# PRIEST ON DUTY: FR SEAMUS O'ROURKE C.C. 071-9620118 MASSES FOR SATURDAY 8th & SUNDAY 9th JANUARY BAPTISM OF THE LORD

ST.MARY'S Sat Vigil 8pm: Bernadette Burke (Anniv)

9 am: Eamonn McGirl (Anniv)

10.30am:

**12 noon:** John Harris, his son J.P. & son in-law John Kennedy & deceased members of the Harris & Kennedy families

## MASSES FROM MONDAY 10th to SATURDAY 15th JANUARY

ST.MARY'S: Monday 8pm: Tom & Rita Burke (Anniv)

Tuesday 10am: Maureen Moran (1st Anniv) & her husband Bertie

Wednesday 10am: Brian & John Paul Carthy (Anniv)

Thursday 10am:

Friday 8pm: Tom Hughes (Months Mind)

Saturday 10am:

**LEITRIM Tuesday 8pm:** Deceased members of the McCormack

& Evers family

**GOWEL Friday 7pm:** Annie Gilbride (Anniv)

### MASSES FOR SATURDAY 15th & SUNDAY 16th JANUARY

Sat Vigil 8pm: Brendan C. Kieran (Anniv) & Annetha &

Jack Hennessy

9am:

10.30am: Patsy Guckian (Anniv)12 noon: Joe Brennan (Anniv)

#### **PARISH NOTICES**

**DEATHS:** We pray for the happy repose of the souls of George Graham (Leitrim), Bridie McGovern (Keshcarrigan & formerly Ballinwing, sister of Willie Joe Farrell, Ballinwing) and Sean Treacy (Amber Court) whose funerals took place recently. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Pope Francis, Angelus on 1st January, St Peter's Square.

Dear brothers and sisters, Happy New Year!

Let us begin the new year entrusting it to Mary, the Mother of God... We can see a gift given to us in that act of laying [Jesus] down [in the crib]: the Madonna does not keep her Son to herself, but presents him to us. She not only holds him in her arms, but puts him down to invite us to look at him, welcome him, adore him. Behold Mary's maternity: she offers the Son who is born to all of us. Always by giving her Son, showing her Son, never treating her Son as something of her own, no. And so throughout Jesus' life.

And in laying him before our eyes, without saying a word, she gives us a wonderful message: God is near, within our reach. He does not come with the power of someone who wants to be feared, but with the frailness of someone who asks to be loved. He does not judge from his throne on high, but looks at us from below, like a brother, rather, like a son. He is born little and in need so that no one would ever again be ashamed. It is precisely when we experience our weakness and our frailness that we can feel God even nearer, because he appeared to us in this way – weak and frail. He is the God-child who is born so as not to exclude anyone. He did this to make us all become brothers and sisters.

And so, the new year begins with God who, in the arms of his mother and lying in a manger, gives us courage with tenderness. We need this encouragement. We are still living in uncertain and difficult times due to the pandemic. Many are frightened about the future and burdened by social problems, personal problems, dangers stemming from the ecological crisis, injustices and by global economic imbalances... contemplating Mary who lays Jesus in the manger, making him available to everyone, let us remember that the world can change and everyone's life can improve only if we make ourselves available to others... Peace needs a positive outlook as well, one that always sees, in the Church as well as in society, not the evil that divides us, but the good that unites us!

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OFFICE HOURS:

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