

Michael Holly
The Parish
Gallery 2
2 April to 12 May 2022



The Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) is the most ubiquitous cultural, community and sporting organisation in Ireland, and has a presence in almost every parish in Ireland. With its values of physical discipline, personal sacrifice through volunteering, community participation, and consolidation of Irish identity, the GAA has in many ways come to define what it means to be a part of a community in contemporary Ireland.

The Parish is an exhibition of video installation and a discursive space for considering the unique place that the GAA, and its affiliated organisations such as the Ladies Gaelic Football Association (LGFA) have in Irish society. Through a long-term engagement with a West Cork GAA club as part of a doctoral project at the department of Film & Screen Media at University College Cork, Michael Holly has developed a series of observational and discursive videos to be exhibited at Uillinn, West Cork Arts Centre. A programme of talks and discussions will take place around the exhibition.

Michael Holly is an Irish Research Council funded PhD candidate in Film & Screen Media at University College Cork, where he is developing a practice-based study on participatory documentary filmmaking. Michael has exhibited widely as a video, sound and installation artist, in parafictional and documentary investigations into cultural, national and local identities. His research interests focus on the intersection of contemporary art and non-fiction film and new technologies and strategies in participatory filmmaking.