.m.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:

Meet each Wednesday morning at 11.00 a.m., at The Family Centre, Knock Shrine, for one hour. It offers a place and time to remember and find support when dealing with the loss of a family member.

For further information please contact Monica on 094 9375320.

ST. MARTIN & REALITY MAGAZINES & THE IRISH CATHOLIC & THE CATHOLIC VOICE:

On sale at the Presbytery. (Office hours).

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOC. HELPLINE: 087 9334960.

WESTPORT COMMUNITY RADIO: TUNE IN TO 98.2 FM

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT & COUNSELLING:
TEL. 098 28871.**

ACTIVITIES AT THE QUAY COMMUNITY CENTRE:

- **MONDAY CLUB:** 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. All welcome.
- **BINGO:** every Friday night, at 8.30 p.m. All welcome.
- DANCERCISE:** Each Monday, 10.30 a.m.-12 noon, at The Sports Complex, Horkan’s Hill. Info at 098 26634 or rebecw@oceanfree.net (Suitable for all ages).

THE CITIZENS INFORMATION SERVICE:

Operate at the Courtyard, James St. You can drop in or -Tel. 0761076100. Email: Westport@citinfo.ie

WESTPORT FAMILY & COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE, THE FAIRGREEN. TEL. 098 24419:

- Provide information and support services such as counselling and Family Support and run community projects including The Quay Community Project and services for Older People.

Contact details: 098 24419 or at www.westportfrc.ie

BAPTISMAL TEAMS:

Baptism is the first and primary Sacrament of our Faith. The celebration of a baptism is a joyful and special occasion in the life of a family. The parish wishes to enrich and enhance the celebration of the Sacrament by establishing Baptismal Teams. The Team assists in the preparation for and celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism. Its members represent the Community by welcoming the child to be baptised and their families on their faith journey.

If you are interested in knowing more and getting involved, please contact the parish office at 098 28871.

WESTPORT INDOOR BOWLS CLUB:

New season begins at Hotel Westport, **Beginners welcome.**

PILGRIMAGES 2017:

The Holy Land: Christmas Pilgrimage, 20th – 28th Dec. X 8 nights, ex Dublin. Tel. James on 061 921470/ 0860572216.

WESTPORT LADIES SOCIAL GROUP:

Meet every Wed., 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m., at Carrowbeg House. All welcome to come along for a cuppa and a chat.

IRISH CANCER SOCIETY – VOLUNTEER DRIVER SERVICE:

The Irish Cancer Society operates a free Volunteer Driver Service for patients attending for chemotherapy treatments at Mayo General & Sligo Hospitals, University Hospital, Galway and Merlin Park, Galway. The volunteer drivers will collect a patient from home leave them for their treatment and bring them home again. **Tel. 01 2310522.**

CANCER

Concerned about cancer? Diagnosed with cancer?

Caring for someone with cancer?

Helpline Freefone 1800 200 700

THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, JAMES STREET.

Free and Confidential Service, for information on training, employment, CV preparation and much more, call in or phone for an appointment **on (098) 28583.**

BADMINTON AT RICE COLLEGE GYM:

Continues Mon. & Thurs. 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. **All welcome.**

WESTPORT MACRA NA FEIRME:

Seeking new members between 17 - 35 years.

Contact (083)4693058.

MASS ON THE RADIO:

Mass from St. Mary’s Church, Westport may be received on your radio by **tuning in to 104.8 FM.**

Weekend Masses: 6.30 p.m. on Saturday & 10 a.m. & 12 noon on Sunday, also 10 a.m. Mass Mon. to Friday.

Reflection

Your children are not your children.

They come through you but are not from you.

And though they are with you, they belong not to you.

You may give them your love, but not your thoughts, for they have their own thoughts.

You may house their bodies, but not their souls, for their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams. You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you.

For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.

SÉ DO BHEATHA, A MUIRE /The Hail Mary

Sé do bheatha, a Mhuire,

atá lán de ghrásta,

Tá an Tiarna leat.

Is beannaithe thú idir mná,

Agus is beannaithe toradh do bhroinne, Íosa.

A Naomh-Mhuire, a Mháthair Dé,

guigh orainn na peacaigh,

anois, agus ar uair ár mbáis.

Amen.

ÁR nATHAIR / Our Father

Ár nAthair atá ar Neamh, go naofar d’ainm, go dtaga do ríocht, go ndéantar do thoil ar an talamh mar a ndéantar ar neamh.

Ár n-arán leathúil tabhair dúinn inniú agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha mar amhaithimidne dár bhféichiúna féin, is ná lig sin i gceathú ach soar sin ó olc. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

“By the venerable tradition of the universal Church, lauds as Morning Prayer and vespers as Evening Prayer are the two hinges on which the daily office turns; hence they are to be considered as the chief hours and celebrated as such” (Vatican II, SC § 48). As is clear from many of the elements that make it up, Morning Prayer is intended and arranged to sanctify the morning. Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are therefore to be accorded the highest importance as the prayer of the Christian community.

Their public or communal celebration should be encouraged...

”(From General Introduction of the Liturgy of the Hours.)

MAYO WOMEN'S SUPPORT SERVICES (MWSS)

Is a free confidential service, offering support to women who may be experiencing any type of domestic violence or / and abuse in their relationships.

You may talk to someone in a safe and confidential environment by phoning 094 9025409 or 087 6569672.

IRISH COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION WESTPORT:

Meet every Tuesday evening, 8.30 p.m., at the Order of Malta Building, St. Mary's Crescent.

New members welcome. **Contact Ann, Tel. No. 085 7895498.**

BAPTISM POLICY:

Baptisms are held every weekend, one Saturday (the second Sat.) and three Sundays in the month (check with parish office for actual dates). Parents are required to give two weeks' notice and are invited to attend a short information meeting on the Wednesday prior to baptism, at Carrowbeg House, at 8.30 p.m. We strongly encourage parents to avail of the new Baptismal Teams who will make contact with you and visit you in your home if you wish. We wish God's blessing on all children who will be baptised this year and welcome you into the Christian and Parish Community.

For more information check website :

<http://www.westportparish.ie/baptism-times-a-dates>

SUPPORT GROUP – SEPARATED FATHERS:

Will meet at the Westport Family & Community Resource Centre, Wed., 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. **Tel. 087 1849675**

MAYO DRUG & ALCOHOL FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP:

Tel. 087 7400011 / 094 9366692 for meeting details.

AWARE:

Is a national organisation supporting, individuals, families and communities concerned about depression; providing a range of support services, such as support groups, telephone and email services and a Life Skills Online programme. **All free.**

To meet the demand for the continuing growth of these services volunteers are needed. Full training and ongoing support provided.

Tel. 01 661 7211 / 01 237 4926 or online at emma.barnes@aware.ie

'CONSOLE' THE NATIONAL SUICIDE CHARITY

'AWARE' Understanding & supporting people with Depression.

Contact www.aware.ie

CARANUA: provide help and support to survivors of Institutional abuse. **Contact Freephone 1800 212477. Email: info@caranua.ie**

ALATEEN:

Meetings held every Sun., 3 p.m. Hope House, Foxford.

SUICIDE AWARENESS - '50/50 PHONE A FRIEND':

Open Mon. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Distillery Road.

Tel: 098 25050.

BREASTCHECK to register call Freephone 1800 45 45 55 or check online on www.breastcheck.ie

Take Action?

Why not ... volunteer to become part of a parish of local activity where you can use your gifts and talents to serve others?

HOSPITAL VISITATION

From time to time we become aware that there are parishioners in hospital and would like to visit them where possible. We also wish to respect their right to privacy at what may be a difficult time. If you have a close family member who is in hospital and are sure that they would like a visit we would be only delighted to do so.

KNOCK MARRIAGE INTRODUCTIONS: Single & wish to marry? Knock Marriage Introductions can help you; it was set up in 1968 to help people find a suitable marriage partner.

The office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For further information phone 094 9375960 or visit the website @ www.knockmarriageintroductions.com

AIRC MAYO: helping children with disabilities and their families, if you would like to volunteer or help in any way **contact Angela on 085 1194041 for details.**

PROBLEM GAMBLING? Tel: 1800 246 139.

MAYO ROSCOMMON HOSPICE Tel: 094-9388666.

RETURN TO WORK INITIATIVE: Tel: 094 9022770 / 086 7701996.

Reflection (Helen Mallicoat)

I was regretting the past and fearing the future.

Suddenly, my Lord was speaking:

"My name is I am". He paused... I waited...

He continued, "When you live in the past with its mistakes and regrets, it is hard.

I am not there. My name is not I was.

When you live in the future, with all its problems and fears, it's hard. I am not there.

My name is not I will be. When you live in this moment, it is not hard. I am here, My name is I am".

REGINA CAELI (replaces The Angelus in) EASTER SEASON

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia /

R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

Has risen, as he said, alleluia. /

R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia/

R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.

Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia:

R. Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia,

Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.

R. Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

Gaude et laetare, Virgo Maria, alleluia.

R. Quia surrexit Dominus vere, alleluia.

Oremus. Deus, qui per resurrectionem Filii tui, Domini nostri Iesu Christi, mundum laetificare dignatus es:

praesta, quaesumus, ut per eius Genitricem Virginem Mariam, perpetuae capiamus gaudia vitae.

Per eundem Christum Dominum nostrum. **Amen.**

CHURCH RENOVATION:

It has been two years since the first of the current issues regarding the structure of the church presented itself. In the intervening period extensive investigations have been carried out and comprehensive preparations have taken place for work to proceed. Following a design process a detailed and transparent Tender process took place and the successful contractor Mr. Michael O'Malley took possession of the church **on Friday 1st September. Morning Prayer and Mass and Sat. Morning Prayer at 10 a.m., will be held at Carrowbeg House. Funerals coming to the church during the works will come to the church at 8.00 p.m. or later. In so far as is possible Funeral Masses will take place at 11.00 a.m. for the duration of the works.** We apologise sincerely for the inconvenience caused and we will continue to be sensitive to the needs of families. At the same time we are grateful that we are in a position to keep the church open for all other liturgies apart from the above mentioned times. Please be aware however that outside of above stated times the church will be closed from 10.30 a.m. onwards in order that the work can progress and we can keep our deadline date for completion and back to full capacity for Confirmation **on March 10th 2018.**

The works included in the contract cover as much as our budget target can reach. There are however other jobs which remain outside this target as was the case with 2005 works. We thank you sincerely for your patience and generous support for the project so far. It is estimated that the project **will cost €1.2m**, about half of which is still to be raised. So many have contributed generously over the past two years as well as giving in so many other ways, we are deeply grateful for this and are highly dependent on it. However unlike the previous large project when there was land to be sold we have no assets that can be currently disposed of and we are going to have to explore every possible avenue now with regards to fundraising.

We wish to thank particularly the Maintenance & Finance Committee members for their dedication and hard work in getting us to this juncture.

EMPLOYABILITY SERVICE MAYO: Tel. 094 9043008

Supporting people with Health Conditions/Disabilities into employment. **This is a free and confidential service.**

WESTPORT PARISH PASTORAL PLAN – BEYOND 2020

In this Parish we have much to be grateful for, not least the loyalty, devotion and generosity of our Parish Community. From a pastoral point of view over many generations, so much has been built and indeed built on. So much of parish life is alive and vibrant and yet as we approach a new decade and prepare for a new Pastoral Council in November that will take us into that decade, there are many challenges that face us in an ever evolving pastoral landscape. The formation of a new Pastoral Council, whose term will run into the next decade, as well as the juncture we are at regarding the church building affords us the opportunity to take a holistic view of the Parish, examining and addressing the challenges which face us, competently, efficiently and with expedience.

The most obvious ongoing challenge is that of the church building in Westport, with €500,000 of the €1.2m still to raise. While this is deeply important and we greatly value the generosity and support which has brought us to where we are, we acknowledge the need for further support and we will now be gratefully accepting all the offers of fundraising and support that have been pledged, but the challenge is so much greater than buildings and so much more than money. The real challenge is about how we address the growing and evolving needs of the people we serve in Westport Parish into 2020 and beyond.

We have much to celebrate in the vibrancy of our Parish, but there are also so many areas that we need to explore and enhance; to do that we need the guidance, energy and enthusiasm of so many. We need to have a close look at how we minister to those most marginalized and in need of care in our parish, those who are ill, those who are housebound, those who are dying, those who are bereaved, those who feel in any way that they could be afforded a greater sense of care, our young, our growing and our emerging.

There needs to be a deep examination of how we celebrate our liturgy and how it can become more meaningful and alive for all who celebrate it. There has been so much built on, but there is also a deep need right now, to restore, revitalize and continue building.

The renovations of the church building has allowed us to see how much space we actually need for liturgy, but with evolving needs we also have been led to see how the sacred space in our church could be utilized to serve these evolving needs in many areas including, but not exclusively to, children's liturgy, hospitality, bereavement support, adoration, serving the needs of families greater during liturgy and facilitating the many groups which meet and need space in our parish. We also see how we could better utilize Carrowbeg House as a rented space, should we have proper facilities within the church. This is a long term vision and simply the start of the discussion.

There are certain realities that need to be addressed and planned for, such as the changing needs and demographic of the Parish Community. The formulation of a Pastoral Plan allows us to address all the issues involved, from the point of view of the pastoral and liturgical, maintenance and financial needs of the Parish. This is both challenging and exciting, but something we hope to face together.

The time to work towards a plan for the Parish is opportune as we begin the term of a new Pastoral Council and the members are set a clear task ahead of them for the next four years. It also comes at the beginning of significant repair works to the church, which hopefully will be completed in March. The last two years have given us an opportunity to look at the needs of the parish regarding buildings as well as the financial status of the Parish going forward. We hope that the plan 'Beyond 2020' will help focus us more clearly on how to respond best to the evolving needs of the Parish into the future.

Sincere thanks again for all your support so far and we look forward to journeying together into the next phase of the life of the Parish.

INITIAL PROPOSED SCOPE OF THE PARISH PASTORAL PLAN

Pastoral.

Look at how the parish is being currently served from a pastoral point of view, looking at what the needs are going forward and how best to respond to them in a number of areas.

- Children & Youth.
- Families.
- Those who are ill.
- Those who are new to the Parish.
- Those who feel marginalized from church but are open to engagement.
- Those who live alone.
- Those who are terminally ill.
- Support of marriage.
- Support of life.
- Care for creation.
- Care for the sick and housebound.
- Care for those who are bereaved.
- Care for marriage.
- Pastoral care of the Catholic schools in the Parish.

Liturgical

- The liturgical needs of the community.
- The quality of the liturgy being provided.
- Enhancement of the liturgy.
- Lay participation in ministry.
- Rejuvenation of lay ministries.
- Creation of new ministries if necessary to meet the liturgical needs.

Maintenance

- Audit of the buildings in the Parish, including all property.
- Assessment of the building needs of the Parish based on the Pastoral and liturgical needs listed above.
- Utilisation of current buildings to their best potential going forward.
- Understanding of how the existing building stock can best serve the needs of the Parish and whether some can be sold or rented.

Financial

- Current financial status of the Parish.
- Financial sustainability of the Parish.
- Best practice regarding the accumulation and expenditure of the Parish Resources going forward.