

Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim



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Second Sunday of Advent - 10th Dec 2023

• Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel •

1. Mark opens his gospel by describing it as 'the good news about Jesus Christ'. Think of the different ways in which the gospel stories have been good news for you.
2. John the Baptist is presented as a messenger to prepare the way for Jesus. Who have been messengers to you, preparing the way for the Lord by alerting you to ways in which you could improve your life? To whom have you been such a messenger?
3. John calls the people to repentance (= a change of heart), as a way to a new life. Can you recall times when you had a change of heart, and the change revitalised you?
4. John baptised people with water as a gesture to mark their change of heart. Sometimes we perform an action to symbolise our change of heart – write a letter, throw away our last cigarettes, etc. Can you remember a symbolic gesture with which you marked a change of heart?
- John Byrne OSA (INTERCOM)

The Pope's Monthly Intention

December - For persons with disabilities: We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation.

Thought for the Day - Because Christians have always recognized the importance of waiting and preparation, they intentionally built periods of waiting into the Christian calendar. This is a way of making room for this important piece of life that the world is so eager to get rid of. It slows us down, reorients us around God and gives us time to reflect, to prepare, to rest.

Advent is one of those seasons of waiting. When we come to Advent we remember the promise that Christ has come and will come again, but we also remember that we are not ready to jump headlong into celebration. First, we must prepare.

Waiting is a gift. Let us be ready for the sweetness that has come and that is coming again.

First Reading - This contains a piece of good news. God is coming to save his people. The people are urged to prepare a way for him.

Second Reading - If the Lord appears to be slow in coming, it is only so that people may have a chance to repent and so be ready to meet him when he comes.

Gospel - John the Baptist appears on the scene to announce to the people the imminent coming of their Saviour and to prepare them for his coming.

2024 OFFERTORY AND PRIESTS DUES ENVELOPES: The list of names for the Boxes of Envelopes for 2024 is currently being updated. If you are not already receiving a Box of Envelopes and would like your name to be included on the list, please contact the Parochial House @ 043 66 71046. It is very beneficial for the parish if parishioners use the boxes of envelopes as this enables us to use the Tax Relief Scheme. Your generous contributions towards the Offertory Collection and Priests Dues Envelopes are very much appreciated.

Co. Longford Social Services - annual Church Gate Collection is being held on Sat 16th / Sun 17th Dec next. Your support is greatly appreciated.

READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - DECEMBER

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Pat Appleford.

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Kate Crossan, Ashling O'Reilly.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - DECEMBER

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Niamh Cassidy, Sandra Durkan.

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: John Cahill, Anne Smith.

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.

This Weekend	Dec 9 th / 10 th
7.00 p.m.	1. Michael and Mary Eivers, Bracklin. 2. Patrick Brady, Longfield. 3. Teresa Gilchrist (Months Mind).
11.00 a.m.	1. John and Teresa Canning. 2. Elizabeth O'Neill and deceased members of the Harper Family. 3. Tom Skelly (Months Mind). 4. Brendan O'Byrne (Thurs Anniv).

Weekday Masses:

Wed Dec 13th @ 11.00 a.m. - Our Lady's Manor
People of the Parish.

Next Weekend: Dec 16th / 17th

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| 7.00 p.m. | Maureen Devine (Months Mind) |
| 11.00 a.m. | 1. Deceased members of the Dolan Family, Shantum.
2. Pat and Kathleen McLoughlin, Cranleymore.
3. Maureen Donegan (Second Anniv). |

Offertory Collection: Sun Nov Dec 2nd / 3rd - €1,000 - sincere thanks.

Christmas Masses

Mass of Christmas Night - Sun Dec 24th @ 9.00 p.m.

Christmas Day - 11.00 a.m.

Confessions - Tues Dec 19th @ 7.00 p.m

Annual Collection on Sun 10th Dec. Envelopes will be available in Parish Church on Sun 3rd Dec. Thank you for your support.

Edgeworth's Artisan and Craft Indoor Market

Come and discover a variety of local crafters and artists, and get loads of gift ideas and inspiration for the winter holiday season, in the lovely backdrop of the Edgeworthstown.

Make it a day out and discover the magic of the midlands!

Sat 25th November and Sat 16th Dec in the Community Center, Granard Road, 11.00 am to 4.00 p.m. Free admission.

St Paul's Sunday Missals - Missals for 2024 are available in the Parish Church. Parish Readers - please call to Sacristy for your copy

Advent Family Prayer

God of Love,

Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.

He is a sign of your love.

Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,

As we wait and prepare for his coming.

We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior.

- Fr Tom Healy -

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