

At 5 p.m. Dec. 31, Pope Francis will preside over an evening prayer service for the feast of Mary, Mother of God. Vespers will be followed by eucharistic adoration, benediction and the singing of the "Te Deum" to thank God for the year that is ending.

On **New Year's Day**, at **10 a.m.** the pope will celebrate Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, and at **10 a.m. Jan. 6, the feast of the Epiphany**, he will celebrate Mass in St. Peter's Basilica.

Calling all men - New Year Resolution? Exodus 90 is a spiritual exercise for men, with over 50,000 who have completed it so far. It's a challenging 90-day period (Jan 17th to Easter Sunday 2022) of prayer and asceticism, supported by a weekly fraternal gathering. Exodus 90 is renewing the Church by transforming men. See www.exodus90.com to learn more.

New Year Resolutions: Whatever they are, it's important to engage our faith in our goal-planning. By following God's purposes and direction, we have real hope in accomplishing our resolutions. Seeking His direction, we can marvel at the possibilities of using our talents, gifts and skills in the way they were ultimately intended. Even the most well-intentioned goals cannot come to full fruition if they are not based on God's plans for us. Blessings on all our efforts.

ALONE national support line for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. Call 0818 222 024, 8am-8pm, **any** day.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: This time of year 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, lets 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.

We pay tribute to: the women & men in our health services, hospitals, care centres for their many sacrifices in the service of our communities again due to Covid, the press is on. May Love come alive within your hearts this Christmas time; May he bless you all season long.

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.



Readings for 2nd January - Second Sunday of Christmas; Reading I: Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2,8-12; **Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 147:12-15,19-20; **Reading II:** Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18; **Gospel:** John 1:1-18

Mullary Cemetery Draw: Winning #9; Tracey Glass; James Flood.



Parish of Monasterboice

(Mainistir Bhuithe)

Christmas 24th/25th December 2021 & The Feast of the Holy Family 26th - Year C

Parish Priest: Fr. Paddy Rushe; 086 880 7470
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Web: www.monasterboiceparish.com & We are also on Facebook & Twitter

Happy Christmas to you and your family.

When God became man on this day, our lives were changed forever. No longer do we believe in a God who is distant from us, but we now know that our God is ever-present to us, intimately united with us in our humanity, while maintaining his divinity.

This Christmas, let us take time to reflect on how Jesus not only changed the course of our world and our history, but let us reflect on how Jesus continues to change our individual lives.

With great joy, let us welcome Jesus into our lives, into our hearts & homes, and invite him to be part of every moment of our life, to be with every member of our family, and allow him to continue to reveal to us the good news that he constantly brings to us.

It is my prayer this Christmas that each one of us may open our hearts to grow deeper and deeper in love with Jesus, and place him at the centre of our lives, so that we may be bearers of the good news of salvation for all people.

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 Secretaries; and all those who helped in any way.

I am so grateful for your support.

On behalf of all, I wish you and your families the many blessings of Christmas and a joyous and grace-filled new year!



All our Christmas liturgies will be available on Webcam 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



For Mother's/Birthday/1st
Original Pattern from 1970's
Happy Birthday Jesus 1-12-2019

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

Parish Office: Tuesdays from 2.30pm - 5.30pm; Our secretaries, Mary/Ann (087-3791443) will be able to take phone calls, & answer emails about parish

(certificates, etc). Closed Christmas Week reopening Tuesday 4th January

Covid-19 continues to impact on our lives: especially when considering large gatherings. Our thoughts are with the businesses affected by latest restrictions, as well as health care workers under pressure at this time, and anyone affected directly/indirectly by Covid. The most important thing is that we continue to do everything we can to keep each other safe over Christmas. Thank you for helping to achieve this.

Eucharistic Adoration available in the Pastoral Area as follows: Mondays Church of the Immaculate Conception, Termonfechin 7pm–8pm; **Tuesdays** in Immaculate Conception, Tenure 10-10.30am; **Saturdays** in Church of St Borchill, Dysart 11am-12noon. Also from Termonfechin Oratory each **Friday** 11am–6pm via the internet only see www.termonfechinparish.ie/webcam

Thanks to our Sacristans - Kathleen & Teresa - and **ALL** who helped in the work of preparing the Churches for Christmas - both looking truly splendid! Do let us know if you would be available in an ongoing way to help care for our church buildings - inside and out! Thanks to all who donated a Poinsetta to the Church this Christmas.

Finance: Thank you for your support last weekend which totalled €536; and over €250 per week in **ONLINE** Donations 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 December. Please pick up your box at your earliest convenience. **NB your envelope number might be different** from previous years, don't worry, this is merely due to the computer system we are using. Your subscriptions will still be credited to you. An 'End of Year' financial statement will also be made available early in January.



NB <u>ALL</u> Masses can be accessed via www.churchservices.tv/monasterboice		
Day\Mass	Intention	
Friday 24th December @ 5pm	(Tenure)	Pro Populo (For the People)
Friday 24th December @ 6.30pm	(Tenure)	Joe & Addie Winters
Friday 24th December @ 8pm	(F/Town)	-
Friday 24th December @ 9.30pm	(F/Town)	Kathleen & Gabriel Byrne (Av.)
Saturday 25th December @ 9.45am	(F/Town)	Eddie & Nora McDonnell Gerry & Eileen Burns
Saturday 25th December @ 11.15am	(Tenure)	Bridie & Johnny Dowling Philip Dowling; Michael McQuillan
NB - NO EVENING MASS ON SATURDAY 25th DECEMBER		
Sunday 26th December @ 9.45am	(F/Town)	Mary Ann Rushe (Birthday Rememb.)
Sunday 26th December @ 11.15am	(Tenure)	John Mulroy (8th Av) Jim Clarke (24th Av)
Tuesday 28th December @ 9.30am	(Tenure)	Parish 'List of The Dead'
Wed. 29th December @ 9.30am	(F/Town)	-
NB - NO EVENING MASS ON FRIDAY 31st DECEMBER		
Saturday 1st January 2022 12noon	(F/Town)	-
Saturday 1st January 2022 @ 6.30pm	(Tenure)	George, Kitty (100th Birthday Rememb.) & Jim Conaghy
Sunday 2nd January 2022 @ 9.45am	(F/Town)	-
Sunday 2nd January 2022 @ 11.15am	(Tenure)	-

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; Dermot Seberry, Brownstown; Mickey Dunne, Dunleer; Frank McKiernan, Cavan; Eugene (Gus) Bourke, Silogue and late of Navan & Castlebar; If a family member outside the parish has died, let us know & we can pray for them at Parish Masses.

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.

Pope Francis' liturgies for the Christmas season: The schedule begins with what many people refer to as "midnight Mass" although the Mass has not been celebrated at midnight at the Vatican since 2009 when Pope Benedict XVI moved it to 10 p.m. Pope Francis moved it to 9:30 p.m. in 2013, his first Christmas as pope, and to 7:30 p.m. in 2020 to allow people to return home before the curfew that was in effect in Italy at that time. Pope Francis will again celebrate the "Christmas (Eve) Mass at Night" at 7:30 p.m. At noon on Christmas Day he will give his traditional Christmas blessing "urbi et orbi" (to the city and the world).

