

SHRULE & GLENCORRIB PARISH NEWSLETTER – SUNDAY 12th MARCH 2023

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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 on <https://www.churchtv.ie/shrule/> and Glencorrib Church is on <https://www.churchtv.ie/glencorrib/>

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

“All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.”
St. Francis of Assisi

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - (YEAR A) MASS DATES, TIMES & INTENTIONS

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, SHRULE - Dedicated 1832

Sat	11th Mar	8.00 pm	Mike Sweeney
Sun	12th Mar	11.00 am	Jim Murphy & DM O'Connor Family , Rostaff
Tue	14th Mar	9.30 am	
Wed	15th Mar	9.30 am	
Thu	16th Mar	9.30 am	Ann Murphy , Shrule Grove
Fri	17th Mar	11:00 am	Paddy & Eugene Hoade Sean McGuinness & Ronan Gibbons (Shrule Parade Committee) Paddy and Mary Kate Sheridan , Dalgan Lawn
Sat	18th Mar	8.00 pm	Joe Reilly
Sun	19th Mar	11.00 am	John & Mary Daly <i>Celebration of Anointing of the Sick takes place during Mass</i>
		3.00 pm	Lenten Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – 3pm to 4pm

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, GLENCORRIB - Dedicated 1876

Sat	11th Mar	6.30 pm	Oliver McGovern , Birmingham
Sun	12th Mar	9.30 am	Parish Community
		3.00 pm	Sunday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 3pm to 4pm
Wed	15th Mar	10:10 am	Special Intention
Fri	17th Mar	9.30 am	Michael & Immanuel McEvaddy , Inishmicatreer
Sat	18th Mar	6.30 pm	Mary & Maureen Concannon, son Joe & DM Concanon Family Bride Egan , Inismacateer <i>Celebration of Anointing of the Sick takes place during Mass</i>
Sun	19th Mar	9.30 am	Paddy & Owen Garvey & DM Garvey Family , Gortatober Eileen & Seamus Flood & deceased , Ballynalty, 3rd Anniv' James Murphy , Ballynalty. 38th Anniversary
		3.00 pm	Sunday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – 3pm to 4pm

-- NO EVENING ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FRIDAY 17TH MARCH --

CHURCH ROTAS FOR MARCH	SHRULE	GLENCORRIB
LAY READERS – Vigil Mass	<i>Maura Mullin</i>	<i>Volunteer Required</i>
LAY READERS – Morning Mass	<i>John Heneghan</i>	<i>Monica O'Connor</i>
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - Vigil Mass	Bernie Lydon	Patricia O'Sullivan
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - Morning	Carmel Forde	Volunteer Required
ALTAR SOCIETY	St Mary's Road & Churchfields	Moyne/Toorard

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN THE PARISH? Readers of the Word; Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers and Altar Society volunteers are needed. If you are interested, please call into the sacristy after Mass or during parish office opening hours or email parishofshrule3@gmail.com, Thank You.

Glencorrib Kilroe Community Centre.

For meetings and parties, book the centre for €20. No charge for voluntary community groups, but donations are always welcome for lighting and heating subsidy.
Contact Dell Maye on 087-7542740
Thank you.



Lenten Reflection - Practicing Penance

When I sprain my ankle, part of the healing process will involve physical therapy. It's tender, and perhaps it is swollen. It may be important to put ice on it first, to reduce the inflammation. I may want to wrap it and elevate it and stay off of it. Then I will need to start moving it and then walking on it, and eventually, as the injury is healed, I'll want to start exercising it, so that it will be stronger than it was before, so that I won't as easily injure it again.

Penance is a remedy, a medicine, a spiritual therapy for the healing similar to what needs to be done when we sprain our ankle. The Lord always forgives us. We are forgiven without condition. But complete healing takes time. With serious sin or with bad habits we've invested years in forming, we need to develop a therapeutic care plan to let the healing happen. To say "I'm sorry" or to simply make a "resolution" to change a long-established pattern, will have the same bad result as wishing a sprained ankle would heal, while still walking on it.

Lent is a wonderful time to name what sinful, unhealthy, self-centered patterns need changing and to act against them by coming up with a strategy. For example, if the Lord is shining a light into the darkness of a bad pattern in my life, I can choose to "stop doing it." But real desire to change calls us to work on a "change of heart" and to look concretely at what circumstances, attitudes, and other behaviours contribute to the pattern. If I'm self-indulgent with food or attention-seeking behaviours or lie, but don't ask "what's missing for me, that I need to fill it with this?" then simply choosing to stop the pattern won't last long.

Lasting healing needs the practice of penance – healthy strategies and behaviours that the negative. Penance, even the simplest form of penance reminds us it is possible to change, have self-discipline, and do things differently – 'a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step' (*Chinese proverb*)

The Galway Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place on **June 27th to July 3rd**. The fare is €850 for 6 nights which includes transportation to and from Galway/Shannon. Insurance is optional at €39 or pilgrims may have their own travel insurance. Further information can be got from Fr. Martin Moran, Killannin, Rosscahill, - 087/2508959. Bookings – Reservations – Enquiries to: Joe Walsh Tours, 89 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2; email: info@joewalstours.ie

BINGO: Annaghdown GAA:
Corrandulla Sports Hall
March 19th 3.30pm
Full House Jackpot €1000
Raffle with Prizes
All Welcome



Confirmation Preparation: You Shall Be My Witness

Dear parishioners, this week the students of 6th & 5th class began a program called 'You Shall Be My Witness' as they and their families prepared for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The program runs for 4 weeks during Lent and is facilitated by parents and volunteers of the students. Please remember the students and their families in your prayers at this time. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on **Wednesday, May 3rd, 2023** at St. Joseph's Shrule and will be presided over by Bishop Michael Duignan, Bishop of Clonfert & Galway.



Community Games AGM - Exciting news for the Shrule-Glencorrib-Kilroe community! Our annual general meeting for the community games is right around the corner! Join us on Monday **13th March at 9pm** in the Shrule hall to learn more about this year's events and how you can get involved. We welcome all members of the community to attend - this is the perfect opportunity for parents to get involved and make a difference. With your help, we can enter more events and give our children the chance to showcase their skills and talents. We need your support to make this happen! If you have a specific event in mind that you'd like your child to enter, or if you'd like to volunteer and take charge of a team, don't hesitate to make yourself known at the AGM. Let's come together and make this year's community games the best yet. See you all there!



Riddle me this:
Two fathers and two sons are in a car, yet there are only three people in the car. How?

(Last week's answer:
An Anchor)

Anointing of the Sick - There will be a community celebration of the Anointing of the Sick at Masses next weekend.
Glencorrib: Saturday March 18th 6:30pm
Shrulle: Sunday March 19th 11am

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR

"It's important to establish a good vocabulary. If I had known the difference between the words "antidote" and "anecdote," one of my best friends would still be here."

Introducing "Cic Beag" - the preschoolers sports class that's making waves in Headford! Join us on



Thursdays at 10:15am at St Fursa's Hall and watch your little ones develop their skills and confidence in a fun and safe environment. Our class is run by experienced coaches. If you're looking for a fun and active way to engage your child, Cic Beag is the perfect choice. Check out our website at www.cicbeag.ie for more information, and join us today!

Mark your calendar for the Glencorrib National School's annual fundraiser on Saturday, April 22nd, at Craddock's Bar in Shrulle. The event, organized by our newly established Parents Association, will raise funds to create a new playground and outdoor area alongside the new modular classroom. Put your knowledge to the test and have a great time at our lively table quiz filled with laughter, excitement, and fun craic, all while supporting a great cause. Contact glencorribnsa@gmail.com for more info and join us for a memorable evening of community spirit and generosity. Thank you for your support, and we can't wait to see you there!



SHRULLE ST. PATRICKS DAY PARADE 11:45 FRIDAY 17th MARCH



Saint Patrick is one of the most famous saints in the Catholic Church, known for his mission to convert the people of Ireland to Christianity. He was born in Britain in the 4th century, and was kidnapped and taken to Ireland as a slave when he was a teenager. After escaping and returning to Britain, he became a Christian and returned to Ireland to spread the gospel. Saint Patrick is said to have converted thousands of people to Christianity, including many members of the ruling classes.



He used the three-leafed shamrock to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity and corresponded with Pope Celestine I, who is said to have appointed him as bishop of Ireland. Saint Patrick also established many churches and monasteries throughout the country, and is known for his writings, including his Confessio. He died on March 17, 461 AD, and was buried at Downpatrick, County Down. His legacy lived on however, and he became one of the most revered saints in the Catholic Church. Saint Patrick's Day, is now a global celebration of Irish culture and heritage.

CENTENARY PHOTOGRAPH

During the week, we acknowledged the centenary of that famous date way back on 7th March 1923 @ 1.55pm to be exact, when 17 local farmers became the registered owners of the lands in Bunnafolistran estate totalling 591 acres, 2 roods and 31 perches in Glencorrib and Ballynalty. On the death of George Gore Ouseley Higgins MP, Glencorrib in 1874, his cousin Captain John Palmer Brabazon (Swinford) inherited the rents and profits from the Glencorrib Estate. In 1922 now a General John Palmer Brabazon passed away and his estate was in financial trouble and was sold to the 17 local farmers for the sum of €4,000. A lot of money back in 1923. On **Sunday 12th March 2023**, we have invited the descendents of these 17 farmers of 1923 to meet up after the 9.30am Mass in Glencorrib Community Centre. We will commemorate the centenary with Liam Donohue taking a photo of the 2023 farmers who are currently farming the land that was once owned by the 1923 farmers. The 1923 document contains the names Floods, Mohans, Murphys, Donohue, Morrin, Madden, Martyn, Biggins, Moran, Hennelly, Maye and O'Dea. And our course there will be light refreshments, tea/coffee and cake. All are welcome.



TROCAIRE BOX: The Irish Bishops have encouraged people to support Trócaire's 2023 Lenten campaign, which is focused on helping more than eight million people in Somalia facing starvation due to three years of drought. Three years of drought have seen crops and animals die and millions of families have had to leave their homes in search of food to survive. This Lenten season please consider a donation to this Appeal on www.trocaire.org or in your family's Trócaire Box. This year's Trocaire Box is still available at the back of the Church. Please take one home.

PLEASE REMEMBER WITH A PRAYER THOSE WHO DIED ON THIS WEEK IN FORMER YEARS

Surname	Christian	Village	Date Died	Age	Cemetery
Mangan	Thomas	Boherbee	11/03/1959	27	Shrule
Joyce	Margaret	Ballisnahina	11/03/2002	79	Shrule
Sweeney	Michael	Brodella	11/03/2020	68	Shrule
Howley	Anna	Shrule	12/03/1922	90	Shrule
Walsh	Anna	Ballycurrin	12/03/1923	46	Killursa
Mellette	Patrick	Cloonbanane	12/03/1946	76	Shrule
O'Connor	Margaret	Rosdaff	12/03/1962	48	Moyne
Sweeney	Norah	Glassvalley	12/03/1973	83	Killursa
Dooley	Mary	Cullagh	12/03/1983	86	Donaghpatrick
Gallagher	Anne	Dalغان Park	12/03/1984	79	Shrule
McDonagh	Paddy	Carramore	12/03/1998	67	Shrule
Burke	Patrick	Gorthbrack	13/03/1926	70	Killursa
Duddy	Martin	Ramolin	13/03/1946	35	Shrule
Greaney	Thomas	Cloonamealtogue	13/04/1963	82	Shrule
Martyn	Paddy	Cloonamealtogue	13/04/1973	49	Shrule
Moran	Martin	Brackloon	14/03/1922	3	Shrule
Higgins	Michael	Brodella	14/03/1924	81	Shrule
Murphy	Walter	Mohorra	14/03/1932	84	Shrule
Cawley	John	Shrule	14/03/1933	28	Shrule
Murphy	Martin Joseph	Ballybockaugh	14/03/1947	3mts.	Shrule
Fitzgerald	Michael	Mochorra	14/03/1956		Shrule
Heneghan	Sara Mary	Mochorra	14/03/1967	59	Shrule
Keady	Patrick	Dalغان	14/03/1972	75	Shrule
Mohan	Thomas	Glencorrib	14/03/1976	79	Moyne
Murphy	Joseph	Dalغان	14/03/2016	86	Shrule
Flood	Mary	Mohorra	15/03/1920	75	Cross
Walsh	Thomas	Glasbally	15/03/1922	48	Killursa
Mc Hugh	Mary	Gorthbrack	15/03/1926	73	Killursa
McGath	Michael	Glassvalley	15/03/1946	43	Killursa
Mohan	Thomas	New Ballynalty	15/03/1946	60	Moyne
Duddy	James	Ramolin	15/03/1968	50	Shrule
Devanney	Kate	Badgerfort	15/03/1972	82	Shrule
Casey	Michael	Brodella	16/03/1931	70	Tourmakeady
Geraghty	Catherine	Rosdaff	16/03/1955	40	Donaghpatrick
Duddy	Mary Delia	Brodella	16/03/1979	59	Shrule
Murphy	Ann	Shrulegrove	16/03/2003	55	Shrule
Connor	John	Rosdaff	17/03/1919	90	Moyne
Hoade	Paddy	Cullagh	17/03/2002	63	Donaghpatrick
Moughan	John	Pulbee	18/03/1927	65	Moyne
Meenaghan	Mary	Cahernabruck	18/03/1928	73	Shrule
Moughan	Luke	New Ballynalty	18/03/1928	84	Moyne
Casey	Mary	Shrule	18/03/1940	73	Shrule
Greahan	Michael	Shrule	18/03/1958	83	Shrule
Cannon	Mary	St. Mary's Road	18/03/1974	83	Shrule
Meenaghan	Mary	Churchpark	18/03/1989	86	Shrule
Reilly	Joseph	Dalغان	18/03/2007	53	Shrule
Murphy	Margaret	Glencorrib	19/03/1938	27	Shrule
Murphy	Margaret	Ballynalty	19/03/1947	67	Shrule
Muldoon	Martin	Shrule	19/03/1958	78	Shrule
Hughes	Mary	Mochorra	19/03/1981	74	Shrule
Kavanagh	Kathleen	Cahernabruck	19/03/1989	64	Shrule
Concannon	Maureen	Gortbrack	19/03/2016	80	Killursa

PLEASE REMEMBER WITH A PRAYER THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Dr. Vivian Timon,
Caherlistrane, Co. Galway and Fairymount, Co. Roscommon, and formerly Rome who passed away on 7th March. Memorial Mass for Vivian to take place at Corner Chapel, Caherlistrane on 15th April 2023, RIP.



John Mangan,
Essex (Nephew of Dell Maye, Glencorrib) who sadly passed away on Monday 27th February 2023. Funeral arrangements in the UK.

Celebrating Anointing of the Sick During Mass



Anyone, regardless of age, can receive the sacrament if they suffer ill health, experienced an accident, are currently sick, undergoing medical treatment or going for surgery. 'The Sacrament of the Sick is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death' CCC1514

You or a family member or friend or neighbor are welcome to receive the Sacrament at these community celebrations.

Purpose of the Sacrament

The Anointing of the Sick is a Sacrament, meaning that through the rite and ritual (the prayers and actions) of the sacrament, the Real Presence of God is present. The experience of the Sacrament varies from person to person. For some, it is reassuring and comforting to know that in their illness, the Church remembers them and prays with them for return to good health. The anointing for others reaffirms their faith and belief in God at a time of fear and uncertainty. The sacrament can bring healing from the physical to mental to the spiritual. **While often the sacrament is administered privately, the ideal moment to celebrate the Sacrament is in a community gathering, often during the celebration of the Eucharist. This gives emphasis and focus that those who are ill are not alone but part of the Church community and are in the community's prayers in a very visible manner.** Through the anointing, the faith community express their support to the sick in their illness & continues to express Jesus work of healing. The purpose of the Sacrament is to convey a message of hope and comfort, including to those who are caregivers.

Who is it for?

Many people believe the Anointing of the Sick is just for the extremely old, the critically ill and the only time to be received is close to death. It is often referred to as the 'Last Rites'. This misunderstanding has created an under appreciation of this sacrament. **This sacrament is not about dying and death but is about life and living!** Put another way, God does not want us to suffer as such a premise makes nonsense of our redemption. Rather, God wants us to have life and have it to the full. **The purpose of the Sacrament, of the Anointing of the Sick is for those who are sick, in pain or suffering to assure them that God is present and with them at this worrying time of their lives.**

Who Can Receive?

In the Letter of James 5:13, James writes, "*Is anyone among you sick: He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord, the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise them up*".



Faith & Medicine

It is important to remember that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick complements medical treatment. It does not replace it. God uses the skill of the medical staff as well as medical techniques to restore health. Suffering and illness have always been among the greatest problems that trouble the human spirit. Catholics feel and experience pain as do all other people. Our faith provides us with an avenue to grasp more deeply the mystery of suffering. Research shows that where people acknowledge and attend to their spiritual, they not only face illness with more confidence and resolve but in fact, show greater recovery. There are numerous times in Scripture where Christ visited and healed the sick and the sacrament gives' expression to God's presence in our lives. These two branches of human life complement each other.

The Sacrament of the Sick does not remove the mystery of suffering; rather it gives expression to the healing presence of God in the midst of suffering.

Breathe by Becky Hemsley

She sat at the back and they said she was shy
She led from the front and they hated her pride
They asked her advice and then questioned her guidance
They branded her loud then were shocked by her silence

When she shared no ambition, they said it was sad
So she told them her dreams and they said she was mad
They told her they'd listen then covered their ears
And gave her a hug whilst they laughed at her fears

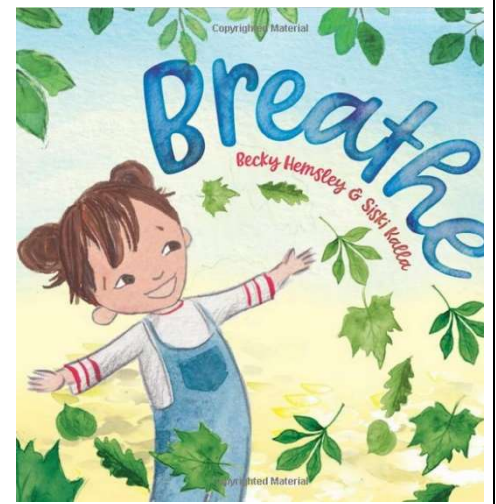
And she listened to all of it thinking she should
Be the girl they told her to be best as she could
But one day she asked what was best for herself
Instead of trying to please everyone else

So she walked to the forest and stood with the trees
She heard the wind whisper and dance with the leaves
And she spoke to the willow, the elm and the pine
And she told them what she'd been told time after time

She told them she felt she was never enough
She was either too little or far, far too much
Too loud or too quiet, too fierce or too weak
Too wise or too foolish, too bold or too meek

Then she found a small clearing surrounded by firs
And she stopped and she heard what the trees said to her
And she sat there for hours not wanting to leave
For the forest said nothing, it just let her breathe

**To commemorate International Women's Day 2023 also falls on World Forest Day,
8th March 2023**



Lent – A Graced-Filled Time of Untangling

Perhaps today and not tomorrow is the time for untangling our lives

For me, one of the least pleasant tasks in those days after Christmas is the taking down of the tree. The lights, in particular, cause me the most heartbreak. Each year they seem to end up more twisted and tangled than the year before. Each year, I struggle to resist the temptation to simply bundle them into their box and postpone until next year the time-consuming and painstaking task of unlooping and untangling the knotted mess.

We can find ourselves in a similar situation when it comes to our own lives. Things start out rather simple and straightforward. Over time, we seem to tie ourselves up in knots. Sometimes, we might even end up in a ball of confusion not knowing how we got here, or what to do or where to go. We may have said or done things that we now wish we had not. Relationships, that were once the joy of our lives, have become burdensome or have broken down altogether. We find ourselves tangled in negative habits, twisted ways and damaging personal situations from which we are unable to escape. For the believer, we may find that, almost unknown to ourselves, we have drifted from God or from our faith community or from a trustworthy faith-inspired moral compass that gave direction to our lives.

The knowledge that the task of dealing with those tangled Christmas tree lights will take not only time but also a conscious effort to retrace, unloop and reorder, tempts us to postpone the work for another year. Likewise, it is understandable that the possible complexity of the undertaking; the time and emotion involved in the work of untangling our own lives; more often results in us putting it all on the long finger. Many of the world's great religious traditions dedicate certain times of the

year to the very task of untangling and reordering their lives. For many Christians, each year, the season of Lent holds out to us a special spiritual space to quit the procrastination, stop the dilly-dallying, and to seriously tend to the work of sorting out and renewing our own lives.

As a person of faith, I take heart from the deeply Judeo-Christian belief that God is a God of new opportunities, a God of second chances and new beginnings. No matter what a tangled mess we have made of our lives, there is always the real possibility of starting again and again and again. I am also consoled by the belief that I am not alone in this work. God walks with me and together we will figure it out. Many of the world's great religious traditions have turned to Prayer, Fasting and

Almsgiving to assist us in the task of personal renewal. To some such ideas might sound a little antiquated or old-fashioned to others they are but common sense.

Some tried and tested programmes for addiction recovery contend that it is often only when we open ourselves up to a greater power that we can get a grasp on our own lives. For the believer, rekindling our relationship with God through spending a small time each day in prayerful conversation with the Divine holds out great potential for the work of self-renewal. Perhaps we start by saying "Good morning, God" – or sharing how we feel today – or "Good night, God" or simply reviewing our day in the divine presence.

Many modern health regimes hold some sort of fasting as integral to their success. Historically, religions have often turned to the idea when it comes to the effort of self-renewal. Fasting can rid us of things that are bad for us; but more importantly, it can open up for us a space that we can fill with something better. What about fasting from phones or tablets at table this Lent – and filling that space with the good that comes from conversation and sharing with those sitting with us.

One of the greatest causes of our life's knots is selfishness: thinking and acting for ourselves rather than thinking and acting for others. Almsgiving – giving to those less well off than ourselves – creates in us an open spirit and a generous heart that simply makes us better people. Many associate almsgiving with donating to the poor, but it also encompasses the giving of our time or of our talents to those who may need them.

How easy it would be for us to let the grace-filled opportunity this particular Lent offers us for untangling the tangled areas of our lives pass us by. Knowing that it will take time and effort, we could be tempted put it off until next year. Perhaps today and not tomorrow is the time. Perhaps this Lent, Lent 2023, is our time – our time of God-given new beginnings.

Michel Duignan is Bishop of Galway and Kilmacduagh, Apostolic Administrator of Kilfenora and Bishop of Clonfert

The Trouble with Snowmen...

'The trouble with snowmen,'
Said my father one year
'They are no sooner made than
they just disappear.

I'll build you a snowman
And I'll build it to last
Add sand and cement
And then have it cast.

And so every winter,'
He went on to explain
'You shall have a snowman
Be it sunshine or rain.'

And that snowman still stands
Though my father is gone
Out there in the garden
Like an unmarked gravestone.

Staring up at the house
Gross and misshapen
As if waiting for something
Bad to happen.

For as the years pass
And I grow older
When summers seem short
And winters colder.



A Word in your ear...

New Social Democrats leader Holly Cairns presented a fresh young female face to her colleagues this week. A self-professed member "of the first ever generation that will be worse off than their parents", Cairns (33) is the youngest party leader in the Dáil.

Housing, or lack of same, is the foremost problem all our politicians are now facing. There are couples with very good salaries who haven't a hope of ever buying their own house. This factor alone enables Ms. Cairns to make the dubious claim that hers is "the first ever generation that will be worse off than their parents." Does education, foreign travel, or access to social assistance count for anything? However, this is not to mitigate the gravity of the housing crisis. Today's young couples will be forced to rent for the rest of their lives. They will never own their own home. That is depressing.

The same problem exists in England. A survey conducted by the Rowntree Foundation warned that an extra million will be forced to rent in the next two years. The press dubbed them 'Generation Rent'. Even renting is difficult. One young woman spoke of interviewing candidates for a place in her shared house. Over 100 applied for this one urban room. Renting used to be about sharing with mates. Now it's more like a business transaction!

The problem with words like 'flatmate' or 'friend' is that they are terms we use very loosely. The writer C S Lewis said we often use 'friend' when we actually mean acquaintances, or people who are useful to us. That's invaluable, Lewis said, because it does bind society together. But is a mutually useful situation, like sharing a flat, or even knowing someone superficially through the social media, is that really friendship?

Most of us, when asked to define friendship, would describe what draws us to other people: shared interests, similar views of the world, the same sense of humour, attractive personality traits. It's something that can't be explained by biological determinism. The ancient Greeks saw friendship as the most fully human and virtuous of the many different kinds of love. But there's not much nobility to it if it's just a question of "You scratch my back and I'll scratch yours".

A true friendship cannot be measured by that kind of profit but by how much we'd be prepared to help a friend without counting the cost. In that sense, it's a symbol of the relationship between God and humanity - a connection based on trust and selflessness. Christ told his followers that he would not call them servants, with all its connotations of inequality, but friends - a relationship focused on mutual respect and common purpose.

Friendship isn't an exclusive or jealous relationship. If three people are friends, and one dies, the other two don't think, good, now we've got more of each other. The joke shared is no longer so funny now that the other friend is not around to share it. The shared memory is diluted because your other friend can no longer remind you of a detail you've forgotten.

C S Lewis believed that heaven would rather be like friendship: each soul would benefit the others by communicating its unique experience of God to the rest. So at the heart of true friendship is a paradox: the more you share, the more you have!

-Dick Lyng, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Ballyboden

National Pioneer Ball

Saturday 22nd April 2023 at the Menlo Park Hotel, Galway. Mass at 6:30 - in the Church of the Resurrection, Ballinfolly, Headford Road. Dinner served at 8pm with music by Tommy Flaherty & Francis Fahy. **Pioneers and non pioneers welcome.** For more information contact: Una Greally - Shrule; Kathleen Shaughnessy - Glencorrib

Connaught P.T.A.A.

Annual Afternoon of Prayer in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Knock on **Sunday March 26th 2023 3pm - 6pm**



Glencorrib National School

TABLE QUIZ NIGHT

April 22nd 2023

Doors @ 8pm

Quiz Starts @ 8.30pm

Craddocks Bar, Shrule

€20 per Table of 4

PRIZES, RAFFLE, FUN

Support New Classroom
and Outdoor Area

Hosted by Glencorrib National
School Parents Association