<u>Burrishoole Parish</u> <u>May 1st/2nd 2021</u> <u>Fr Tod Nolan P.P. 098 42665</u> <u>Parish Office 098 41123</u> Office attended Tue - Thu 11am-3pm, To book Masses, Baptisms & Marriages, get certs & Mass cards please contact office by phone or Email: burrishooleparish@gmail.com Facebook: Burrishoole Parish

You are doing great!

A word of encouragement is always welcome! 'Well done, you are doing great'. It lightens the step.. 'Keep going, you are nearly there', it rejuvenates a weary body.. 'Fair play to ya, keep it up'. As I jog around the parish trying my best to deny the ravages of time its lovely to see a smiling face and to hear the word of encouragement. It gives a boost to my tired body, it raises my lagging spirits.

I like to imagine myself light of foot and elegant in stride as I run along the Greenway. The reality however is a little different. Far from the supple athlete I imagine myself to be, I am I'm afraid a slightly heavy, middle-aged red faced man trudging awkwardly along while puffing and panting in an effort to catch my breath. I sometimes wonder whether the words of encouragement are as much out of pity as they are out of admiration, and that they are offered more in hope that I might get some sense and take up bingo rather than in expectation that I will make an Olympic qualifying time anytime soon!

All that being said it is amazing how a little word of encouragement can and does lift the spirits and energises an already tired body. This is all the more true when I am coming towards the end of my run and wondering will I make it to the finish.

As a country we have done particularly well in how we have dealt with the effects of Coronavirus. We as a people have rallied together and by restricting our movements and following health guidelines have supported and protected the most vulnerable in our society. The sacrifices of so many have taken their toll. Businesses have had to close, jobs have been lost, families have been unable to meet. The pandemic has left its mark on the mental health of old and young alike. In terms of parish, we have been unable to gather for Mass for the best part of a year, weddings and baptisms have had to carry the burden of their grief without the support of their community. Without doubt we are growing tired and weary. As fatigue sets in 'what ifs' and 'if onlys' abound. With an end in sight our diligence is beginning to wane - we second guess the experts, we compare ourselves to others, we begin to question our powers of perseverance.

Now more than ever we need each other. As the finish line draws nearer we are very much in need of the reassurance that we will make it to the end. Despite the hardships we have endured there is so much to be thankful for – the vaccine roll out is well underway, the summer is all but upon us, children's sport is returning, and life is slowly but surely coming back to some semblance of normality. We are nearly there but there are a few more twists in the road and maybe even an unexpected hill or two.

'Well done, you are doing great'. As we edge towards the finish line let us seek out and accentuate the positive. 'Keep going, you are nearly there', let us be affirming and supportive of each other, 'Fair play to ya, keep it up' and let us speak words of encouragement and be beacons of hope for each other. We are doing great!

God Bless, Fr Tod

Opening of Churches for Mass

Good News! The Government have announced that from Monday May 10th Churches can once again welcome congregations for the celebration of Mass. From May 10th we will revert to our Covid Mass Schedule; Weekday Masses will be at 10am – Monday in Tiernaur, Tuesday and Thursday in Newport and Friday in Mulranny. Weekend Masses will follow our now familiar pattern: Saturday at 7pm in Tiernaur, Sunday at 10am in Newport and at 11.30am in Mulranny.

Numbers allowed to attend continue to be limited in order to maintain social distancing. This will mean the maximum number of people able to attend in Tiernaur will be 45, in Mulranny will be 32 and in Newport will be 50. (At time of writing it is unclear whether we will be allowed a second pod of 50 in Newport). Shramore is still to small to reopen with social distancing in mind.

All Masses will continue to be made available on Facebook and YouTube.

The Churches will be chemically sanitized after each Mass using foggers.

With the opening of the Churches there will be a need to redo rotas for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers in each church. Over the next number of weeks you are asked to indicate whether you are in a position to continue in whatever ministry you already have

<u>First Friday</u>

This Friday is the First Friday. Visits to the sick and housebound will recommence on Thursday in the Mulranny, Tiernaur and Shramore areas and in Newport on Friday.

First Communion and Confirmation

Although the lifting of Government restrictions has meant that from May 10th we can return to Mass, the Government advice around First Communion and Confirmation is very clear; 'ceremonies such as Communions and Confirmations should not take place at this time'.

Unfortunately, this means that all our Parish First Communion and Confirmation Ceremonies are ow postponed for now. Once there is some level of certainty as to when ceremonies will be allowed, we will choose new dates.

Children's Mass

Our Children's Mass continues each Friday at 10am and is available on Facebook and YouTube.

Trocaire

Thank you for your support of Trocaire again this year. You are asked, if possible, to change coins into notes and return to parish with weekly envelopes. Alternatively, Trocaire boxes can be left in Newport Church in the baskets provided.

Envelope Collection

Thank you for your ongoing support of your parish. In these very difficult times, your generosity is deeply appreciated. Although public Masses are again suspended envelopes can still be dropped in the letterbox of the Parish house in Newport or in the box at the rear of the church in Mulranny.

Pieta Darkness Into Light Newport

Following the success of last year's event, the local organising group for *Darkness Into Light* have been approached to do the same this year. People are asked to gather at the Quayt at 5am this Saturday, May 8. It would be lovely to have the lights shining from the Harbourside apartments, along Melcombe Road, Meddlicott Street, the Bridge, Quay Road as far as the point, and the Viaduct Bridge.

All participants stay within their family groups and maintain social distancing at all times. Volunteers will be there on the morning to answer any questions. The first light will go on at Quay Road with the others to follow in turn. Last year's event in Newport was very special and raised €1,250 for this very worthy cause.

Remembering Our Dead

We pray for the souls of Tommy Chambers, Rosgalive and Dominick Quinn who were buried during the week. We remember too Pauline Mullin, nee Chambers, Upper Skirdagh and England, Elizabeth Mc Nulty, England daughter of Aneas Mc Nulty Newport, and Anne Moran, New York, sister of Maureen Wood and Pat Moran, Mulranny. May they rest in peace.

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration is currently suspended. Our churches remain open and you are invited to drop in at any time.

Mass Schedule

<u>Mass available only on Facebook/YouTube and/or</u> <u>Parish Radio during current restrictions</u>

Weekday 10am Mass Intentions:

Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri: Pat and Teresa Mc Manamon, Lecarrow. John and Kathleen Keane, Lecarrow, Marsie Reid (nee Kilroy) and her husband George, Quay Rd. Aggie and Fred Mc Donnell, their son Francis and son in law Francis Endicott. Jack Nolan, Westport

Weekend Mass Intentions

Saturday May 1st at 7pm:

Sonny Moran, Roskeen. Delia Reilly, Rosturk Sunday May 2nd at 10am:

Tony and Rose Nixon, Inishower, Sean and Ann Nixon. John Joe O Malley and deceased members of the O Malley and Grady families, Lettermaghera and Belclare. Patrick and Breege Kelly, Trienbeg and Meddlicott St, their son Jim and daughter Ann. Deceased members of the O Malley Family, Rossclave. Thomas Loftus, Bunnahowna. Marsie Reid, Quay Rd.

Saturday May 8th at 7pm:

Pat and Nora Mc Loughlin, Sandhill. John Loftus and his wife Wyn, Bunahowna. Frank Mc Hale Roskeen. Francie Masterson, Mulranny and Harrow.

Sunday May 9th at 10am:

Maureen and Patrick Geraghty, Cuilmore. Tom and Dora Heraty, Ayle and the deceased members of the Heraty and Corcoran families. Gerard and Baby Bracken, Sandymount. Jane Horan, Mulranny and deceased members of the Horan family.