Castletown Geoghegan, Tyrrellspass and Raheenmore — Parish Newsletter - 12th of April 2020

Easter Sunday

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Apologies if any intention or item has been omitted in error. Please bring it to my attention so that I can do my best to rectify it. Fr. Barry.

Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil at 6.30pm. Ann Collins. Noel Cuffe Special Intention for someone who is very ill.

Easter Sunday - Easter Sunday Mass at 10am

Paddy O Brien and Dec. members of the O Brien Family Eileen Linnane and her brother Tom O Connor.

Willie Gavigan and Jean Newman.

Sr. Martha Bolger.

Eugene Gill, His Father Jim and brothers Adrian and Pat Sheila Fallon, her Grandparents Mai and Paddy and all deceased member of the Fallon and Carroll Family.

Saturday April 18th

- Kathleen Byrne.

Tom O Connor and his Sister Eileen Linnane.

Anniversary Mass for Tony Maloney.

Sunday April 19th

 Paddy and Josephine Daly Stephen, Michael and Theresa Maloney and deceased Family Members

IN MEMORY. Please pray for all who have died in recent weeks. Kathleen Clavin, Please pray for the repose of the Soul of Mrs Marie Sommer ne Kelly Station Rd Castletown Geoghegan, who died recently in the UK in her 92nd year. Also, Mrs. Bridget Walsh, Ballynacargy (Father of Fr. Michael Walsh). Noel Cuffe, Ballymore. Willie Gavigan and Jean Newman. Michael Whittaker, Derrygolan (Father of Fr. Michael Whittaker) Fr. Tom Scully and Fr. Seamus O Connor. May they rest in peace.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, And I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment 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.

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All praise and thanksgiving be every moment thine.

Easter Confession Catholic doctrine teaches that if a person cannot get to Confession, it is s ufficient to confess one's sins to God, seeking forgiveness and with the intention of going when next possible to Confession. Pope Francis' spoke about this doctrine in words that can also help resolve any issue about fulfilling our Easter duty: "I know that many of you go to confession before Easter... Many will say to me: 'But Father...I can't leave the house and I want to make my peace with the Lord. I want Him to embrace me... How can I do that unless I find a priest?'. If you don't find a priest to go to confession, speak to God. He's your Father. Tell Him the truth: 'Lord. I did this and this and this. Pardon me.' Ask His forgiveness with all your heart with an act of contrition, and promise Him, 'afterward I will go to confession.' You will return to God's grace immediately. You yourself can draw near, as the catechism teaches us, to God's forgiveness, without having a priest at hand.

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I wish you all a peaceful and blessed Easter. For the last month many of you have spent more time at home with family and friends than perhaps you have spent in a long time. Our homes are now our main hub, our schools and playground, our lecture halls workplace and church. They are our restaurant and our cinema. For some the cloud of staying at home had a silver lining by cutting out the work commute. For most it continues to be a massive challenge but a very worthwhile one. Lives have definitely been saved. People have a deeper appreciation of time spent with family and there is increased communication with neighbours. Acts of goodwill and solidarity are all around and it's wonderful to see. Each prayer is deeply appreciated. Sadly for some it has been a time of great worry, illness and loss. Our deepest sympathies to all families who are in mourning. We are also conscious of all who are cocooning and isolating. We are very grateful for all the volunteers and neighbours Gardai, Church members, GAA, Golf society, community aware groups and individuals who are doing so much to help. We pray at this time for all who are sick at home, in nursing homes or in hospital and we also pray for their family members who are unable to visit. We ask all our parishioners to continue to pray for those who are fighting the covid 19 virus at home or in hospital. For our wonderful doctors, nurses and support staff Gardai and emergency services. May they keep strong in the unbelievable work they are doing. I would like to express my thanks to all who have given their time and energy to ensure that our parish continues to offer a service to parishioners. We are indebted to Jarlath Oxley for his tireless work in setting up the webcam so that people can join in our ceremonies from their homes and much further afield. It has proved to be an invaluable lifeline and a welcome link with the outside world. Thanks also to Fintan Oxley for his assistance. We are fortunate that broadband was already available at one of our churches. I greatly appreciate the time and effort taken by so many parishioners to text or write or make a phone call offering their support to me during these times. Thank you for your gifts. On more than one occasion I also felt like a judge on the great parish bake off. (All were winners...no runners up) I look forward to reuniting in person when these restrictions are lifted in a few weeks. That day is getting closer. We just need to hold fast for now and be patient. My deepest gratitude to those who financially support myself and our parish and continue to do so during these difficult times. Thank you for all your generosity and kindness. We continue to pray for all frontline workers in the healthcare profession and emergency services. Also those who provide our food and services, those who help and deliver goods to the elderly and isolated and thanks also to our postal workers who deserve huge recognition for the great community help they give. We thank all who continue to reach out to and give support in our communities. There is still huge pressure on individuals and families during these weeks. Please be assured of my prayers and support. As we celebrate Easter, I thank all who helped prepare and those who donated and arranged flowers. Thanks also to our musicians Kathleen Lennon and Sean Daly and for all who have helped with Sacristy work and all the other little and not so little jobs around our churches. All help is deeply appreciated. Thank you. I hope you all have a peaceful and blessed Easter. The Easter message is all about the Resurrection. May you and your loved ones be blessed as you celebrate the true meaning of Easter, moving from the reflection of Good Friday to the joy of Easter Sunday and the promise of eternal life. Christ overcame even death itself. There is no place, no heart and no mind that the light and peace of Christ cannot reach. Happy Easter. Fr. Barry.