

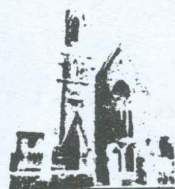
Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim

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Fourth Sunday of Advent - 22nd Dec 2024

This Weekend Dec 21st / Dec 22nd

7.00 p.m.

1. Grainne Hussey (1st Anniv.), her parents Molly and 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.

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

Next Weekend: Dec 28th / Dec 29th

7.00 p.m.

1. Patricia (Patsy) Duffy (1st Anniv.)

2. Eliyamma Scaria (10th Anniv.)

3. Bernard & Maureen Conway.

11.00a.m.

1. Michael Turner (Month's Mind).

2. Mary Rooney (1st Anniv.)

Offertory Collection: Sat/Sun Dec 15th - €1,370 - sincere thanks.

Confessions - Mon Dec 23rd @ 7.00 p. m.

St Mel's Cathedral - Christmas Eve - 10.30am to 4.30pm

Christmas Masses

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

Christmas Day - 11.00 a.m.

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

• Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel •

1. The greeting of Elizabeth to Mary 'Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb' is a joyful welcome of the child to come. Bring new life into the world through pregnancy and birth is one of the most awesome human experiences. How have you experienced this for yourself or in someone close to you?

2. The image of the pregnant Mary going a distance to visit her cousin is a symbol of her willingness to look beyond her own needs to the needs of another. When have you witnessed that kind of generosity in others, or have been able to act in this way yourself?

3. Mary is praised for her faith, because she believed the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled. In this she is a model for us. In what ways have you experienced blessings from your faith and trust in God's promises? What are God's promises that mean the most to you?

- John Byrne OSA (INTERCOM)

Pope Francis: *May the light of hope illuminated by the Holy Spirit burn within our hearts this Christmas. May the light of God's love shine through us, and may our witness of faith be an invitation for others to believe in the gift of salvation that Christ offers to all, and most especially in this upcoming Jubilee year.*

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Christmas Message 2024 - Bishop Paul Connell

When I was appointed bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnois by Pope Francis last year, I chose Deus Spes Mea - God is my hope, as my episcopal motto. A motto is defined in the dictionary as a brief statement used to express a goal or ideal. I chose it for a number of reasons, but most especially because it expresses what is at the heart of our Christian faith. Its core message is that God overcomes all obstacles through the fire of hope. We live in a troubled world where all around us and pain, so much so inclined to despair.



What is needed in and all those who fire of hope. This is others and pass on people who have left us a legacy of faith, keeping their time. Now is our turn to persevere, so that this same light of hope shines from us. We do not know what the future brings, but we do know that the flame of Christian hope can continue to burn brightly, even in the most difficult situations.

The beauty of the Christmas message is the hope that is found in this weak and vulnerable Christ child who has come to save us. We are reminded of the love that God has for each of us, that He is a kind and merciful God. We are reminded that despite the darkness that engulfs our world today, especially in the Holy Land, the light of hope, of faith will endure.

To quote Pope Francis:

Let us exult in this gift of grace!

Rejoice you who have abandoned all hope,

for God offers you His outstretched hand;

He does not point a finger at you,

but offers you His little baby hand,

in order to set you free from your fears,

to relieve you of your burdens and to show you that, in His eyes,

you are more valuable than anything else.

I wish every one of you a blessed, peaceful Christmas, full of the joy and peace that the Christ child brings into our lives.

+ Paul Connell

Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnois.

THANK YOU - *As the year draws to a close, I would like to say a sincere thank you to all who contribute so generously to the life of the parish. I express our gratitude to all who play active roles in the parish community:*

Sacristans, Ministers of the Word, Ministers of the Eucharist, Choir members and their leaders, Pastoral Council, Servers, Safeguarding Rep, Ushers, those who assist with collecting, counting and banking the Sunday collection, those who distribute boxes of envelopes, those who erected Advent Wreath and Crib, those who care for the Church so faithfully by cleaning it and beautifying it with flowers, and to all who assist in any way - my sincere thanks to all - may God reward you for your generous contribution to the faith life of our parish - Fr. Tom Heafy



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.