CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER APRIL 26th. 2020

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May we have the courage

"When these days are past, and your life becomes gradually 'normal' again, how will you have changed? Will you, like me, acknowledge the need to hear and respond to that call "be still and know that I am God"

As we look at clearer skies, lower levels of pollution, will we contemplate our use of the world's resources? As we contemplate our individual responses to the calls for help which have emerged from those who have less than we do, those who cannot do what they want to do, those who are lonely and isolated, will we resolve to live differently in the future?

When our lives go back to normal, when we can go to Mass again, when life gets busy again, may we remember what we have learned during these strange days and may we always know that, as we learn again each Easter, we are called to eternal life, not just life here on earth. May we have the courage and grace to live again as we really should."

Nuala O'Loan - in the - Irish Catholic paper.

MORNING PRAYER

God of my life, I welcome this day.
It is your gift to me, a new creation,
A promise of resurrection.
I thank you for the grace of being alive this morning.
I thank you for the sleep that has refreshed me.
I thank you for this chance to make a new beginning.

This day, Lord is full of opportunity and promise:

Let me waste none of it.

This day is full of mystery and the unknown:

Help me face it without fear or anxiety.

This day is blessed with beauty and adventure:

Make me fully alive to it all.

During this day
Keep me thoughtful, prayerful and kind.
May I be courteous and helpful to others,
and not turn in on myself.
Keep me from any word or deed
That would hurt, or belittle or destroy;
And may the thoughts of my mind
Be pleasing in your sight. Amen.

Food for though

At a couple's retreat the speaker mentioned that couples are so disconnected that 85% of husbands don't know their wives favourite flower. Paddy turned to his wife and whispered: "It's self-raising, isn't?"