

KILTOGHERT PARISH 2018

A Christmas Meditation.

We gather to celebrate the arrival of Christmas,
we look forward to an event that has already taken place.
We look back and contemplate what is still to come,
A mystery outside of time enfolds us.

Emmanuel, God with us,
Is with us as we are now.

Like babies ourselves, we stretch out our hands
towards all that glitters and is bright.
We turn to the dream of innocence.
The veil of heaven opens once more.
We are bathed in the starlight of love,
Night shadows flee from our safe circle,
And through our veins rushes the thrill
Of vivid, presents, heartfelt joy.

We are one with God who is one with us,
We're all strong and good and giving to each other
and to the baby who is God
who lets us hold him,
as we ourselves are lovingly enfolded.



**"They followed the
star"**

PRIEST ON DUTY: FR. FRANK GARVEY P.P. 071-9620118

WEBSITE: www.carrickonshannonparish.com

ST. MARY'S CHURCH:

Sat 22nd Vigil 8pm: Eddie Branagan (2nd Anniv)

Sunday 23rd 9am: Jack & Delia Kelly & their daughter Celia

12noon: Matthew Armstrong (Anniv) & deceased members
of the Armstrong family (Bridge St)

Midnight mass 10pm: Sarah Feely (Anniv)

Christmas Day: 9am: Mary Josephine & Danny Lannon (Anniv)

Christmas Day: 12: Charlie & Paddy Phelan & John McDonagh (Anniv)

Wednesday 26th 10am:

Thursday 27th 10am:

Friday 28th 8pm: Paddy & Josie McGoldrick & deceased
members of the McGoldrick family

Saturday 29th 10am: Martin Cleary (Anniv)

Sat Vigil 8pm: Andrew Dolan (Anniv)

Sun. 30th 9am: Cornelius Evans (1st Anniv)

12noon: Bernadette McNamee (Anniv)

Mon 31st 8pm: Padre Pio

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Tues 1st 10am: Edward & Bidy Stokes (Anniv)

Wed 2nd 10am:

Thurs 3rd 10am: Molly & John Maye & deceased members of the Maye
& Murray families

Fri 4th 8pm: Rose Prior (Anniv)

Sat 5th 10am: Paddy Dockery (Anniv)

Vigil 8pm: Eamonn McGirl (1st Anniv)

Sun 6th The Epiphany 9am: Maureen Flynn (Anniv)

12noon: Martin Flanagan & deceased members of the Flanagan family

Monday 8pm: Tom & Rita Burke (Anniv)

CHURCH NOTICES

FIRST FRIDAY: First Friday house calls for 2019 will be Friday 4th January,
or as arranged with your priest.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: Thank you for your contributions last week.

Offertory €2,710

COLLECTORS –ST. MARY'S JANUARY 2018

Saturday Vigil (8pm) Martin Cunniffe, Brian Kenny, Francis Molloy

Sunday 9am: Eamon McGreevy, John Bredin, Paddy Keaney,
Liam McElgunn

Sunday 12 noon: Noel Crossan, Seán Gill.

Christmas Message 2018

As I look back on 2018 the high point of the year for me was the visit of Pope Francis to the World Meeting of Families. During his visit Pope Francis said “the World Meeting of Families has given us great hope and encouragement that families are growing more and more conscious of their own irreplaceable role in passing on the faith”. For him family is a key aspect of life.

Christmas is a family time, a time for all generations, just as the first Christmas was such a family moment, not just the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph but for the entire family of God, all people of all generations. At Croke Park Pope Francis reminded us that a society that does not value grandparents will end up lacking that quality that really matters - love. This is a love and dream that so many, including our parents and grandparents, lived out in the dream and reality of marriage. Pope Francis encouraged each married person to keep repeating in their heart: “I will never fail you or forsake you!” They are the same sentiments God has for his people (Heb 13: 5).

The Christmas story is so familiar and yet it always seems fresh. There is the good news of a baby, the good news of a birth and good news of a bright future for all humanity. The Christmas story has expectation, joy and great hope for the future. But side by side with these positive elements are darker ones, uncertainty, vulnerability and danger. The circumstances of the birth of the Saviour were not at all easy for baby or parents. That is the way life often is. Side by side with great joy there can be sorrow, alongside hopes there can be fears, accompanying successes is sometimes failure. So the darker side, the vulnerable side of Christmas, is nothing new. It is very human and realistic that these contrasting emotions and circumstances coexist. Mary decided to invite the ‘source of peace’ to enter our world. Let us do the same.

I wish you and your family members a happy Christmas, a peaceful and hopeful experience, as we remember the birth of our Saviour.

Francis Duffy

Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnois

Christmas Message 2018

As we celebrate another Christmas in our lives we are offered an opportunity to give expression to what it means for each of us. If we were to collate even a small number of the thoughts and ideas that people have about this special time, what a wonderful richness and variety we would have. It means many things to many people and yet, its deeper meaning always remains somewhat elusive. Christmas is much more than words can tell. It is a matter for our hearts to receive rather than a mystery that the mind can fully understand. It continues to be the glowing heart gently placed in the winter of our longing and loneliness. It is the light of faith in the eyes of a little child as he or she listens with wrapt attention to the Christmas story. It is the altar in our churches to which we can bring our heartaches for comfort, our sins for forgiveness, our 'lostness' for guidance. Deep down we all know, though we may not always acknowledge, that it is much more than a time of gaiety and gift giving. It is a season of wonder, worship and an annual reminder to be awake and attentive to the marvel of God wanting us to be one of us. These are only a few of the reasons why we continue to celebrate Christmas, giving glory to God and bringing joy to our world.

On behalf of Fr. Brendan, Fr. Seamus and myself I take this opportunity to say a very special 'thank you' to the many wonderful people who continue to give of themselves so generously in a whole variety of roles in our parish. We are deeply grateful. I also take this opportunity to wish all of our parishioners a truly happy Christmas and every good wish and blessing in 2019.

Fr. Frank

ST. PATRICK'S GOWEL

Fri 21st Dec 7pm: Michael & Kathleen O'Brien (Anniv) Finisklin

Sun 23rd 10.15am: Charles & Aidan McNabola & deceased members of the McNabola family

Christmas Day: 10.15am: Deceased members of the Earley family

Friday 28th Dec.7pm: Declan (30th Anniv), Teresa, Katie & Sonny McWeeney & deceased members of the McWeeney family

Sun 30th Dec. 10.15am: Margaret Kelly (3rd Anniv) & deceased members of the Kelly & McNulty family

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First Fri 4th 7pm: Lizzie Jane McNulty (Months Mind)

Sunday 6th The Epiphany 10.15am: Philomena Guckian (1st Anniv)

ST. JOSEPH'S LEITRIM:

Sunday 23rd 10.15am: Mary Guckian (1st Anniv)

Christmas Eve 10pm:

Christmas Day 10.15am: Deceased members of the McCormack & Evers families

Sunday 30th 10.15am:

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Tue 1st 8pm: John & Elizabeth Earley & their daughters

Maureen Geener & Eileen Kelly (Anniv)

First Friday 10am:

First Friday 5th 10am:

THE EPIPHANY Sun 6th 10.15am: Frank & Josephine Flynn and their son Leo & son In-law Peadar Lennon

Tue 8th 8pm: Mary Swift (Anniv)

SACRED HEART JAMESTOWN:

Sat 22nd Dec Vigil 7pm:

Christmas Eve 9pm: Fr. Joseph & Kathleen O'Dowd & deceased members of the O'Dowd & McSharry families

Sat 29th 7pm:

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The Epiphany Sat 5th 7pm: John Harris, son J.P. son in-law John Kennedy & deceased members of the Harris & Kennedy families

ST. PATRICK'S HOSPITAL:

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be **no daily mass in St Patrick's Hospital** from **Tuesday 26th December** to Monday 7th January 2019

PARISH NOTES

DEATHS: We pray for the happy repose of the souls of Tony Keane (Boyle Rd) and Albert Hunt (Jamestown) whose funerals took place in our parish recently. May they rest in the peace of Christ. We also remember Florie Foy nee Costello (Manchester, & formerly Summerhill), funeral arrangements later.

BAPTISMS: We welcome into the Christian Community Faye Butler, Rosie Murphy and Zayn Tarabulsi, who were baptised recently.

KILTOGHERT ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY: The 44th consecutive Kiltoghert Adult Christmas Party takes place in The Bush Hotel on Sunday the 6th of January 2019. Just a reminder to all attending that the sit-down meal commences at 3.00 pm (all to be seated by 2.45 pm). Reminder replies to invitations by the **FRIDAY JANUARY 4th** preceding the party. Music for the party will be provided by The Killina Céili Band, while the "Straw Boys" together with a host of other artists will be along to entertain as well. **FINANCIAL SPONSORSHIP** - so essential in underwriting the party can be given to any of the Parish Clergy or committee members throughout the parish. Cakes, confectionery, etc., can be handed into any of the organisers, or left in at The Bush Hotel on the Sunday of the party. Looking forward to a memorable and bumper 44th Christmas Party. The Organising Committee would like to extend an invitation to all those volunteers who helped out in anyway over the past four decades to come along on Sunday January 6th and join with us in celebrating yet another milestone party.

KILTOGHERT PIONEER CENTRE NEWS: The January meeting of the Kiltoghert Pioneer Centre will be held on Friday the 11th 2019 in the parish office at 8.30pm. All centre members please take note. **CHURCH GATE COLLECTION:** Our Annual Church Gate Collection in the parish of Kiltoghert will be taken at our four churches on Saturday / Sunday (**2nd & 3rd February 2019**). Please note the change of date.

THE LEITRIM MEMORY CAFE: is for people with dementia & their careers. The Leitrim Memory Cafe takes place on the last Tuesday of each month & is free, anyone affected can attend. Carers whose loved ones are in care settings can also avail of this support.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL –CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: St Marys Conference of St Vincent de Paul Carrick on Shannon would like to Thank Everyone who Donated to our Recent Christmas Church Gate Collection in Carrick on Shannon, Cortober, Leitrim, Jamestown, Gowel, Drumsna, Croghan & Drumlion. Wishing you All a Happy Christmas. St Vincent de Paul Carrick on Shannon can be Contacted in strict Confidence on 087 4660965.

TROCAIRE CHRISTMAS APPEAL: “In Yemen people are facing the worst famine in a century, with five million at risk of starvation. In South Sudan, four million have had to leave their homes and seven million are in need of food aid. Trócaire’s Christmas Appeal focuses on providing food and support for the people in countries such as South Soudan and Yemen. If you wish to make a donation this Christmas please visit the Trócaire website at <https://www.trocaire.org/christmas>

MOHILL COMPUTER TRAINING: New Level 5-part time Design Skills and Digital Fabrication: This course will Offer you the opportunity to learn about design and digital fabrication. Using a mix of classroom sessions, hands on lab work and self-directed project work, this course will facilitate you to engage in a creative design process, appreciate design principles as a problem solving activity and gain an understanding of the role of digital fabrication in a design skillset. The course will start on Friday January 18th and run for one day per week for approx 14 weeks. **Upcoming Evening Courses at the Mohill Enterprise Centre in the new year:** Internet Security with Basic Computing, Navigating Modern Living, Renewable Energy and Digital Photography. Call 071-9632024 (email: info@mct.ie). All our courses are supported by MSLETB. **Christmas holidays:** The Centre will be closed from Thursday 20th December to Wednesday 2nd January. We would also like to wish everyone a peaceful and happy Christmas. Thank you for all your support throughout 2018.

CHARITY LADIES LUNCH FOR SIMON COMMUNITY: Women’s Little Christmas Black Dress Lunch on Sun 6th Jan in Kilronan Castle in aid of North West Simon Community – Tickets now on sale €45 to include meal & wine– ideal Christmas Gift – contact Mary on 087 7708865 for further details. Tickets also on Eventbrite

ANNUAL EUCHARISTIC HEALING RETREAT: led by **Fr. Bill Keogh & Mr. Eddie Stones.** January 11th, 12th & 13th 2019. Don't miss this beautiful opportunity to begin the New Year with the healing power of Jesus Christ through **Adoration, Personal Testimonies, Healing Service, Holy Mass & Confessions.** Venue: **Abbey Hotel, Donegal Town.** Registration €25. For more info **contact Mary 087 7847304 / Catherine 087 9432846.** Accommodation available at the Abbey Hotel €99pps/ 2-night B&B. Booking: 0749721014

NORTH WEST HOSPICE: Charity Shop in Carrick on Shannon will start their half-price sale on all clothes, shoes and handbags on Monday 7th January 2019

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION: Will be closed for the Christmas Break and will resume on January 16th 2019. Wishing you all a very peaceful Christmas.