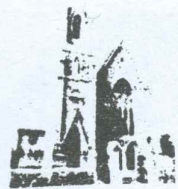


Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim



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The Holy Family of Jesus - 29nd Dec 2024

'Having somewhere to go is home. Having someone to love is family. Having both is a blessing.' - *Unknown*

'Family is not defined by our genes, it is built and maintained through love.' - *Amalia G.*

'The bond that links your true family is not one blood, but of respect and joy in each other's life.' - *Richard Bach*

'Family is a life jacket in the stormy sea of life'. - *J.K. Rowling*

'A family doesn't need to be perfect; it just needs to be united.' -

'Families are like branches on a tree, we grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one.' - *Unknown*

Sunday Reflection - The first Sunday after Christmas is observed as the feast of the Holy Family. This feast became popular in the Seventeenth Century and the theme of today has become the subject of celebrated works of art. A clear understanding of the term 'family' recognizes that we are all part of one or more groups of people, that no human being is an island. The child Jesus, his mother Mary and her husband Joseph are symbols of this human solidarity.

The Pope's Monthly Intention:

January: For the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

New Year Prayer

Eternal God: in your purpose our lives are lived and by your grace our homes are bright. Be with us in the coming year, forgiving, leading and saving; so that we may walk without fear in the way of Jesus Christ.

- Presbyterian Book of Worship.

This Weekend	Dec 28th / Dec 29th
7.00 p.m.	1. Patricia (Patsy) Duffy (1 st Anniv.) 2. Eliyamma Scaria (10 th Anniv.) 3. Bernard & Maureen Conway.
11.00 a.m.	1. Michael Turner (Month's Mind). 2. Mary Rooney (1 st Anniv.)
Weekday Masses @ 11.00 a.m. - Our Lady's Manor	
Mon 30th	Matt, Rose & Nora Conway.
Wed 1st Jan	People of the Parish.
Next Weekend: Jan 4th / Jan 5th	
7.00 p.m.	No Intention. 11.00 a.m. No Intention.

Offertory Collection: Sat 21st / Sun Dec 22nd - €1,065;
Christmas Day - €2,540 - sincere thanks.

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. Luke's skill as a storyteller comes through in the details of the story in a way with which many people can identify: the loss of a child, the frantic search, the seemingly offhand speech of the teenager. Let the drama of the story speak to you. Where do you find good news in it?

2. The distress of Mary and Joseph brings to mind the distress of many parents separated from their children in today's world by social unrest, forced migration and other factors. How does the plight of these families speak to you?

3. In Luke's Gospel this story serves to give a glimpse of the future greatness of Jesus, the teacher of his people. Sometimes we can look back over our own life, or the lives of others, and with hindsight can see in childhood or teenage years a glimpse of gifts and talents that were later to blossom. Where have you seen this?

4. 'Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?' This seemingly insensitive reply by Jesus to Mary serves to highlight that in his life the mission given him by God would take precedence over family ties, painful though this would be. Perhaps you have known situations in your own life where there was pain for family members as you followed your own destiny? Where in the mist of the pain was the good news? - John Byrne OSA

Sunday Scriptures - First Reading - This deals with the birth of Samuel and his consecration to God. Every child should be seen as a gift from God.

Second Reading - We are God's own children and he has a wonderful destiny in store for us. We should, therefore, respond by living a life that befits a child of God.

Gospel - This relates the episode in which the twelve-year-old Jesus got lost in Jerusalem. It shows how, even in the best of families, hurtful misunderstandings can occur.

- Fr Tom Healy -

8 New Year's Resolutions Inspired by Pope Francis

1. Volunteer for a local charity or non-profit.
2. Stop judging others.
3. Take Scripture to heart.
4. Take one concrete step to become more environmentally conscious. (And start now!)
5. Pray every day. Even when it is hard.
6. Let go of a grudge or two.
7. Reduce social media use.
8. Call your loved ones regularly (and truly listen to them.)

"Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book, Write a good one." - Brad Paisley

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." - C.S. Lewis.

"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors and let every new year find you a better man." - Benjamin Franklin

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.

2025 OFFERTORY AND PRIESTS DUES ENVELOPES: Thank you for your generous contributions to Edgeworthstown Parish over the past year which have enabled us to meet our financial commitments. Thank you to all who have distributed Boxes of Envelopes for 2025 in their local areas. 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.

READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - JANUARY

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Mary Reynolds.

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Aishling O'Reilly.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - JANUARY

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Diane Spillane.

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: John Cahill, Kathleen Dowler.

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.

WEBCAM

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