

GLENCORRIB & SHRULE PARISH NEWSLETTER – 4th JULY 2021

Fr. Vivian Loughrey PP,
 Parochial House, Ramolin, Shrule, Co. Mayo. H91, V2FK
 ☎ 093 31262 or email parishofshrule3@gmail.com
 Parish Website: www.shruleglencorrib.com
 Newsletter email: newsletter@shruleglencorrib.com
 Newsletter only 086 3782156 Newsletter (Vol. 25 – 50)
 Newsletter on Web: www.shruleglencorrib.com &
www.mayo.ie



All Masses are on the parish radio 101.4 FM
 Weekend Masses are available on Facebook/Shrule Parish and on www.churchtv.ie Shrule Church is <https://www.churchtv.ie/shrule/> and Glencorrib Church is <https://www.churchtv.ie/glencorrib/>

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - MASS DATES, TIMES & INTENTIONS

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, SHRULE - Dedicated 1832

Sat	3 rd Jul	8.00 pm	Margaret Palasek / Née McDonagh (Boston & Galway – Sister of Noreen Walsh, Laragan)	RIP 15/05/2021
Sun	4 th Jul	11.00 am	Margaret Palasek / Née McDonagh Michael, Mary & John Swift & DM Swift family (Cahermaculick & UK)	RIP 15/05/2021 57 th , 39 th & 69 th Anniv & Deceased
Mon	5 th Jul	9.30 am	Paddy Boner (Athenry & Dublin), Brother of John Boner, PCH)	RIP 06/06/2021
Tue	6 th Jul	9.30 am	Fionnuala Meenaghan (Churchpark & Dublin)	RIP 30/03/2021
Wed	7 th Jul	9.30 am	Jackie Heneghan (Joyce Park)	RIP 13/11/2019
Thu	8 th Jul		No Mass	
Fri	9 th Jul	7.00 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 7pm - 7.55pm	
Fri	9 th Jul	8.00 pm	Tony Heneghan (Dalgan Road) Kathleen & Conor Bohan (Carramore) and their daughter Josephine Sheridan (Mocollogan)	RIP 09/05/2021 1 st , 18 th & 3 rd Anniv
Sat	10 th Jul	8.00 pm	Carmel McDonnell & DM Duddy family Ramolin John Kavanagh & DM Kavanagh family , Cahernabruck	4 th Anniv & Decd 7 th Anniv & Deceased
Sun	11 th Jul	11.00 am	Martina Maloney (Ardnacrusha, Co. Clare)	RIP 20/05/2021

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, GLENCORRIB - Dedicated 1876

Sat	3 rd Jul	6.30 pm	Michael & Mary Keady and the DM of Keady, Keane & Canavan families (Dalgan/Brackloon/Mounthenry)	45 th & 23 rd & deceased
Sun	4 th Jul	9.30 am	Mary Thornton Née Joyce (Dringeen, Cong)	RIP 03/06/2021
Wed	7 th Jul	10.00 am	Mass for the sick, housebound and those in hospital / nursing homes	
Fri	9 th Jul	6.30 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 6.30pm- 6.55pm	
Fri	9 th Jul	7.00 pm	Mass for all those who work in the Covid & Vaccine environments	
Sat	10 th Jul	6.30 pm	Mass for all our workers, essential and dealing with general public	
Sun	11 th Jul	9.30 am	Missa Pro Populo – Mass for the people of the Parish	

CEMETERY MASSES THIS MONTH – JULY 2021

It's been over 2 years since it has been possible to hold our annual cemetery Masses in the Parish. This month it has been decided with the help of the Parish Council and others that we will celebrate Masses in our parish cemeteries as follows:



SHRULE: Monday 19th July @ 7.30 pm / MOYNE: Tuesday 20th July @ 7.30 pm

With the usual condition of weather permitting otherwise Masses will take place in their respective churches St. Joseph's Church, Shrule & The Church of the Immaculate Conception, Glencorrib.

"It's important to remember our dead" With just two weeks to go, we encourage you to visit your cemetery to clean the family grave, weed the plot, tidy up or plant flowers. I also think it's a good idea to bring the children along to help. You can explain to them where granddads and grandmas parents now rest and what they were like as it's very important to recognise our heritage and people who came before us. Cemetery Masses can unite us as one larger family. It is a very special moment to remember all our deceased relatives, mourn them, and weep for their loss, but also thank God for their being and for their joy.

NOTE FROM PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC MASSES

There was a review of how public liturgies were going at the last meeting of the parish pastoral council. The council would like to express a word of thanks to all volunteers – readers, EM's, musicians, cleaner and especially ushers for their continuing help and support. The pastoral council acknowledged the ongoing cooperation, understanding and help in Shrule and Glencorrib. The pastoral council would like to take this opportunity to draw attention to current practices in Shrule and Glencorrib.



- 2 pods are in operation in Shrule to accommodate attendance at Sunday 11am Mass. People are asked to be seated at the end of the liturgy, and to please follow the directions of the ushers. Please note 2 exits are in operation.
- At weekend Masses, 2 pews (seats) are reserved for families of Mass intention. Please observe the signs placed on pews to avoid distress and confusion for family concerned.
- In Shrule, to allow more seating especially for elderly, a policy of 1-2 persons (one household/bubble) instead of 1-1 person is being introduced. This is where instead of one person seated at each end of the pew (1-1); 1 person is seated at one end & 2 at the other end (1-2). An usher may ask a person seated in a 1-1 arrangement to move so a 1-2 arrangement can be facilitated. Please remember ushers are volunteers and the public are asked to be polite and courteous in their response with such requests.
- In order to avoid confusion, please note that at the distribution of Holy Communion – clergy/EM will first go to their station & distribute Holy Communion to those who come forward & THEN go to those who are unable to. This is to avoid confusion & congregation with potential mixing of bubbles.
- People are to ask to be seated after weekend Masses in both Glencorrib and Shrule to facilitate an orderly exit and avoid unnecessary congregation.
- If doors are closed for weekday Masses, please ensure they are reopened following conclusion of Masses.
- Please note that in Shrule there remains available seating at the Saturday Vigil Mass at 8pm.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation.

Parish Pastoral Council email: shruleglencorribpastoral@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE TIMES

Shrulle Parochial House every Tuesday (10.30am–12noon)

Glencorrib Curate's House Wednesdays (10.30am–12noon)

You are welcome to call outside these times, and if Fr. Vivian is not available, please leave a message ☎ 093-31262.



JUST A THOUGHT: Don't shoot the messenger

Often people have to go away from home in order to blossom. They need opportunity, challenge and recognition. When they return home, however, the people left behind may not be ready for this change. They may resent and reject the one who went away and made something of himself. Now, he is a challenge to them and so they try to cut him down to size.

On returning to His native Nazareth, it became obvious to the people there that Jesus has changed. Away from them Jesus had found His true vocation. His gifts of teaching and healing had blossomed. He now has a reputation as a teacher and a worker of miracles.

Jesus returned to Nazareth wanting to share His gifts with His own people. Instead of a welcome, He found people watching Him, studying Him and scrutinising His actions.

Initially impressed, instead of rejoicing at His wisdom and opening themselves to what Jesus had to offer, they ask, **'Where did Jesus get all this?'** How many parents have asked themselves this question on hearing a child come out with something that has made them wonder? The people of Nazareth remembered Jesus' humble origins. In effect they were saying **'who does He think He is?'** A sad, but familiar story! The mission of the church, however, and of each of us, is to acknowledge the gifts and talents of those who are close to us; to continue the healing work which Jesus began through His miracles.



**A prophet is not without honour
except in his hometown,
among his own relatives &
in his own household.**

Knowing-Jesus.com

GALWAY CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING has been supplying Caring/Assisting Services to older persons and persons with disabilities since 1994. Due to an increased demand for our services in Homecare and our Personal Assistance Service to People with disabilities we are now recruiting in your area. Please forward CV to vacancies@gcil.ie or ☎ Ann on 091-773910

UNTIL GOD opens another door for you, praise Him in the hallway.

**PLEASE REMEMBER WITH A PRAYER THOSE FROM SHRULE AND
GLENCORRIB PARISH WHO DIED ON THIS WEEK IN FORMER YEARS**



Surname	Christian	Village	Date Died	Age	Cemetery
Molloy	James	Ballycurrin	03/07/1919	58	Killursa
Payne	Patrick	Poulcappel	03/07/1920	88	Shrule
Neill	Thomas	Mohology	03/07/1943	75	Shrule
O'Sullivan	Stephen	The Parks	03/07/1955	22	Killursa
O'Dwyer	Paddy	Ballisnahina	03/07/1982		Shrule
Meenaghan	Mary	Cahernabruck	03/07/1997	86	Shrule
Gannon	Delia	Cahermaculick	04/07/1979	74	Shrule
Canavan	James	Gortbrack	04/07/1991	92	Killursa
Swift	Michael	Cahermaculick	05/07/1964		Shrule
Gannon	John	Boula	05/07/1997	81	Killursa
Burke	Tom	Cahernabruck	06/07/2001	57	Shrule
Garvey	Vincent	Shrule	06/07/2006	89	Shrule
Naughton	Margaret	Mohology	07/07/1923	38	Shrule
Moughan	Margaret	New Ballynalty	07/07/1929	86	Moyne
Byrne	Brigid Mary	Tubbersharave	08/07/1916	79	Shrule
Lynch	Peter	Gorthatubber	08/07/1921	80	Killursa
Carroll	John	Longhill	08/07/1956	36	Donaghpatrick
Murphy	John Joe	Ramolin	08/07/1998	83	Shrule
Conneely	Patrick	Gortatubber	09/07/1952	40	Houndsman
Naughton	Michael	Rostaff	09/07/1954	58	Moyne
Cawley	Ellen	Shrule	09/07/1956	83	Shrule
Burke	Patrick	Moyne	09/07/1975	82	Killursa
O'Sullivan	Francis	Ballycurrin	09/07/1978	51	Killursa
Byrne	Thomas	Woodpark	09/07/1984	76	Shrule
Martyn	Paddy	Shrule	09/07/1989	75	Shrule
Hennelly	Annie	Toorard	09/07/2008	92	Moyne
Kavanagh	Michael	Shrule	10/07/1981	94	Shrule
Burke	John	Glencorrib	10/07/1988	66	Shrule
McDonnell	Carmel	Ramolin	10/07/2017	60	Shrule
Murphy	James	Brodella	11/07/1922	80	Shrule
Cawley	Brigid	Shrule	11/07/1923	23	Shrule
Moughan	Margaret	Cahernabruck	11/07/1927	73	Shrule
Hennelly	John	Glencorrib	11/07/1969	85	Killursa
Myers	Winnie	ex Westport	11/07/1993	77	Shrule
Gannon	Mary	Boula	11/07/1998	83	Moyne
Burke	Rita	Cloonbanane	11/07/2002	77	Shrule

PLEASE REMEMBER WITH A PRAYER THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Mick HUGHES (Huntstown, Dublin and formerly of Ballyhenry, Kilmaine) Funeral Mass for Mick will take place on Wednesday next 7th July at the Church of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Huntstown. RIP Mick

PLEASE REMEMBER WITH A PRAYER THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Mamie McDonagh (Ellagh, Headford and formerly of the Aran Islands) Funeral Mass for Mamie will take place at St. Mary's Church, Headford on Sunday 4th July@ 1pm. RIP Mamie



MONTH OF JULY: July the month of haymaking, holidays, the departure of the cuckoo, the end of Summer. Lord, be with us during this month. The Pope's intention for July is: We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

We thank God for the recent beautiful weather we have had with glorious sunshine each day. May it continue. The Corona Virus still poses a threat, though the number afflicted has diminished. More vaccines are available now and please God the pandemic will end soon, and we will be able to return to normal life. The Health Service Executive and the Government say that the public must continue to be vigilant because the virus continues to be a threat. Personal responsibility and proper behaviour will keep us safe. Let us continue to ask God to end the pandemic. We can recite this prayer from *Ár bPaidreacha Dúchais* for protection from a plague.

O King of the Angels and Queen of graces, you were a virgin all your life, O John the Baptist who did your duty at all times, we entreat you three, to save us from the plague. Amen.

BEING OKAY if it happens and being okay if it doesn't is a very powerful place to be!

SUNNY DAYS SUMMER CAMP will be running from 5th to 23rd July. Open to children aged 4 - 12 years. Camp hours: 10am - 3pm. Light snack included €15 per day. Full day care 8am - 5.30pm. Lunch & snacks included €30 per day. 10am - 5.30pm. Lunch & snacks included €20 per day. For further information contact 087 3118009 or glencorribcommunityservices@gmail.com



JULY 2021 CHURCH MINISTRIES		SHRULE	GLENCORRIB
EUCHARISTIC	Vigil	Anne Geraghty	Mairead Geraghty
	Morning	Carmel Forde	Michael Creaven
LAY READERS	Vigil	Carmel Heneghan	Caroline Craddock
	Morning	Geraldine Casserly	Mary McNally

A DAILY PRAYER

Lord, I thank you for the gift of being alive this morning.
 Lord, this day is full of promise and opportunity;
 Help me to waste none of it.
 This day is full of mystery and the unknown;
 Help me to face it without fear or anxiety.
 During this day, may I become
 More thoughtful,
 More generous,
 More appreciative,
 More prayerful.
 Help me to do nothing today
 That will hurt anyone.
 But help me, at least a little,
 To make life more pleasant for those I meet.
 And when night comes,
 May I look back on this day without regrets.
 May nobody be unhappy because
 Of anything I have done
 Or anything I have failed to do.
 Lord bless this day for all of us.

DID YOU EVER WONDER WHY?

- Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard when he lives in the jungle without a razor?
- Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are flat?
- Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough?
- Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?
- Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'?
- What is the speed of darkness?
- Why is Dyslexia so hard to spell?
- And why is Abbreviation such a long word?
- Did you ever stop and wonder.....



BE PART OF MAKING A LOCAL WILDLIFE DOCUMENT CAPTURE.

A shout out to everyone in the parish (Shrule / Glencorrib / Kilroe catchment) Be part of creating a wildlife document as a gift to future generations of our areas. Please let us know of any wildlife you spot when you are out and about this summer. Drop us a line on the email address, sgkwildlifesurvey@gmail.com Also follow us on our Instagram page [sgkwildlifesurvey2021](https://www.instagram.com/sgkwildlifesurvey2021) and see the images of the wildlife that either visit us or live around us already captured in 2021.



REMEMBERING YOUR LOVED ONES:

If you're loved ones from the parish are not listed in our weekly list and you would like them to be remembered, then please ☎ / Text 0863782156 or email glencorrib2000@gmail.com with their details. **"To be forgotten is to die twice"**

No matter how long you have travelled in the wrong direction, you can always turn around.

When life blesses you financially, don't raise your standard of living. Raise your standard of giving.

Those who judge will never understand and those who understand will never judge.

Faith is the fuel on which Hope runs.

Behind every husband who thinks he wears the trousers... is the wife who told him which trousers to wear. ☺

Once you carry your own water, you will learn the value of every drop.

I was at the bus stop yesterday and when I went to get on the bus I realized that someone had stolen my shoelaces. I wasn't concerned about my loss but the thought that someone could stoop so low... ☺

Two people read the same Bible.
 One sees reasons to love.
 The other reasons to hate.
 One sees unity.
 The other division.
 One finds prejudice.
 The other equality.
 One discovers compassion.
 The other, indifference.
 One goodwill.
 The other malice.
 Two people, one book. One Book, two views.
 The book is a mirror.
 The reflection is you.

N.W.

**GALWAY
 DIOCESAN
 VOCATIONS
 FACEBOOK PAGE**

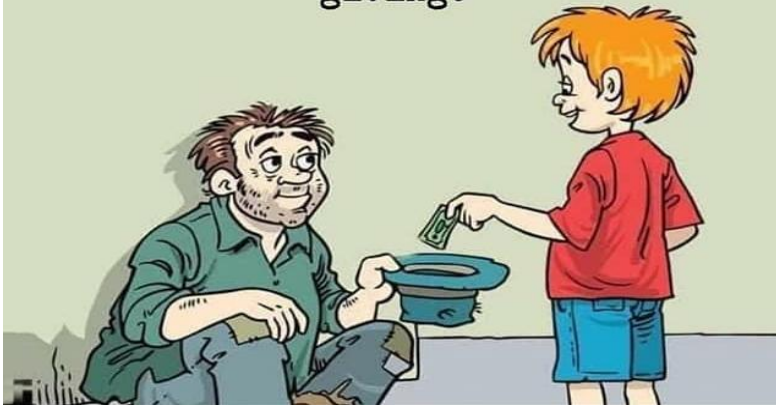
You are invited to like / follow the Galway Diocesan Vocations Facebook page to help promote vocations in our Diocese. (www.facebook.com/GalwayVocations)



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.

When life blesses you financially, don't raise your standard of living. Raise your standard of giving.



Q: If someone from the 1950s suddenly appeared today, what would be the most difficult thing to explain to them about life today?

A: I possess a device in my pocket that is capable of accessing the entirety of information known to man. I use it to look at pictures of cats and get into arguments with strangers.

CHILDREN'S STORY:

One day a King and his advisor Moe were taking a walk in the palace gardens. It was a nice summer morning and there were a lot of crows flying about. While watching the crows, a question came into the King's head. He wondered how many crows were there in his kingdom. Since his advisor was accompanying him, he asked him this question. After a moment's thought, Moe replied, "There are 95,463 cows in the Kingdom". Amazed by his quick response, the King tried to test him again, "What if there are more crows than you answered?" Without hesitating, Moe replied, "If there are more crows than my answer, then some crows are visiting from other neighbouring kingdoms". "And what if there are less crows", the King asked. "Then some crows from our kingdom have gone on holidays to other places", he replied.

Moral: There is always a way if you think with ease.

QUOTE: God want full custody not just weekend visits.

Our churches are open every day not just Sundays. Drop in for some quiet time, prayer and reflection.

JESUS didn't die so that we would come to church.

He died so that we would become the church.

SHRULE PARISH is committed to the protection of all children and young people in our Church. See notice board for contact details.



JUST A THOUGHT - REFLECTION ON COVID AND LOCKDOWN

My report this month from the happiness frontline is bumpy. One minute we are joyfully putting up the bunting in readiness for Freedom Day. The next we are sadly packing it away, a crumpled, multi-coloured heap banished to the attic.

To continue the fairground analogy, it feels like we are on a relentless Ferris wheel of emotions. Now up! Now down! Now free! Now locked down! How can any of us remain calm and steady as we ride this emotional roller coaster? Well, I think I have the answer - and it means swapping the fairground for a boat. Let me explain. While we cannot stop having feelings, we can learn ways to better manage and accept them.

It's a process psychologists call "emotional regulation". This helps us experience our emotional reactions with compassion and kindness. Experiencing ups and downs from time to time - so long as no one emotion takes over too often - is actually part of functioning well.

Psychologists suggest to me the metaphor of a sailing boat. Bring to mind the image of a small canvas boat. Think of the different features it needs to cruise along: its sails, how large they are, the amount of wind needed, and how lightly or loosely they are attached to the mast. Remind yourself that a boat stays upright thanks to a complicated formula, which involves equal and opposite forces keeping the craft steady and moving through the water.

Apply this image to your own life. We sometimes imagine that our lives should ideally be -almost literally - plain sailing. That to be happy and balanced, we should be free from tension, fear, anger and sadness; and able to steer clear of challenging life events like the Covid pandemic. But imagine you are like a sailboat: it will help you see that a mixed picture is more realistic. Imagine what would happen if conditions were too easy on our sailboat. Imagine the boat leaning to one side and tipping over; imagine being marooned because there was no wind. Some tension is needed if the boat is to travel safely. Now imagine if that tension becomes too much: then its grip needs to be loosened. Joy and ease need to be reintroduced for the boat to go on its way.

I have been trying to learn this lesson first-hand in my own life over the past few months; to accept the uncertainties of Covid; to make the most of an extended lockdown; to remember that post-pandemic may even feel a little sweeter because reopening has been delayed a little longer. It's bumpy. My mood swings around. But I have found comfort in my boating metaphor. *Rachel Kelly, pictured above, Mental Health advocate.*



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, Shrle 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

o **Shrle Church:** Bank: Ulster Bank Ireland DAC
Account Name: Shrle Church Finance Committee:
IBAN IE10ULSB98525010138070 and BIC: ULSBIE2DXXX

o **Glencorrib Church:** Bank: Ulster Bank Ireland DAC
Account Name: Shrle 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 & use your own parish envelopes. It is standard practice for envelopes to be returned to their respective parishes.



SHRULE / GLENCORRIB GAA FIXTURES			
GRADE	OPPOSITION	VENUE	DAY/TIME
U13	AGHAMORE	AWAY	THU 7:00
U17	CASTLEBAR MITCHELLS	IN G/CORRIB	FRI 7:00
JUNIOR	KILLALA	IN G/CORRIB	SAT 7:30
JUNIOR B	SWINFORD	IN G/CORRIB	SUN 2:00

www.shruleglencorribgaa.com

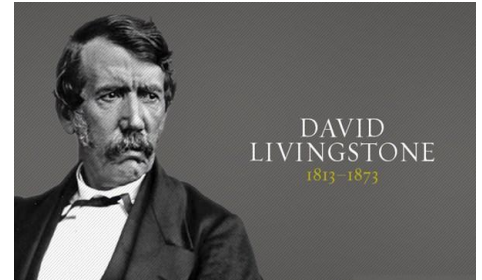
A WORD IN YOUR EAR...

Despite the best efforts of the national vaccination campaign, Covid 19 or its variants continues to dominate our lives. Its reign of terror holds sway in Church and State. Reception of the Sacraments has been severely curtailed and those with ambitions to travel abroad this Summer have been grounded! We are still confined to this little island of ours. Sadly, 'Cabin Fever' has become a national affliction!

Travel broadens the mind. It enlivens the spirit by providing us with new perspectives. There is a new museum opening in Blantyre, Scotland this month devoted to the life and times of perhaps to most renowned traveller of all, Dr David Livingstone the African explorer.

Livingstone was born in poverty on 19 March 1813, in a one room tenement flat in Blantyre. He began his working life in the local cotton mill at the tender age of ten. He attended the company school in the evening, and he went on to study medicine in Glasgow and completed his training as a missionary in London.

He arrived in South Africa in March 1841 to begin his life's work as a medical missionary, convinced that his three pillars, Christianity, civilisation and commerce were the key to success.



You can visit the Livingstone museum virtually. What is so unique about it is that it brings out the key role played by his wife Mary in his life and travels. He wasn't the solitary trekker we have been led to believe. He had a close companion who was essential to his work, for Mary was a talented linguist who spoke a number of local languages. Livingstone's story is still well known. On his most famous expedition he lost contact with the outside world for 6 years. A reporter from the New York Herald, one Henry Stanley was sent out in search of him in 1869. He found him two years later on the shores of Lake Tanganyika where he allegedly greeted him with the legendry words, 'Dr Livingstone I presume?' Sadly, Mary had died by then, so he could not reply 'And may I introduce Mrs Livingstone?' Shortly before she died, Livingstone had said to her 'We old bodies ought now to be more sober, and not play so much.' To which she replied 'Oh, no you must always be as playful as you have always been. Please do not be as grave as some folks.'

One of the great features of our own time is an unearthing of the experience and contribution of women in history. Mary's story brought to mind Carol Ann Duffy's collection of poetry entitled 'The World's Wife' with poems such as 'Pilate's Wife' 'Mrs Lazarus and Mrs Darwin'. History is not fixed and final but a continuing reinterpretation of the past in the light of fresh perspectives. And that fresh perspective is invariably provided by travel, be it physical, intellectual or religious.

When will it all end, this continuing re-interpretation of the past in the light of the present? When will we reach the defining perspective, the true selection and arrangement and prioritising of the facts? Never is one answer. The other is provided by the Old Testament scriptures, which are based on the conviction that there is an end in the light of which the true meaning of the whole will be revealed. One day, in or out of time, it will be luminous in the light of truth and justice. And Jesus built on that conviction in a particularly startling and challenging way. He said the last will be first, those who quietly do good- the forgotten, the innocent, those on the underside of history, the overlooked, will be given their proper significance in a blaze of glory.

Fr. Dick Lyng OSA



AN INTERVIEW WITH MATTIE HARTE ON FAITH, LIFE AND FORGIVENESS

Matthew Harte is married with three children (number four on the way in August) and moved to America from Ireland almost three years ago to complete his masters in theology at Franciscan University of Steubenville. He taught as an adjunct professor at Franciscan this semester and will move to Ave Maria Florida this summer to begin his

PhD in Theology there. Previously in Ireland, a high-school teacher for five years and a youth minister for two.

He is the son of Micky Harte, the former All-Ireland winning coach and brother to the late Michaela Harte-McAreavey.

In this interview, Matthew shares his perspective on the Church in Ireland and how his faith helped him cope with the tragic loss of his sister. You can watch it on You tube:

The State of Catholicism in Ireland w/ Mattie Harte



"Hurrah! It's peace in the Sausage War!"

GERALDINE HYLAND MONAGHAN: Our local girl has posted another brilliant Facebook article. This week it's about her granduncle Patsy Burke. Many of us aged 45+ growing up in the 1970s – 1980s will be able to relate to her story as we knew someone like Patsy too. I thought it was a very good read and worth sharing with you.

PATSY BURKE: 1917-1987

By rights, if you looked up "Old Irish Character" in the dictionary, there should be a picture of this man... my Grand Uncle Patsy Burke.

He had character and personality in buckets and spades! He had a quick brain and a quicker tongue and could spit out one liners that would take you a couple of minutes to catch onto what he meant! By the time your brain cogs clicked into realisation, Patsy would already have cycled off on his High Nellie with a glint in his eye as if he had just heard the penny drop along with your jaw! He was born in Beaghbeg, Caherlistrane, just around the corner from Monaghan's Forge. He was the youngest of the family and inherited the home & land, but in a twist of fate decided it was not for him and moved to Belclare into a mobile home behind his brother's house, my Grandad Mick.

Apparently in his youth, Patsy had unrivalled strength and was a genius in the field of tree surgery. While he was a slim build, he had broad shoulders and giant hands that always hinted at a youth of hard work and strength! The Patsy I remember though had already retired, I used to think he was ancient, but in reality he was in his early sixties. I just knew he always had that old boy dress and scent!! He wore braces to keep up his brown trousers which were tucked into his socks, so the ends wouldn't get caught in the spokes of the bike! He wore workman's boots or green wellies, a shirt, a pullover and, without fail, a blazer! Mind you if it was particularly sunny, he could don a lovely white vest! Whatever the weather, he was never seen without his cap; I'd swear he slept in that thing! He typically had a sheepdog, or three, by his side to which he invariably gave funny names to, many I couldn't repeat here!! (If there was someone in the locality with "notions"... Patsy might call his dog after them... complete with surname, in case there was any confusion!!!). This one in the picture though, is repeatable... This was "Tayto".

Patsy eventually moved his caravan down the fields from my Grandparents house (behind O'Grady Oil) in Carrabeg to a place he dubbed "Dublin". I would spend hours of my visits to Belclare "Down in Dublin" playing in Patsy's caravan. Now Patsy was not known for his hygiene 😊 and he chewed tobacco all day and would spit it on the floor! The inside of the caravan was tarred with thick smoke from the old stove and the constant pipe hanging out of Patsy's mouth, but to me that smell of cloves and Sweet Afton was the sweet scent of playtime!

My mother was always bewildered at the hours I would spend in the smog of "Dublin" and I couldn't explain it either, I just loved the little sink, and the little stove and the little windows in that caravan... and I even loved the old man in the corner telling me to "shhtop makin' a racket".... hahaha I was never afraid of Patsy. He knew who he was and he made no apologies for any of it. I adored him and the comfort he took in his own skin.

When the HSE finally condemned the caravan and replaced it with a spanking new mobile home, I think the only one more disgusted by that decision than Patsy, was me! I too thought it was perfectly acceptable in its squalor! Hahaha! Mind you, when I think back, the old caravan stayed for years beside the spanking new mobile, and although I protested at the new home, that's where I played when I could have chosen to still play in the old one. Perhaps it wasn't the caravan that drew me at all, but instead the man of few words!

Patsy died at age 70 from a lung condition in July 1987 when I was 11. I remember him fondly and still laugh out loud in reminisce of his sharp one-liners and quick wit. He has provided much material for my stories yet to come. I often think of him, especially at this time of year around his anniversary.

Patsy was never one to pose for a photograph and I have scoured the archives for one of him. My Uncle Miko sent me this picture from London and it slots in with my memories perfectly!

This is the man. Patsy Burke 1917-1987. Legend!

