

Peter's Basilica. This will be followed by the "Urbi et Orbi" Blessing on Christmas Day at noon, while on Thursday, 31 December, Pope Francis will celebrate the First Vespers and the Te Deum in thanksgiving for the past year at 5pm in St Peter's Basilica. On Friday, 1 January, on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and the 54th World Day of Peace, the Pope will preside at Mass in St. Peter's at 10am. Finally, on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, Mass will be celebrated at 10am in the Vatican Basilica. **All times indicated refer to local Rome time.**

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Naomh Mairtin have setup a 'Prayer Intention Box': in the Churches inviting people to drop in an intention for prayer. Inviting families to get the children involved writing a note of what made them happy in 2020, and who/what they would like to pray for. If you would like to make a SVP ONLINE (www.svdp.ie) donation to support their act of prayer. Fr. Paddy will remember the intentions at Christmas Eve Masses.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Christmas is a time of year when we generate huge volumes of wastepaper, food, glass and plastic. As we hear and read in the media about the negative effects global warming has on our planet we are encouraged to help protect our environment by disposing of it in a proper manner either through your local bin collector, at any bottle bank or at the Drogheda Recycling Centre.

*For unto us a child is
BORN, UNTO US A SON
is given: and the government
shall be upon his shoulder;
and his name shall be
called, Wonderful,
COUNSELOR,
The Mighty God,
The Everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.*

We must pay tribute especially to: the women & men in our health services, hospitals and care centres for their many sacrifices in the service of our communities. May Love come alive within your hearts as Christmas time is here. For Christ is alive, the light of the world; May he bless you all season long.

Congratulations: to Jennifer Connolly & Padriag McDonagh who were married recently in our parish.

Mullary Cemetery Draw: Winning #22 Mary Fanning

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



Parish of Monasterboice (Mainistir Bhuithe)

Christmas & The Feast of the Holy Family
24th/25th & 26th/27th 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

A Christmas with a difference!

Not for the first time this year, plans have been thrown into confusion, as we see the imposition of restrictions aimed at reducing the spread of Covid-19.

But, despite these and the many other tragic moments, disappointments, difficulties and challenges which have beset the world in 2020, we come now to one of the most important celebrations in the Christian calendar.

The birth of Jesus, 2000 years ago in the lowly stable wasn't the way that Mary & Joseph had planned to have their child; And yet, there in the midst of the hay and the animals, was born the Saviour of the World, and human history was forever changed, because of Bethlehem.

Jesus came to show the world a new way, a way of joy, hope, peace and love. The world still needs these blessings - **and many more**. Thankfully we have seen wonderful examples of goodness, compassion, care, and charity throughout the pandemic. As we look forward now to the roll out of the vaccine in 2021, the end is in sight.

We bear the name Christian today, and the call remains as strong ever. May this **CHRIST**mas remind you of your identity as God's adopted in Jesus, and may we commit ourselves to make our little corner of the world a better place than ever through our Christian Faith & Love - in action.

As I write, I think of all those who have helped keep our parish going this year; You, our Parishioners, Our Sacristans, The Parish Pastoral Council, The Parish Finance Committee, The Covid-19 Committee, Stewards, Ministers of the Word & Eucharist, our Secretary, and **all** those who helped in **any** way. I am so grateful for your support. May I wish you, your family and all our parishioners every blessing.



Fr. Paddy

This Bulletin will also be for the weekend immediately after Christmas.

Please note that due to the government restrictions announced on the 22nd December, **all Masses will be online only** until January 12th, when the situation will be reviewed.

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.**

We encourage parishioners to connect with us online for Mass on the Monasterboice Parish Facebook Page. **Morning Prayer for Christmas** will be offered at **10am on Friday 25th** December. **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 **Thursday 31st December at 7pm.** Mass will be offered at 11pm on New Year's Eve & 11am on New Years Day to ask God's blessings on 2021.



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: 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. The office is closed Tuesday, 29th.

Finance: Thanks for supporting the Parish financially - as Fr. Paddy was off sick, there was no Mass last weekend. 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 Envelope 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 from Sunday 27th. 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.

Day\Mass	Intention
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
Sunday 27th @ 11.15am (Tenure)	Jim Clarke John Mulroy (7th Av.) Gerry Hyland
Wednesday 30th @ 9.30am (Tenure)	Lyda Murphy MM
Saturday 3rd @ 6.30pm (Fieldstown)	Kathleen Molloy MM Joseph & Margaret Devine James Murtagh Dec'd Mbrs of Mulroy & Winters Families

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 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.

Christmas Prayers at Home: Refer to the parish website/Facebook Page for prayers which can be downloaded to use at home eg. when a prayer at the Christmas Crib, or grace before the Christmas dinner.

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! Thanks to all who donated a Poinsetta to the Church this Christmas.

A Joint Christmas Message from the Archbishops of Armagh: Archbishop Eamon Martin & Archbishop John McDowell has been released. Please check our Website for the message.

Papal Scedule for Christmas: Current Covid-19 precautionary measures have defined the times and the ways of living during the pandemic. Pope Francis' Christmas and New Year calendar is no exception. Thus, Christmas Night Mass has been brought forward to 7.30pm Rome time, and participation in person in all Vatican Christmas and New Year ceremonies will be very limited. Ceremonies for the Christmas festivities begin with Christmas Night Mass on 24 December in St.

