

Thanks to our Sacristans - Kathleen & Teresa - **and ALL who helped** in the work of preparing the Churches for Christmas. Do let us know if you would be available in an ongoing way to support the work of caring for our church buildings - inside and out! Please consider donating a Poinsettia to the Churches to assist with decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas. Thank you.

COVID-19 Update: The usual safety measures apply;

- Sanitise your hands entering/leaving Church;
- Please wear a mask at all times inside;
- Observe Social distancing & follow the guidance of our stewards;
- Holy Communion will be distributed at the end of Mass, after which please leave promptly, and try not to 'gather' outside for a social chat.

Remember, the 'Sunday Obligation' has been removed *for the time being*, so coming to Mass during the week, will facilitate everyone who wants to attend.

Christmas Gifts from Trócaire: Trócaire's Christmas Gifts range allows you to buy goats, chickens, water and many more vital items. This year, there is a special Quarantine Care Kit Gift. By buying this gift you are providing vital daily care to families who have to isolate due to Covid-19. Please visit trocaire.org

"A Family Christmas": will take place over webcam from St Patrick's Cathedral on Tuesday 22 December at 7.30pm. Led by Archbishop Martin assisted by Karl McGuckin, Eilis Fox & Malachi Cush. Pls join via St Patrick's Cathedral Webcam for this special celebration.

"Welcoming Vaccines for the Common Good": The Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference welcomes the encouraging news about vaccines for COVID-19, and are encouraging Catholics to support a programme of vaccination, not only for their own good, but for the protection of life and the health of those who are vulnerable and for the common good of humanity.

Mullary Cemetery Draw: Winning #31: Joe Foyle & John Byrne

Please email items for next Bulletin no later than Wednesday, and see Church noticeboards for further upcoming events & notices

Parish Arrangements for Christmas

All Masses for Christmas Eve/Day are now FULLY booked.

Depending on Fr. Paddy's recovery, and the availability of cover, the original schedule may have to be amended. Those who have booked will be informed by email as early in the week as possible.

However, either way, **there will be a Broadcast of Mass** from the Parish Churches on the webcam and on Facebook Live for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.



Parish of Monasterboice

(Mainistir Bhuithe)

4th Sunday of Advent

20th December 2020 - Year B

Parish Priest: Fr. Paddy Rushe; 086 880 7470

monasterboiceparish2018@gmail.com

Web: www.monasterboiceparish.com & We are also on Facebook & Twitter

Message to the Parish

Unfortunately, early last week, I received a **positive result for Covid-19**, and under HSE guidelines, I must self-isolate.

Thanks be to God, my symptoms so far have been mild. Please keep me in your prayers.

Until further notice, **ALL** public Masses in the parish have been cancelled.

I will offer Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent from the Parochial House via Facebook Live, on **Saturday 19th December at 6.30pm.** All Anniversaries for this weekend will be offered at that Mass. *Apologies for any upset caused, and if you would like to re-arrange Mass for another time, of course that can be accommodated.*

At this moment, all Masses for Christmas Eve/Day are still going ahead, but this may need to be revised if my recovery takes longer. I will update you on this as soon as possible.

Safety for all is my priority.

In the meantime, thanks for your support and do your best to stay safe as we try and celebrate this special time, in this difficult year.

Fr. Paddy



Well we're almost there! The fourth Advent candle has been lit, our crib is up and your preparations are well under way, I'm sure. Our readings this week turn our attention toward the great feast of the Nativity.

The first reading from the Second Book of Samuel features David the King, at home in his palace, with a strong desire to honor God and show gratitude for God by building a great "house" for God as well. This good

intention of David is an opening.

God's message through Nathan is that God not only doesn't need David to build him a house, but that God will build a "house" for David; the reference is to Jesus, who will be born of the house of David, an heir to the Davidic kingdom. And the gospel reading reinforces this with the story of the Annunciation, when Gabriel appears to Mary. In the Incarnation, God made flesh, God has made his dwelling with us.

Webcam in The Church of the Immaculate Conception, Tenure: has now been installed, and you can view any Mass/Wedding/Funera/Baptism held in the Church by visiting www.churchservices.tv and searching for our Church by name or county. Please share this news with friends and family who live away from the parish. It is possible to view the live stream on PC's, laptops and a range of Apple and Android and other devices. They also have **Roku app** – for their TV box and stick. **If you would like make a donation to support the installation of the Camera, please speak to Fr. Paddy.**

Online Advent Calendar: Each day in Advent, behind a virtual door on our calendar you will find ideas such as thoughtful reflections/challenges for change and conversion. - visit www.catholicbishops.ie,

We encourage parishioners to connect with us online for Mass on the Monasterboice Parish Facebook Page. A number of other 'Online' services are also taking place; Sunday night **A Crib Blessing at 7pm** on Zoom (ID: 813 7538 0218; Password; 467173) **Night Prayer** will be said **at 10pm on Sunday** nights via the Parish Facebook Page. Fr. Paddy will lead an online Rosary - on the Monasterboice Parish Facebook page - on **Wednesday 22nd December at 7pm**. For the Pastoral Area: visit www.termonfechinparish.ie for Mass daily at 9.30am (*Sunday @11am*); Mass is also on **RTE News Now at 10.30am daily**.

Parish Office Hours: The parish office is closed to the public but on Tuesdays from 2.30pm - 5.30pm, Ann McEvoy (087 648 6809) will be able to take phone calls, and answer emails about parish business, eg certificates, bookings, etc.

Remembering the Deceased: Please pray for those on the parish list of the dead. for deceased benefactors of the parish, & those who have died recently, including Olive McGinn, Brownstown; Kathleen Molloy, Rathgorey; Eileen

Day\Mass	Intention
Saturday 19th @ 6.30pm (from the Parochial House Via Facebook)	Kathleen & Gabriel Byrne Pat & Mary Campbell Dec'd Mbrs of the Roche Family Larry Johnston & Dec'd Family Mbrs Christina, Michael, Johnny, & John Jnr O'Brien
Thursday 24th @ 4.30pm (Tenure)	James Dunne
Thursday 24th @ 9pm (Tenure)	Joe & Addie Winters
Friday 25th @ 11.15am (Tenure)	Johnny and Bridie Dowling; Philip Dowling and Michael McQuillan
Saturday 26th @ 6.30pm (Tenure)	Jim Clarke
Sunday 27th @ 9.45am (F/Town)	John Mulroy (7th Av.)
Sunday 27th @ 11.15am (Tenure)	Gerry Hyland

Johnston, Grangebellew; Jim Balfe, Drogheda; Lyda Murphy, Kellystown; Thomas Durrigan, Stickillen, Ardee; Peggy McCabe, Clones; If a family member outside the parish has died? - let us know to include them here.

Finance: Thanks for supporting the Parish financially - last weekend's collection combined with monies handed in over the weeks Mass was off, amounted to; €1,600. Thanks for all your support of the parish in these difficult times. **PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE PARISH BY ONLINE DONATIONS VIA YOUR BANK;** The parish details; **BIC: AIBKIE2D and IBAN: IE68 AIBK 9320 9421 7710 85;** Pls give your Envelope#/Surname as reference. Donations also via www.armagharchdiocese.org

New Evelope Boxes: begin the first weekend of January. As it will not be possible to deliver these due to the Pandemic, boxes will be available for collection at the Church closest to your area. Please pick up your box at your earliest convenience. **NB your envelope number might be different** from previous years, dont worry, this is merely due to the computer system we are using. Your subscriptions will still be credited to you.

Confessions for Christmas: The Pastoral Area have co-ordinated an hour of Confessions in one Church in each Parish starting next **Sunday, 20th from 3-4pm** in St. Michael's Clogherhead; **And from 7-8pm each evening;** on **Monday 21st** in St Finnian's, Dillonstown; and **Wednesday 23rd** from the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Termonfechin.

Advent and Christmas Prayers at Home: Refer to the parish website/ Facebook Page for prayers which can be downloaded to use at home eg.when decorating the Christmas Tree or a prayer at the Christmas Crib.

A New Start: Mass will be offered at 11pm on New Year's Eve in Fieldstown & 11am on New Years Day in Tenure to ask God's blessings on 2021.