

SUNDAY, - 10 AM MASS

SATURDAY, - 8PM MASS

email: mcdcoath@gmail.com FR. PIERRE MOBILE: 087 6960542**RATHOWEN
WEEKDAY MASSES**Christmas Eve
Boherquill - 9.30 am
Rathowen - 6pmChristmas morning
Boherquill - 10.00amThursday
NO MASSFriday
Boherquill - 8pm. Adoration 7 - 8pm.**STREETE
WEEKDAY MASSES**Christmas Eve
Boherquill - 9.30 am
Rathowen 6-pmChristmas morning
Boherquill - 10.00amThursday
NO MASSFriday
Boherquill - 8pm. Adoration 7 - 8pm.**Mass Intentions****Sun 22nd Dec 10am: Teresa Maguire & Una Maguire****Sun 29th Dec 10am: Marie Caasey 1st Anniv.****CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

Confession Rathowen monday 7pm, Streete confessions monday 7pm. Christmas Eve mass Rathowen 6pm and on Christmas Morning in Boherquill at 10am. No mass on St Stephen's day, Mass Friday Boherquill 8pm, adoration at 7.

EARLIEST MENTION OF 25TH OF DEC.

The earliest mention of Christmas been celebrated on the 25th of December can be found in the ancient Roman martyrology of the 3rd centry. After the passage of countless centuries, from the creation of the world, when in the beginning God created heaven and earth and formed man in His own image; and very many centuries from the time when after the flood the Almighty had set His bow in the sky, a sign of the covenant and peace; in the 21st century from the migration of Abraham, our father in faith, from Ur of the Chaldees; in the 13th century from the departure of the peoples from Egypt, lead by Moses; in about one-thousandnt year from the anointing of David as king according to the prophecy of Daniel; in the 752nd year of the founding of the city of Rome; in the 42nd year of the rule of Caesar Octavian Augustus, while the whole world was at peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and son of the Eternal Father desiring to consecrate the world by his most gracious coming having been conceived of the Holy Spirit, and when nine months had passed after his conception, is born as a man in Bethlehern in Judah of the virgin Mary.

WORLD HEADLINES.

(A) Pope Francis reveals that he survived two threats to his life in Iraq. (B) Ten commandments Tablet, attributed to ancient Samaritans, goes up for auction. (D) Ahead of the Christmas season christian villagers told to leave home in state in India. (E) Pope disowns politicians who exploit popular piety. (F) King Charles III attends event in catholic church remembering Christians in the Middle east. (F) Pope applauds Corscian society for having children...

Offertory collection

Streete 230 Rest in Peace
Rathowen 217 Fr Eamon Corkey former PP Dromard

Mass Intentions**Sat 21st Dec 8pm: McComack & Noonan Families****Sat 28th Dec 8pm: Mickey, Pat, Lena, Peter Early (coolnagun.)****INTERESTING CHRISTMAS FACTS.**

The name Christmas comes from the old english phrase Cristes maesse which means 'Christ's Mass' many think the term Xmas is a modern abbreviation- but it dates back to the 16th century! the X is said to represent the Greek sign for Christ. The real santa was actually St Nicolas of Myra in Turkey, a fourth century Bishop. He didn't wear a red suit that is so famous today, but he did give all of his inheritance to the poor and needy. Orthodox churches see the Epiphany as the important day, since it was on this day the Word incarnate was revealed to the world in the person of the 3 wise men guided by the light of a star.

SAINTLY WISDOM "CHRISTMAS"

"In this day in which the rich became poor for our sake, let the rich man the poor man share with him at his table. On this day came forth to us the gift, even thow we had not asked for it! Let us therefore bestow alms on those who cry and beg from us". { St Bede}...

PRAYER BEFORE CHRISTMAS DINNER:

Most merciful Father, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite. On this Christmas day we come before you with gratitude for your kindness. Open our hearts to have concern for others so that we may share your gifts with all your people. We ask your blessing upon this meal we now share together, bless those who prepared the meal that we now share.

May the peace of Christ whose birth we honour be a reality in the lives of all those whom we love, and may the star that guided the 3 wise men manifest itself to all who seek the way the truth and the light, Jesus our lord and saviour. Happy Christmas this holy season.

