

## Gospel John 10:27-30

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;

I know them and they follow me.

I give them eternal life;

they will never be lost

and no one will ever steal them from me.

The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone,  
and no one can steal from the Father.

The Father and I are one.'



### Safeguarding Message:

The Easter Season is the high point of the Church year as Christian people celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. This celebration reminds us of our great dignity as God's children and our calling to recognise Christ in each other. Thankfully the Covid restrictions of the past two years have eased and while there are still concerns around the virus, parish activities have resumed to a fairly high degree. We are pleased to welcome back our parishioners young and old. We continue to be mindful of our responsibilities in the area of safeguarding and of the need to reach the highest standards of best practise. The Diocesan Safeguarding Committee continue to monitor and promote the ideals of safeguarding. The National Board for Safeguarding will be reviewing the National Policy and Guidance in the coming year to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose. We as a diocese will have an audit in the autumn of 2022 conducted by independent assessors on behalf of the National Board. This will enable us as a diocese to continue to go forward in offering safe environments and structures for children and young people to be active in the Church.

I thank all who are involved in the work of safeguarding in the diocese - your involvement is vital for the work of keeping children safe. If anyone who wishes to raise a concern or make a complaint in the diocese, I encourage you to contact the Designated Liaison Person, Tusla or the Garda. Keeping people safe is an ongoing work which we undertake because of our belief in the dignity of every human person and our faith in the Lord Jesus who inspires us to continue to minister to young people that they too may know and follow him as disciples.

*Thomas Healy (Fr), Diocesan Administrator*

### People who are there to help if someone is hurting you or another child are:

**Designated Liaison Person** Sean Leydon 087 - 7431649

**Tusla** Longford, Offaly & Westmeath: 044 - 9353997

### World day of Prayer for Vocations - Good Shepherd Sunday.

In his message for Vocations Sunday, Pope Francis reflects "on the broader meaning of 'vocation' within the context of a synodal Church, a Church that listens to God and to the world." He underlined that the word "vocation" should not be understood as referring only to priests and religious. "All of us are called to share in Christ's mission to reunite a fragmented humanity and to reconcile it with God," he said. "Each man and woman, even before encountering Christ and embracing the Christian faith, receives with the gift of life a fundamental calling: each of us is a creature willed and loved by God; each of us has a unique and special place in the mind of God." "At every moment of our lives, we are called to foster this divine spark, present in the heart of every man and woman, and thus contribute to the growth of a humanity inspired by love and mutual acceptance." He said that Christian history showed that God has a vision for each person's life. "Michelangelo maintained that every block of stone contains a statue within it, and it is up to the sculptor to uncover it," he wrote. "If that is true of an artist, how much more is it true of God! In the young woman of Nazareth, he saw the Mother of God. In Simon the fisherman, he saw Peter, the rock on which he would build his Church." "In the publican Levi, he recognised the apostle and evangelist Matthew, and in Saul, a harsh persecutor of Christians, he saw Paul, the apostle of the Gentiles." "God's loving gaze always meets us, touches us, sets us free, and transforms us, making us into new persons. That is what happens in every vocation: we are met by the gaze of God, who calls us." Pope Francis encouraged Catholics to welcome God's gaze and enter into a "vocational dialogue" with the Lord and others. "In the vocation to the ordained priesthood, to be instruments of Christ's grace and mercy," he wrote. "In the vocation to the consecrated life, to be the praise of God and the prophecy of a new humanity. In the vocation to marriage, to be mutual gift and givers and teachers of life. In every ecclesial vocation and ministry that calls us to see others and the world through God's eyes, to serve goodness and to spread love with our works and words."

**Monday, 9th May.**  
8.00am Teresa Conlon (A)  
10.00am: Theresa and Matt Healy (A)

**Tuesday, 10th May. St. Comgall, abbot**  
8.00am: No Intention  
10.00am: Souls in Purgatory

**Wednesday, 11th May.**  
8.00am: No Intention  
10.00am: Elizabeth, William, Richard and Eamon Lynch (A)

**Thursday, 12th May. Saints Nereus and Achilleus**  
8.00am: No Intention  
10.00am: Beatification of Edel Quinn  
7.30pm: Curry Jean McGuire (A)

**Friday, 13th May. Our Lady of Fatima**  
8.00am: No Intention  
10.00am: Rose Mollaghan (A)

**Saturday, 14th May. St. Matthias**  
8.00am: No Intention  
10.00am Marie Keegan (A)

**Sunday, 15th May. Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
7.30pm: (Vigil) John, Emily and Mary Gannon (A)  
8.00am: Patricia Gannon (Month's Mind)  
10.00am: Ann McDonnell (A)  
11.30am: *Shared:* Paddy Joe Farrell (A)  
1pm: Patrick Muldoon, son Stephen & daughter Aisling  
6pm: Mario and his medical team in Castlebar Hospital

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** The amount received in the Offertory Collection for last weekend was €4,415.00.

**REST IN PEACE:** Your prayers are requested for the happy repose of the souls of Frank Gilchrist, Shroid, Pat Flanagan, Midara Gardens, Anthony McKenna, Knockahaw and James Courtney, Legion Terrace, whose funerals took place during the week. May their soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed rest in peace.

**BAPTISM:** With joy, we welcomed Sophia Louise McDonnell into the Christian Community last weekend.

**WEDDING:** Congratulations to Chloe Joyce and Séan Ward who were married last Wednesday in the Cathedral.

**CEMETERY SUNDAY 2022** will take place on Sunday 26th June at 1pm.

**DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY** will take place next Saturday in St Mel's College from 9am to 4pm. Working together we hope to be able to develop a diocesan initiative for the future of our diocese with lay and religious sharing and working together to build our Church. We acknowledge and appreciate the commitment of our delegates and express our gratitude for all that has been achieved so far.

**MARRIAGE JUBILEES:** Over the last 2 years we have missed out on Wedding Jubilee celebrations in the Parish and this year we would like to invite all those celebrating a 10th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and every year above that or have celebrated one of those significant occasions in the past 2 years to join us for the Marriage Jubilee Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday evening 11th June at 7.30pm and afterwards for refreshments in the Crypt. Please leave your names in the presbytery or phone 33 46465.

**LONGFORD TOWN SUBURBS - CE SCHEME:** We offer work placements in a variety of community based roles and training is provided to enhance your professional and personal development. If interested please contact Annemarie on 086 3497101.

**CERMONY OF LIGHT FOR CONFIRMATION CHILDREN**

Monday 16th May	at 6.30pm - St. Michael's N.S. at 7.30pm - St. Eimear's N.S.
Tuesday 17th May	at 6.30pm - Gaelscoil an Longfoirt at 7.30pm - Melview N.S.
Wednesday 18th May	at 6.30pm - Stonepark N.S. at 7.30pm - St. Joseph's N.S.