GL	ENCORR	IB & SHF	RULE PAP	RISH NE	WSLETTER	- 14 <sup>th</sup> AU	<b>GUST 2022</b>				
Fr. Vivian Loughrey PP,         Parochial House, Ramolin, Shrule, Co. Mayo H91 V2FK         2 093 31262 or email parishofshrule3@gmail.com         Parish Website: www.shruleglencorrib.com         Newsletter email: newsletter@shruleglencorrib.com											
		Newslette	r (Vol. 27 – (	03)	It	cost Jesus everyth	ning to rescue me				
Newsletter on Web: www.shruleglencorrib.com & www.mayo.ie											
All Masses are on 101.4 FM and Facebook/Shrule Parish or on www.churchtv.ie Shrule Church is											
https://www.churchtv.ie/shrule/ and Glencorrib Church is https://www.churchtv.ie/glencorrib/ TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) MASS DATES, TIMES & INTENTIONS											
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, SHRULE - Dedicated 1832											
Sat	13 <sup>th</sup> Aug				of Martine), Rat		ublin 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniv				
Sun	14 <sup>th</sup> Aug	11.00 am	John & Ma	ary Sherid	an, Mocollogan		35 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> Anniv				
Mon	15 <sup>th</sup> Aug				sumption of the		gin Mary				
No Mass this week Tuesday to Thursday inclusive											
Fri	19 <sup>th</sup> Aug	7.00 pm			ssed Sacramen						
					lsh, Brodella		RIP 21/02/2021				
Sat	20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	•			cown, Dublin / Ca		RIP 16/07/2022				
Sun	21 <sup>st</sup> Aug	11.00 am	Jack & Mary Heneghan, Joyce ParkRIP 13/11/2019 & 17th AnnivTimmy Beck, Chicago (Nephew of Peadar Higgins, Ballycushion2nd Anniv								
	CHURCH	OF THE IM			ION, GLENCORI	RIB - Dedicat	ted 1876				
Sat	13 <sup>th</sup> Aug	6.30 pm	1		of the Naug						
			Rostaff				Deceased				
Sun	14 <sup>th</sup> Aug	9.30 am									
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Wed	17 <sup>th</sup> Aug	10.10 am									
Fri	19 <sup>th</sup> Aug	6.00 pm			essed Sacramen	it: 6pm to 6.	55 pm				
Sat	20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	7.00 pm 6.30 pm									
Sun	21 <sup>st</sup> Aug	9.30 am									
CHU	RCH ROTAS	FOR AUGUS	ST 2022	SHRULE		GLEN	GLENCORRIB				
	LAY READERS – Vigil Mass				Donagh Greaney		Volunteer Required				
	LAY READERS – Morning Mass				Maura Mullin		Volunteer Required				
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – Vigil Mass EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – Morning				Rita Davin			Volunteer Required				
USH		IINISTERS -	Morning	John Heneghan Ramolin & Tubberkeerane			een Shaughnessy				
	R SOCIETY	,		Dalgan Road – Group 1			currin/Gortatubber currin/Gortatubber				
		<b>G CEMETER</b>	Y MASSES		ONE DAY RETR	1	,				
		ast Cemeter					information and				
		5 <sup>th</sup> August @			Mary McHugh						
	· · · ·	LATEST S	<b>SHRULE GLE</b>		GAA & LGFA C						
• <b>Under 17 Team:</b> A massive congratulations to our Under 17 team who won their league final in comfortable style on Sunday last. Well done lads, coaches & management. Photos on Facebook.											
• Junior Ladies Team: Well done to our Junior Ladies team who won their league semi final on Sunday last. Well done ladies, coaches and management. Photos on Facebook. They have now											
<ul> <li>qualified for the league final. Date TBC</li> <li>Junior B Team play Westport in the League semi final in Westport on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August. We will them the best of luck.</li> </ul>											
ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Every Friday evening: Glencorrib Church: 6pm to 6.55pm & Shrule Church: 7pm to 7.55pm Please consider spending one hour or part of in Prayer and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. We invite you to come on Friday evenings.NO PARISH NEWSLETTER AUGUST: Next week 21st August we will have a two week newsletter. If you have any notices, we will need them emailed to newsletter@shruleglencorrib.com by Thursday 18th August. Thank you											
Praye	er and Ado	ration of the	e Blessed S	acrament.	newsletter@shr	uleglencorrib.					

#### HERITAGE OF HANDBALL IN SOUTH MAYO: THREE WALLS IN SEARCH OF A BALL

Shrule Community Partnership in association with Tourmakeady Handball Club, Mayo GAA Handball Co Board, GAA Handball, Mayo County Council Heritage Office and The Heritage Council to celebrate National Heritage Week 2022 present HERITAGE EVENING AT ST. JOSEPH'S BALL ALLEY, SHRULE this weekend Sunday, 14 August.

**6pm to 7pm:** Exhibition games in the old village ball alley in Shrule village (constructed 1935) organised by the holder of All Ireland Medals in handball.

**7pm to 8pm:** Slideshow presentation of history of Gaelic games in Shrule and surrounding area, including handball and also early reports of Gaelic football. The long history of the game in Shrule and in South Mayo will be recounted in the school hall by stories of past performers. It is envisaged to have a guest speaker present also on the day.



**Don't miss this exciting event** as we look to the future while recalling the joyous past. Other old handball alleys in the Shrule area include St. Joseph's NS, Dalgan, Mocollogan, Ballynalty, Cloughmoyne, and Ower.



# NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK - 13<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2022:

**Shrule Through A Lens in memory of Sean Mc Guinness** by Marie O Malley. '*Shrule Through a Lens*' was a Facebook page created in February 2017 by the late Sean McGuinness RIP. Sean was involved in Historical SGK, Kille Abbey Committee, Shrule/Glencorrib GAA, Shrule Tidy towns, Shrule Parish Facebook page. A friend said when Sean started something he kept going till it was complete. A man you could call a friend.

## Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

We would like to thank you the viewers for sending in photographs and images of all things from the Parish of Shrule. A Community page that

welcomed contributions from all. A special word of thanks to Liam Donahue, Martin Ryan, John Murphy Avalon Video, Kevin Flood and Geraldine Hyland Monaghan who contributed several great pictorial memories to the page over the years. There are too many people to mention individually so Thank You everyone. The presentation can be found on http://shrule.ie/2022-heritage-week/

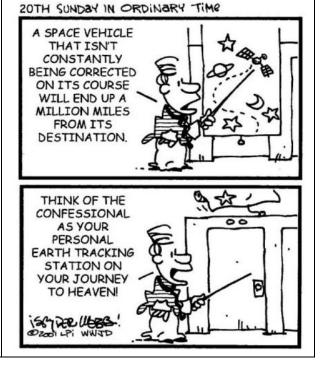
#### CRAFT /UPCYCLING/ WHATEVER PEOPLE WANT TO WORK ON - GROUP for the winter months in

Glencorrib Kilroe Community Centre. People from both the and surrounding parish parishes are all welcome. If enough people we get interested, we will call а meeting. All are invited



women and men. We were thinking like 7pm to 9pm on Thursday nights. For further info  $\cong$  / Text Petrina on 087 6719950

**COVID PRECAUTIONS:** As we experience this latest wave of Covid infection, we are once again encouraged (but not compulsory) to wear face masks in church and to sanitise our hands on entering / leaving the Church. Small things count. Thank you.







National

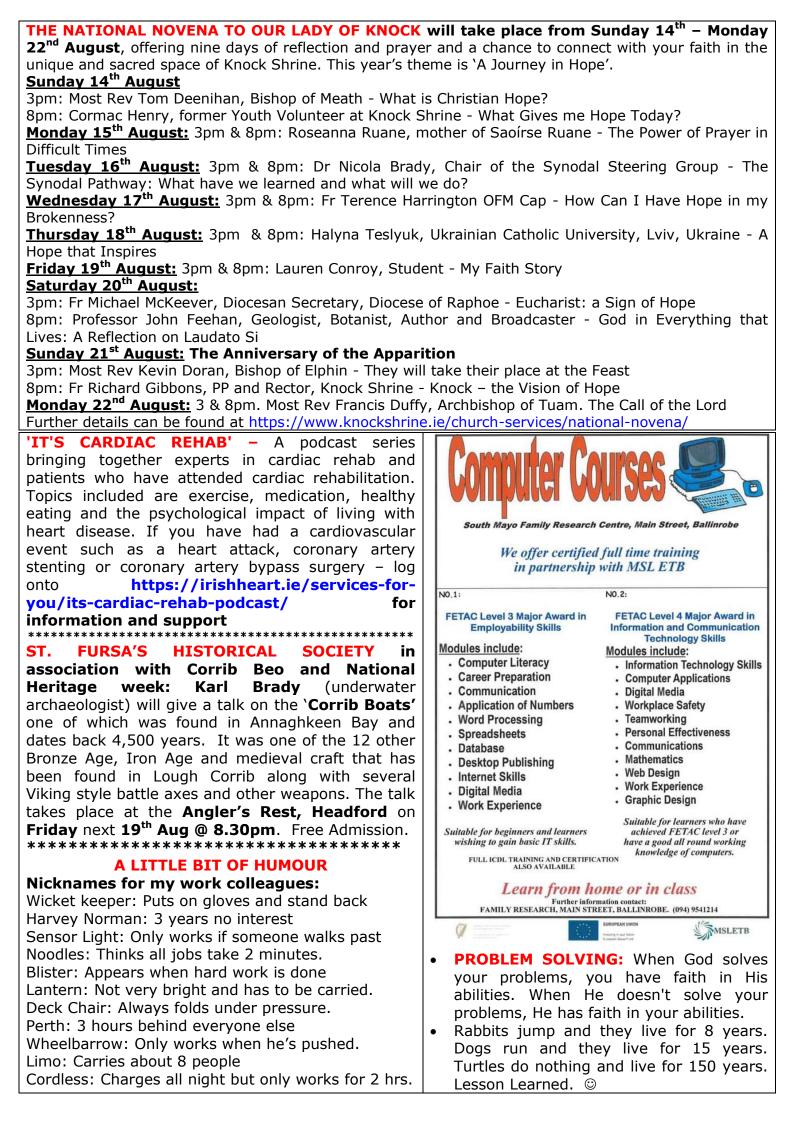
PLEASE REM	EMBER WITH	A PRAYER THOSE WH	O DIED ON THIS	WEEK IN	FORMER YEARS
Surname	Christian	Village	Date Died	Age	Cemetery
Sweeney	Brigid	Glasbally	13/08/1923	64	Killursa
Mortimer	Austin	Shrule	13/08/1959	82	Murrisk Abbey
Payne Peter		Dalgan	13/08/1992	81	Shrule
Davin	Nora	Brackloon	13/08/1998	81	Shrule
Heneghan	Enda	Dalgan Road	13/08/1998	66	Shrule
Petty	John	Ballisnahina	14/08/1942		Ross Erilly
O'Hara	Barbara	Shrule	14/08/1947	77	Shrule
Flood William		Ballynalty	14/08/1953	72	Cross
Corbett Mary		Anlacca	14/08/1972	82	Shrule
Concannon Aidan		Headford	14/08/2010	45	Shrule
Hennelly Mrs.		Lodge, Glencorrib	15/08/1936		
Mc Donagh	Margaret	Shrule	15/08/1951	72	Shrule
Kenny	Mary	Toorard	15/08/1951	39	Moyne
Tierney	Brigid	Shrule	15/08/1954	64	Shrule
Barrett	Thomas	New Ballynalty	15/08/1963	77	Shrule
O'Neill	Dick	Dalgan	15/08/1989	34	Shrule
Greally	Catherine	Cloonbanane	16/08/1921	67	Killursa
Mc Evilly	Mary	Mohorra	16/08/1928	75	Cong
Crampton	Joseph	Dalgan Road	16/08/2008	,,,	Shrule
Brennan	Michael	Ballybockagh	16/08/2010	94	Shrule
Fitzgerald	Brigid	Mohorra	17/08/1933	79	Shrule
Biggins	Thomas	Rostaff	17/08/1939	73	Killursa
Browne	Alan	Phoenix Park.	17/08/1992	55	Roundfort
Cawley	Thomas	Gurteen	17/08/2001	88	Shrule
Walsh Antonette		The Parks	17/08/2001	68	Sillule
Gannon	Dom	Boula	18/08/1926	55	Killursa
Gannon	Mrs.	Boula	18/08/1926	55	Killursa
Buckley	Pete	Moorgagagh	18/08/1920	59	Shrule
Gleeson	Delia	Shrule	18/08/1989	89	Shrule
Walsh	Peter	Boherbee	19/08/1989	76	Shrule
Meenaghan			19/08/2002	76	Shrule
-	Sean	Gurteen Glassvalley	19/08/2002	62	Killursa
Langan O'Haire	Maura	Shrule		02	
Staunton	Anna Michael	Dalgan Park	20/08/1944 20/08/1951	72	Kiltimagh Shrule
Warde	Con Mochorra		20/08/1991	81	Shrule Shrule
Sheridan	Margaret	Dalgan Yard	20/08/1997	84	
Smith	Janet	Dalgan	20/08/2014	74	Shrule
Carty	Honor	Brackloon	21/08/1923	74	Shrule
Gavin	John	Shrule	21/08/1938	65	Shrule
Petty	Margaret	Ballisnahina	21/08/1975	52	Ross Erilly
Flynn	John	Glassvalley	21/08/1982	56	Killursa
т	he love o ake him i re the er Country	n WELCOME	TRANCE NETHERLANDS	GALWAY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES will take place on September 22 <sup>nd</sup> –	

Goes up

In flames

SWEDEN TO OUR **SPAIN** STIK ITALY PARISH. We hope that you have an enjoyable stay with us and and return home safely, refreshed To all those and revitalised. going away for their holidays, we hope that you travel safely, have an enjoyable experience Tours æ and return home rested and email refreshed.

LOURDES will take place on September 22<sup>nd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. Led by Bishop Michael Duignan. Full fare (including transport to and from Galway /Shannon) €785. Info **\*** Fr Martin Moran, Galway 087 2508959. Bookings & Enquiries to : Joe Walsh Tours **\*** 012410800 email







**LIVING WELL** is a free online group programme delivered over six workshops (2.5 hrs x 6).

It is delivered by trained leaders, most of whom are also living with a long-term health condition.

You will develop self-management skills and confidence to live well with your health conditions.

Free online Living Well Programme – next programmes commences on (Limited Places)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 10.30am-1pm - Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 7pm-9.30pm and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 10.30am-1pm.



You must register in advance as places are limited to 10/12 participants. Please note you do not have to disclose your health condition on the programme.

Please contact Liam Gildea on 086 014 2675 or by email at lgildea@southmayo.com

MAYO CANCER SUPPORT provides DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN HAVE YOUR GROUPS AMENITIES LISTED ON MAYO PPN COMMUNITY FREE support services to those **INTERACTIVE MAP?** If you are interested and haven't affected by cancer. 2 0949038407. BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP yet shared your details, all you need to do is fill out a quick questionnaire with the following: Your group's name, meets every Wednesday at 11am at contact phone number, groups email address, short bio of Family Centre, Knock. All the welcome. Further info from Monica your group's services. More info 🖀 094-90 64358 Use link Morley, 094https://forms.office.com/r/FfmriDfEqB MAYO PPN-YOUR Knock Shrine. Ŧ 9375320. **VOICE-YOUR COMMUNITY** YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR IN THE DIOCESE (THREE-YEAR FIXED-TERM FULLTIME

**YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR IN THE DIOCESE (THREE-YEAR FIXED-TERM FULLTIME CONTRACT)** The Diocese is now recruiting a Youth Ministry Coordinator. The successful candidate will work on the delivery of the objectives and actions of the Young People theme in the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, the vision of which is: "to create local opportunities for young people to meet their peers in the Eaglais Óg and replicate at local level, the success of the Youth Ministry at diocesan level and ensure that young people feel connected, involved and active in a multigenerational church whereby grandparents, parents and children minister to each other".

The role will involve the creation, resourcing, delivery and support of youth ministry programmes and initiatives across the Diocese, including with parishes and schools with a focus on building capacity in the local context. It will also involve engagement with Youth Work and other relevant Organisations (Voluntary and Statutory) both Regionally and Nationally as appropriate.

An **Application Pack with Job Description** (PDF) and **Application Form** (Word) are available on www.limerickdiocese.org/news/vacancy-for-youth-ministry-coordinator/. CVs will not be accepted.

#### SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – 15<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2022

Korean artist Khan Lee constructed an art piece called Ladder to nowhere in Vancouver, Canada. It is a 126 feet tall and two feet wide ladder made of galvanized steel and consisting of 108 Steps towering into the sky and it heads nowhere. The aim of this piece of art was to inspire viewers to "reach upward and beyond to achieve perceivably unattainable goals".

Human guest for goals, achievable targets and meaning in life is unending. Both the corporate world and individuals set goals and constantly try to achieve them. Yet life often becomes meaningless not knowing where we proceed. Life often seems to be an endless ladder that we climb, a leap into the dark.

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary gives us a bright hope for our own future; it is our Ladder to Somewhere! That somewhere is where we all long to reach some day. The solemnity reminds us that when we too live lives pleasing to God and cooperate in His plan of

Redemption, we will be raised on our last day, we will be given

glorified bodies and will share in God's glory where our Blessed Mother who is already present and will show us the way. Mary's Assumption is God's promise to us too.

In 1950, Pope Pius XII declared Mary's Assumption into Heaven to be an official dogma of the Catholic faith, by stating, "We Pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the Immaculate Mother of God, the Ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory".

The Assumption of Mary has two important dimensions to it:

First of all, it is an assurance for us that we have a mother who is ever constantly praying for us, and who intercedes for us directly from beside the throne of her Son. Just like the occasion of the

miracle of the wedding at Cana, even the Lord would still listen to the words of His loving mother. Let her words echo in our hearts, "Do whatever he tells you!"

Secondly, in the Assumption of Mary we also see the promise of new life and existence that we ourselves are going to experience in the time to come, when the final judgement comes, we will also be raised to heaven body and soul and our souls shall be reunited fully with our new bodies: glorified, purified and blessed, that we may enjoy forever, with Mary, and with all the saints, the glory and true joy of Heaven with God forevermore.

On this great feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, may we be filled with hope and strength as we journey through our life filled with tribulation, trials, crisis and sufferings. This feast is also a constant reminder of victory and hope. The same God who journeyed with Mary now journeys with us to lead us onward from brokenness to wholeness and transformed us to be messengers of hope and healing. Mary's perfect life of surrender to God and her glorious Assumption into Heaven teaches us one of Life's greatest lessons: life on earth is not about surviving, but to find a place in the hearts of people and above all in the heart of God.

**BENBURB PRIORY** will soon host a day conference on the meaning crisis (rise in suicides, depression, and more) and the Christian way, today. The conference will feature leading Christian thinkers, including Paul Kingsnorth, Paul Vander Klay, and Fr Calvin Robinson. This event will take place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Tickets are available at www.benburbpriory.com now. All are welcome." The Meaning Crisis, Modernity, & the Christian Way: A Benburb Priory Conference -Benburb Priory.

Ennis Parish Newsletter

SHRULE COMMUNITY **CENTRE & GLENCORRIB KILROE COMMUNITY CENTRE CLOTHES BANKS:** We appreciate you continued support. Thank You.







#### PARISH NOTES: WAYS TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS:

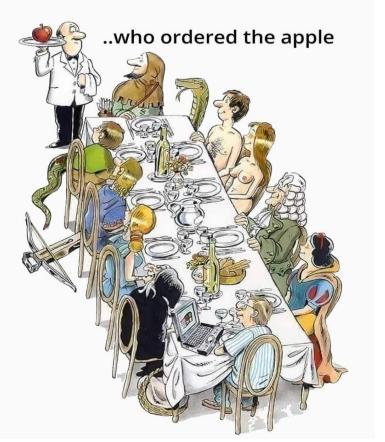
With the resumption of public liturgies, the following ways now in place to make contributions. These contributions make the works been carried out possible. Thank you for your continuing support in these unfamiliar times. At weekend Masses, Shrule Post Office. Drop off at Parochial House (Tuesdays, 10.30 am - 12noon) or Curates' House (Wednesdays, 10.30 am - 12noon) or Banking Online or Standing Order. Details of each church bank account have been provided below.

## • Shrule Church:

Bank: Ulster Bank Ireland DAC Account Name: Shrule Church Finance Committee: IBAN IE10ULSB98525010138070 and BIC: ULSBIE2DXXX

#### • Glencorrib Church:

Bank: Ulster Bank Ireland DAC Account Name: Shrule Glencorrib Church: IBAN IE97ULSB98525010138153 and BIC: ULSBIE2DXXX



With banking online please ensure **full name** is given as reference when making the standing order or Account transfer, so the parish has a record of who has made their weekly contribution through each bank account. This is **very important** for the Charitable Donation Scheme. Thank you for your continuing support. **Welcome to those Outside of Parish:** People outside of the parish are most welcome to attend public liturgies in the parish. Please observe guidelines. Regarding contributions please continue to support your parish and use your own parish envelopes It is standard practice for envelopes to be returned to their respective parishes.

**CHURCH ENVELOPES:** In the current environment, the use of the envelopes is essential while the regular method of collections during the liturgy is not taking place. The income from these envelopes ensures the parish can continue to **pay its regular bills and continue with the renovations** taking place in both churches. Your support and generosity is essential & greatly appreciated. Remember it is possible to leave the envelopes in Shrule post office as well as donate online. Further information is found on the page attached to the Parish Envelopes 2022. If you are using the envelopes available at church, and are planning to apply for charity tax rebate, please write your name and envelope number on envelope.

# **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER:**

**My** Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

## **PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:**

Heavenly Father, we praise you and thank you for all you have done for us. We thank you especially for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, to visit and save us. We ask you to bless our family and all the people of our parish, especially those who are suffering in any way. Encourage those in our parish whom you invite to become priests, religious and permanent deacons, and grant them the generosity of mind and heart to follow your call. May they bring good news to our world today. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**SHRULE PARISH** is committed to the protection of all children and young people in our Church. Please see the notice boards for contact details.

## SHRULE PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS:

Shrule - Parochial House Tuesdays 10.30am to 12-noon Glencorrib - Curates House (Sunny Days) Wednesdays 10.30am to 12-noon WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN THE PARISH? If you are interacted, placed call into the sacristy after Mass or during parish office opening h

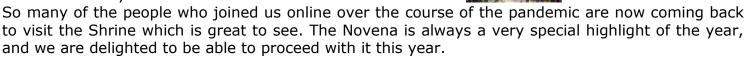
If you are interested, please call into the sacristy after Mass or during parish office opening hours or email parishofshrule3@gmail.com Thank You.

## **NATIONAL NOVENA AT KNOCK SHRINE - 'A JOURNEY IN HOPE**

**The National Novena to Our Lady of Knock will take place from Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August**, offering nine days of reflection and prayer and a chance to connect with your faith in the unique and sacred space of Knock Shrine. This year's theme is 'A Journey in Hope'.

Following a two-year break due to the pandemic, Fr Richard Gibbons hopes to make this year extra special for all who will be travelling to the Shrine to take part.

"The purpose of the Novena is to recognise the unique role that Knock, as an International Eucharistic and Marian Shrine, has to play in the life of the Irish Church and to honour Our Lady.



We look to the future with the hope of renewal, for God's guidance and pray that this Novena will offer pilgrims the chance for thought-provoking reflection and discussion. "

Ceremonies will take place at Knock Basilica at 3pm and 8pm over the course of the nine days with guest speakers present during each ceremony. There will also be the special candlelight procession, a traditional feature of the Novena at Knock, which takes place following the 8pm ceremony (weather permitting).

On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August, Knock Shrine will hold a special Day of Prayer for Peace in Ukraine and are inviting people from the Ukrainian community in Ireland and host families to attend.

**Family Day:** Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August is the Anniversary of the Apparition which will coincide with the Family Day. Taking place from 11am-3pm in the beautiful grounds of the Shrine, the Family Day is a lovely opportunity for families to get together to enjoy a range of fun activities. All events and activities are free of charge and will take place on the beautiful grounds of Knock Shrine, close to the award-winning Knock Museum and Café Le Chéile. There will be outdoor activities taking place on the green (weather permitting) and marquees with indoor workshops, games and more.

**Engaging with the Synod:** A unique feature of this year's Novena will be the 'Synod Tent', where members of the public will be invited to learn more about the Synod and what it means for all of us. It will also provide an opportunity for us to listen to what you think Knock Shrine has to offer you and the Church in Ireland at this critical juncture in our history.

## Novena Programme: Guest Speakers & Homilists

## Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August

3pm: Most Rev Tom Deenihan, Bishop of Meath - What is Christian Hope?

8pm: Cormac Henry, former Youth Volunteer at Knock Shrine - What Gives me Hope Today? Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August

3pm & 8pm: Roseanna Ruane, mother of Saoírse Ruane - The Power of Prayer in Difficult Times **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August** 

3pm & 8pm: Dr Nicola Brady, Chair of the Synodal Steering Group - The Synodal Pathway: What have we learned and what will we do?

## Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August

3pm & 8pm: Fr Terence Harrington OFM Cap - How Can I Have Hope in my Brokenness?

## Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August

3pm & 8pm: Halyna Teslyuk, Ukrainian Catholic University, Lviv, Ukraine - A Hope that Inspires **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August** 

3pm & 8pm: Lauren Conroy, Student - My Faith Story

# Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August

3pm: Fr Michael McKeever, Diocesan Secretary, Diocese of Raphoe - Eucharist: a Sign of Hope 8pm: Professor John Feehan, Geologist, Botanist, Author and Broadcaster - God in Everything that Lives: A Reflection on Laudato Si

# Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August, the Anniversary of the Apparition

3pm Most Rev Kevin Doran, Bishop of Elphin - They will take their place at the Feast 8pm Fr Richard Gibbons, PP and Rector, Knock Shrine - Knock – the Vision of Hope Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August

3pm & 8pm Most Rev Francis Duffy, Archbishop of Tuam - The Call of the Lord

Further details can be found at https://www.knockshrine.ie/church-services/national-novena/



# 😹 THE BACK PAGE WITH KEVIN FLOOD 🛄

The GAA inter-county season closed with the Camogie Final last Sunday. We will have to wait another six months before the fun begins again. That makes for a long winter!

Growing up in a small rural village in Glencorrib in the 1970s. The population of the half-parish was about 600. Neighbours knew all their neighbours well. While the Church was taken for granted as an important backdrop, football was the life-blood of the community. Villages played villages after Mass on Sunday. But we will recount that on another stage. I knew of only one couple who were not church-goers. Yet, if a choice had to be made between a Mass and a match, I have no doubt but that the great majority would have opted for the latter.



It is often been said that priesthood was the highest ambition that a parent could have for a son in that particular world. I think that was not strictly true. A higher ambition by far was that he would play in the club's senior team and of course for Mayo itself. And some of the Shrule lads the Mortimers and Ronaldsons did just that. Now that was a real source of pride. And to win an All-Ireland medal, now that would be heaven itself!

In the 1970s, The Glencorrib village boasted of a senior football team that could hold its own with the best. In fact they won the South Mayo Final in 1979. Will we ever forget that? No! But that is over 40 years ago and it remains Glencorrib's most senior title. The Shrule & Glencorrib teams amalgamated in 1993. Even though, the population of the parish increased dramatically, the club was relegation to junior ranks a few years ago.

The decline in rankings of our men's senior team over time mystifies the older age group. After-Match 'post mortems' are common-place. What has happened? How did we arrive at this sorry pass? When did the rot set in? What should -or could- we have done differently? Could the GAA have helped us by changing its rules and its attitudes? Invariably, a consensus emerges. The problem is larger than the GAA. The world has changed utterly. Football is not as central to the lives of the young people of the parish as it once was. They are now far more mobile and their world is larger, less claustrophobic.

Most will readily concede that young people today lead fuller, freer and more interesting lives. They are not as dependant on the local community for their identity and entertainment as their predecessors. They have far more money and they start drinking at a younger age. The discipline demanded by almost year round of hard training, often two evenings a week, is too daunting to be considered. There is more to life than the uncertain prospect of a county medal after all that!

However they battle on. Our men's Junior A an B teams have achieved league semi and finals status in recent weeks to be pipped at the post just by a few points in getting the win over the line. Great victories have been achieved in our underage teams. Recently our under 17 team won their league final and that was a great parish event. Well done lads, the management team and parents. Also other underage teams have achieved greatness on the football field reaching finals and winning some too. So there is a lot of promise and a future ahead.

And yes there is a lot to look forward to in the parish. Soon the club will open a state of the art clubhouse and playing pitch in Shrule Community Sportsfield on the Dalgan Road. Thanks to the previous club committee and chairman David Craddock and his team, there is money in the bank to invest in training, equipment, physio etc. The club looks out and supports its players and members. We have to thank all those who work on a voluntary capacity with the club in coaching, training and organising transport etc. There is a massive network there who work week in and week out for the club. Some of it goes unnoticed and sometimes taken for granted. So we have to applaud them and the time they give to the club voluntary.

As in other areas of life, women have come to the fore. 3 years ago the club had no ladies football team. Now a very active Ladies Gaelic football team are in their league final playing Burrishoole on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August in their Junior league final. And we wish them the best of luck on Sunday next. As of going to print Venue is still TBC.

The high value placed today on individual freedom has loosened communal bonds. But it has given young people far more self confidence than their predecessors. This is a great blessing. There have been losses, sure, and great losses at that. Marriage is no longer as solid as it once was. Drugs have infected even the smallest village. But, generally speaking, the gains are many, and obvious.

I am told that, while there is still a 30 per cent attendance at Sunday Mass in the village, this drops to less than 10 per cent among the under-30 age group. But the Church is in an even greater mess than the GAA. Who ever heard of a non-practicing footballer!