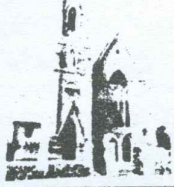


# Parish of St. Mary's

## Mostrim



Telephone: (043) 6671046

www.edgeworthstownparish.ie

edgeworthstownparish@gmail.com

Third Sunday of Advent - 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024

### This Weekend

Dec 14<sup>th</sup> / Dec 15<sup>th</sup>

7.00 p.m.

1. Patrick Brady, Longfield.
2. Deceased members of the Kelly family, Garryandrew.
3. Pauline, John Joe and Mary Flood (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv.)
4. Owen Gilchrist (24<sup>th</sup> Anniv.) and deceased family members.
5. Deceased members of the Murphy family, Kilbride Park and London.

11.00a.m.

1. John and Ann Nolan and deceased family members, Lacken.
2. Deceased members of the Dolan family, Shantum.
3. Elizabeth O'Neil (nee Harper) and deceased members of the Harper family, Ringowney.
4. Maureen Donegan (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv) and deceased members the O'Toole and Kelly families.

### Weekday Masses @ 11.00 a.m. - Our Lady's Manor

Wed Dec 18<sup>th</sup> People of the Parish.

Next Weekend: Dec 21<sup>st</sup> / Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>

7.00 p.m.

1. Grainne Hussey (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.) her parents Molly & Michael and her sister Deirdre.
2. Joeleen O'Leary (Month's Mind).

11.00a.m.

- Pat and Kathleen McLoughlin, Cranleymore, Oliver Casey and all deceased family members.

**Offertory Collection:** Sat/Sun Dec 8<sup>th</sup> - €1,095 - sincere thanks.

Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament.

**BAPTISMS** - We welcomed

Joseph Sandor, Auburn Court and

Eliynna Cerkoika, Auburn Court

into our Christian community recently.



**St Paul's Sunday Missals** - Missals for 2025 are available in the Parish Church. Parish Readers - please call to Sacristy for your copy.

**Annual St Vincent de Paul Collection** - on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Envelopes will be left in Church. Thank you.

**LONGFORD MEALS ON WHEELS** - Annual Church Gate Collection on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

**Sunday Scriptures - First Reading** - Jerusalem is urged to rejoice because her salvation is at hand. God himself stands in her midst, the king and the protector of his people. We too should take heart from this message of hope.

**Second Reading** - This urges us to rejoice in the Lord. To be free of anxiety and to live in a spirit of prayer and thanksgiving.

**Gospel** - John the Baptist tells various groups of people the works of justice and charity they must do in order to prepare for the Lord's coming and to escape his searching judgement.

### • Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel •

1. 'What should we do?' The common thread in John's answers was to encourage his questioners to be other-centered rather than self-centered, each in the context of their own circumstances. In your experience what difference has it made for you when you changed your attitude in this way?

2. John told the people in a direct and honest way what they should do. Perhaps you have had friends who did not beat about the bush but told you honestly what they thought about your behaviour when you asked them? In gratitude recall such friends.

3. The humility of John comes out in this passage, happy to acknowledge that he only had a minor role to play in relation to the Messiah. At the same time, he was enthused by his mission to 'proclaim the good news to the people'. What difference has it made for you when you were able to see the good in yourself, and use your gifts without having to score by portraying yourself as greater than someone else?

- John Byrne OSA (INTERCOM)

### • Thought for the Day •

Joy is not passive. It is active, current and we have agency to create it ourselves. We don't have to wait for it to tap us on the shoulder. Some practical advice I share is:

• If suffering is 'like velcro'. Negative experiences are apparently 2.5 times as impactful as positive experiences. Perhaps the key, then, is to actively look at joyful experiences 2.5 times more than negative ones?

• Scientists have tested bloods and found that acts of kindness have a demonstrable positive effect on health.

• Desmond Tutu tells us that living from compassion and gratitude is the start.

• Joy is spontaneous and natural. Find the spark of joy in every situation. We can take ourselves too seriously. - INTERCOM

**Longford County Choir Christmas Celebration Concert** with Soloist Eimear Reynolds and St. Mel's Children's Choir in St. Mel's Cathedral on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 8.00pm. Tickets €10 each or Family Ticket €20, available on Eventbrite / Presbytery / Denniston's / Farrell Stationery / Choir Members. Proceeds to Cian's Kennels.

'**The Irish Countryside**' - a weekly ramble on Radio Maria Ireland will be coming from Clonbroney on St. Samthann's Day, 19<sup>th</sup> Dec @ 4 p.m. (and Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 6 a.m.). You can listen in on www.radiomaria.ie or Saorview Channel 210 or Smartphone App.

**ABBEYSHRILE CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR** - Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Dec @The Rustic Inn 12-6pm. Original, handmade gift ideas and food. Santa 2-5pm (only €7). Face painting 2-4pm (free). Festive Food all day.

Raffle in aid of Longford Autism Youth Club. Christmas Lights Tractor Run after dusk.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** - Eucharistic Adoration takes place on Sat mornings from 10.00 to 11.00 in the Parish Church. All are welcome to partake in this devotional prayer to Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament.

**2024 OFFERTORY AND PRIESTS DUES ENVELOPES:** The list of names for the Boxes of Envelopes for 2025 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.

### READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - DECEMBER

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Lorena Salazar.

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Helena Quinn.

### MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - DECEMBER

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Gerard Haughey, Gerard Green.

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Anne Smith, Yvonne Tuite.

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.

### WEBCAM

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