

RATHOWEN

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, RATHOWEN

FOURTH SUN OF ADVENT

Sun Dec 24th, 11am Morning Mass

nigelcharles2003@yahoo.co.uk

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| RATHOWEN/STREETE |
| WEEKDAY MASSES |
| Fri Dec 29th |
| Rathowen 7pm |
| Boherquill 8pm, Adoration 7 to 8pm |

Extra-Ordinary Minister for December - Peter MaGuire

READER for December - John Cox

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| Mass in December | Boherquill | Saturday | 8pm |
| | Rathowen | Sunday | 11am |

We pray for Elizabeth Coffey, Rathowen whose funeral took place during the week

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| CHRISTMAS DAY MASS |
| Vigil Mass – 9pm at St Mary's Rathowen on Sun Dec 24 th |
| Morning Mass – 11am at St Mary's Boherquill on Mon Dec 25 th |
| CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS |
| Sat Dec 23rd – St Mary's Rathowen 12noon to 1pm and after the 8pm vigil Mass in St Mary's Boherquill |

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun Dec 24th at 11am

No intention

Sun Dec 31st at 11am

No intention

Offertory collection for last weekend was €522. Thank you for your support.

SPEND TIME WITH JESUS

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wed and Thurs from 10 to 10.30am in Rathowen Church

YOUTH MASS

Sun Dec 31st at 7pm in St Mary's, Rathowen – Our pastoral council wants to invite the young people of our community to actively participate at our Youth Mass. All are welcome

ST MARY'S NS, Rathowen

Clothing Collection

A total of €150 was raised from our clothing collection on 14th December, thank you to all who donated clothes.

Christmas Carol Service

Well done to all the children who participated in our Christmas Carol Service in St. Mary's church on 14th December, the children put on a superb performance.

Cake Sale

The children organised a cake sale and a Christmas Fair in the school on Tuesday, 19th December to raise funds to build an outdoor village at the school. This is part of the Amber Flag initiative which focuses on promoting positive mental health in children. Well done to all involved. Thank you to the children, staff and parents who spent time baking for this event. A total of €329 was raised. All support was greatly appreciated.

Website address www.rathowenparish.ie

Fr Nigel Charles 087 7009433-043 6685847

STREETE

Website address www.streeteparish.ie.

BI-CENTENARY 1812 - 2012

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BOHERQUILL

FOURTH SUN OF ADVENT

Sat Dec 23rd, 8pm Vigil Mass

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| Reader - | Jennifer Gilligan | (Dec 25th) |
| | Margaret Baxter | (Dec 30th) |

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| Extra-Ordinary Minister | Enda Murphy | (Dec 25th) |
| | Brian Nerney | (Dec 30th) |

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| Mass in December | Boherquill | Saturday | 8pm |
| | Rathowen | Sunday | 11am |

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat Dec 23rd at 8pm

Mary Reilly (months mind)

Sat Dec 30th at 8pm

Fr James Masterson

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| CHRISTMAS DAY MASS |
| Vigil Mass – 9pm at St Mary's Rathowen on Sun Dec 24 th |
| Morning Mass – 11am at St Mary's Boherquill on Mon Dec 25 th |
| CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS |
| Sat Dec 23rd – St Mary's Rathowen 12noon to 1pm and after the 8pm vigil Mass in St Mary's Boherquill |

Offertory collection for last weekend was €595; thank you for your support.

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| STREETE/RATHOWEN |
| WEEKDAY MASSES |
| Fri Dec 29th |
| Rathowen 7pm |
| Boherquill 8pm, Adoration 7 to 8pm |

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 7 to 8pm on Tues and Fri in Boherquill. Rosary will be prayed at 7.10pm giving time for silent Adoration before Holy Mass.

4th Sunday of Advent

You have found favor with God. (Luke 1:30)

We all know how special Mary is. After all, God chose her to be the mother of his Son. But just because Mary is special, that doesn't mean you are ordinary. You're special too! Like her, you have found God's favor—unmerited and undeserved grace from heaven. In fact, God loves you so much that he sent his Son into the world, not to condemn you, but to save you (John 3:17). That's pretty special! The Greek word for "favor" in this passage can mean "grace" as well. Mary is full of grace—but so are you. God has filled you with his grace so that you can become "graceful" just as Mary was. She was graceful not because she had perfect etiquette or social skills. Mary was graceful because of the way God's grace molded and formed her.

Scripture tells us God has given us an "abundance" of his grace (Romans 5:17). It's always with us, like a spring bubbling up in our hearts. There is no end to what this grace can do in our lives. Paul tells us that God's grace is "sufficient" even to make God's power "perfect" in our lives (2 Corinthians 12:9).

"Thank you Lord for your grace and favor"