

Pastoral Area: Along with Termonfechin, Clogherhead, and Togher, our Parish is part of the St. Colmcille's Pastoral Area: **Contact numbers;** Fr Paul Byrne 982 2121; Fr Martin McVeigh 982 2224; Monsignor Jim Carroll 98 89335

World Youth Day: The young people of our parish are invited to consider a pilgrimage to World Youth Day in **Portugal, 2023**. This is a life changing experience for those who attend. The trip will include a visit to Fatima, daily mass, along with the numerous spiritually enriching opportunities that are part of the World Youth Day program. If interested, please contact the parish office. The experience is designed for those in their 20's and 30's, but **anyone 18-40 can attend**. WYD takes place **August 1-6, 2023**.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting: Tuesday 11th @ 8pm via Zoom. At the end of this year, there will be FOUR positions to be renewed on the Parish Council. Pls consider putting your name forward for this consultative body.

Fr. Paddy would like to extend sincere thanks to all parishioners were so generous at Christmas time with cards, gifts, and good wishes. He feels very blessed by your support.



Friday 14th January: is the Closing date for applications for new Junior Infants in both parish schools. Please consult school websites or contact schools directly; **Tenure:** Phone number: 041 6851503. Email: office@tenurens.ie **Harestown:** 041 98 22112. Email: office@harestownns.ie

Ireland Lights Up @ Your Local GAA: Naomh Mairtin track will be open to all on the Monday, Wednesday & Friday nights from 6.30-8pm, and the lights will be on. Supported by the Health & Wellbeing Committee.

Health is Wealth: We pray that all our Parishioners who are sick or housebound feel better and keep improving, everyday. We keep you in our thoughts & prayers.

The Popes Monthly Intentions: True human fraternity: For all those suffering from religious discrimination/persecution; may their rights & dignity which originate from being brothers & sisters in the human family be recognised

Why Not... At home or in Church light a candle & pray the Rosary or part of it for peace in the world; and for care for creation as the New Year begins.

Spend time with your elders - Not everything can be found on Google!

Readings for 16th January - 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time; Reading I: Isaiah 62:1-5; **Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 95:1-3, 7-10; **Reading II:** 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11; **Gospel:** John 2:1-11.

Mullary Cemetery Draw: Winning #1; Brigid Reid; Tony Mellon.



Parish of Monasterboice

(Mainistir Bhuithe)

Feast of The Baptism of The Lord - Year C 9th January 2022

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

The Baptism of the Lord: Jesus comes to the Jordan, is baptised by John and everything changes. The sky breaks open. The spirit comes, announcing the fulfilment of the prophetic promise for the people of Israel.

When we are baptised the same thing happens – the spirit comes down and makes itself known, claiming us as children of God and anchoring ourselves in God's love. Most of us cannot remember the moment of our baptism as infants. Fortunately, we have an abundance of symbols and rituals to anchor us in our **'baptismal memory'**.

The simple act of entering a Catholic Church and blessing ourselves with water from the font at the entrance is a way of remembering our baptism **"In the name of the Father, + and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"**. We remember who we are as we enter God's presence. And it makes even more sense to put water on our foreheads as we leave the Church and go out into the world – for there the battles are fought.

Baptism isn't just a one-off event but **an ongoing reality**. We have a new identity in Christ. Every day we are to live out the meaning of our baptism. To say 'I belong to God' is to find new strength to meet the difficult situations life presents us with. To remember our baptism is to gain a new sense of **personal responsibility for our lives** - we are accountable to God for the life we live.

We also have a responsibility to be good examples to the next generation. Parents & Godparents take on this explicitly at the ceremony of Baptism, but all of us - **the whole Christian Community** - must be aware of how we live can affect others. That's why we are called "Christians". To be a disciple is to know and experience that God is my Father, that he is working in the world, at the heart of all things, building it up into a unity of love, bringing it to fulfilment. I become a disciple to the extent that I let Jesus change and form me. This feast marks the **end of the Christmas Season** in the Church Calendar.



Welcome to all those who've had a baby Baptised in the last year (there were 43 Baptisms in the Parish in 2021): Fr. Paddy will be offering a 'blessing of babies' at all the Masses, and members of the Parish Pastoral Council will be distributing a little gift to the families - a **book of prayers** for use in your home with the children; If you have brought a picture of the Baptism Day to the Church for display, please place your pictures on the display boards, or email to the parish office.

We welcome to the Christian Community: Heidi Cara Strauss; Sadhbh May Lyons; Poppy Emmanuel O'hEochaidh; Lucy May Gallagher; Molly Beth O'Neill-Haughey; Louis Finn McGuinness; Enya Ros Akin-Black; Sienna Maureen Gough; Anna Brigid Donnelly; Ava Isabella Fagan; Izzy Noelle Murphy; Rion-JK Howell; who were baptised since October.

Baptisms are normally celebrated on Saturdays before the evening Mass, or Sundays after the last Mass - in either Church - by arrangement via the office.

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).

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; **Wednesdays** in The Church of The Nativity of Our Lady, Fieldstown 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

Finance: Thank you for your support last weekend which totalled €874; 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: began 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, 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.

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; Brian Toner, Glennane, Armagh; Dermot Seberry, Brownstown; Mickey Dunne,

NB ALL Masses can be accessed via www.churchservices.tv/monasterboice	
Day\Mass	Intention
Saturday 8th January 2022 @ 6.30pm	(Tenure) Pro Populo (For The People)
Sunday 9th January 2022 @ 9.45am	(F/Town) -
Sunday 9th January 2022 @ 11.15am	(Tenure) Joseph & Margaret Devine; James Murtagh; Teddy Quail (3rd Av)
Tuesday 11th January 2022 @ 9.30am	(Tenure) -
Wed. 12th January 2022 @ 9.30am	(F/Town) -
Friday 14th January 2022 @ 7pm	(Tenure) -
Saturday 15th January 2022 @ 6.30pm	(Tenure) -
Sunday 16th January 2022 @ 9.45am	(F/Town) -
Sunday 16th January 2022 @ 11.15am	(Tenure) Jim Byrne (The Mill); Johnny Allen (3rd Av)

Dunleer; Frank McKiernan, Cavan; If a family member outside the parish has died, let us know & we can pray for them at Parish Masses.



Refocus: Would you consider spending **11 Tuesday evenings** investing your time in exploring how Faith can relate to your life in normal but powerful ways? This can happen online from the comfort of your own home for just **1 hour each night**

What is it? The Alpha Course is a friendly, engaging, non-judgemental approach to exploring the 'big' questions of life from a Christian standpoint. Why are we here? Does God really guide us? Where does Faith and Prayer fit in? Why is there Evil in the World?

Who is it for? It can be for those who are already heavily involved in their Parish or for those who would like to be involved or more involved. Whatever about involvement, it certainly is for those who are seeking and searching for deeper meaning in life which can easily relate to Life to Faith.

What can I expect? 25 Minutes of a thought provoking DVD followed by group discussion with a facilitator. This Course is not a heavy learning session but about reacting to the clip you've seen and sharing your thoughts.

For the first time, this Alpha is being run on a **Nationwide basis** with each parish having its own small group of 7 to 8 people. If you're interested please check out alphaireland.org/refocus for more details and **online Registration.** Course starts **Tuesday 18th January @8pm**

Have you a Smart Speaker at home? (Alexa/Google Home): Smart Speakers enable people to play a selection of media without touching or, activating an app, searching for content or scrolling through lists. Why not try some of these 'Skills' to help you grow in faith. Simply ask your device to 'enable' these; 1. **Saint of the Day**; 2. **The Holy Rosary**; 3. **Daily Mass Readings**; 4. **Pray As You Go**; 5. **Catholic News**;

