

MONASTEREVIN PARISH NEWSLETTER

BRINGING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER.

17th December 2023

Mass Times

Parish Church

Saturday - 6.30 p.m.

Sunday - 9.00 a.m. & 11.30 a.m.

Our Lady's Chapel

Tuesday to Friday
10.00 a.m.

Contact Details:

Fr. Liam Merrigan P.P.

Parish Office
045 525346

Adrienne Mc Cormack
Mary Kilbride
Anna Pedrak
Simona Grajauskaite

Opening Hours:

Monday - Thursday
9.00am to 4.30pm
Friday:
9.00am to 4.00pm

Closed for Lunch 1.00pm- 1.30pm

Safe Guarding of Children Diocesan Designated Liaison Person :

Mr. Michael Daly
c/o Bishops House
Old Dublin Road
Carlow
Ph: 085 8021633
Parish Safeguarding
Representatives
Ellen Galvin
Mary Moore

CHARITY TAX NO.
CHY 7355

Notices & Anniversaries to be left in the Parish Office by Wednesday's @ 1 p.m.

Email: monasterevin.parish@gmail.com, Parish Radio 99FM
OUR MAIN CHURCH SERVICES ARE STREAMED LIVE ON LINE VIA OUR PARISH
WEBCAM @ MONASTEREVINPARISH.IE
CHARITY TAX NO. CHY 7355

Anniversaries/Birthday Remembrance

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Michael Kelly, Passlands, Monasterevin who died during the week, Jimmy Doyle, Brighton, UK and Liam White, Drogheda Street who died recently R.I.P.**

Saturday 16th December 2023 6.30 pm Mass

Eileen McGlynn (Months Mind), Patrick Murphy (Months Mind), Son & Marie Patterson, John & Margaret Patterson, Patricia Coady, The Lawlor Family, Borraderra, Robbie & Ena Sweeney, Fintan Walsh, Numey Rd. & Deceased Members of the Walsh & Bannon Families, Paddy Cunningham, Ballagh, Chrissie Walsh, Shanahoe, Rose Reidy, Cowpasture, Johnny & Peg McDonald, Borraderra & Deceased Members of the O'Connor & Maloney Families, Patrick Dempsey, Mountrice, Margaret Walsh, 1180 Cowpasture, Charley Dowling, Old Grange, John Dowling, Old Grange & Manchester, Peter Dempsey, Ballagh, Bill & Mary King, Ballyfarsoon, Anne King, London, Elsie Damer & Deceased Members of the Damer Family, Elizabeth Malone, Shindella, Rathangan, Betty Malone, Shindella, Joe Fennell, Old Grange, Jack & Mai O'Connell, Rathangan & Deceased Members of the O'Connell & Thorpe Families, William Donogher, Hybla, Josie Miller, Ballyfarsoon, Brigid Murphy, Maura & Jim Lawlor, Ballycarroll.

Sunday 17th December 2023, 9.00 am Mass

Maureen Holohan, Margaret Holohan Finn, Simon (Sim) Holohan, Bill Stowe, Kilmeague, Patrick & Mary McLoughlin, Clogheen, Peter Dempsey, Ballagh, James (Shay) Dunne, St. Evin's Park, Deceased Members of the Dunne & Walsh Families, Fintan Walsh, Numey Rd., Stan Cosgrove, Annie O'Neill, John O'Neill, Molly Rowan, Martin (Murt) Rowan, Mick Connolly, Mary Connolly

Sunday 17th December 2023, 11.30 am Mass

Jim Ennis (Month's Mind), Patrick Murphy, (Months Mind), Noel McAlinden, Togher Rd. (Birthday Rem.), Judy Donlon, Church View, Kildangan, Joan & Bernard O'Farrell, Killinure, Stephen Buckley, Clogheen, Cora - Jane Dowling - McGinley, Snipe Bog, Cloncarlin/ Glasnevin Dublin, Brigid & Joseph Doyle, Clogheen, John Gavin, Suncroft, Willie Whelan, Mattie & Nancy McCormack, Tommy, Lily, Vincent, Helen & Toby Whelan & Deceased Members of the McCormack & Whelan Families, Maud Hayes, Sr. Gerald, Sr. Carmel, Ellen Kelly, Catherine Roberts, Ollie Leigh, Mary Houlihan, Joe Harrison, St. Evin's Park, Katie & Peter Dwane, Oghill, Hugh & Peter Dwane, London, Mary Dwane, Portsmouth, England, Joe & Bridget Harrison, Kildare Rd., Nora & Colin Tugwell, Bath, England, Kathleen, Bernard & David Conway, Oghill, Deceased Members of the Fleming Family, Oghill, Larkie Harrison, Patrick & Mary Ellen Mullen & all the Mullen Family, Gurteenooona, Catherine Earley, Main St. (Birthday Rem.), Ann McCarthy, Station Rd. (Birthday Rem.), John Kavanagh, Harbour View, Michael & Sinead Connolly, Drawbridge House, Son & Marie Patterson, John & Margaret Patterson, William & Elizabeth Donoghue & Deceased Members of the Donoghue Family, Hybla, Julia & Michael Gleeson, Michael, Mary & Kate Collins, Mary & John Brady, Coventry/ Monasterevin, Judy Meredith, Coventry/ Monasterevin, Mary Leeper, Coventry/ Monasterevin, Vera Cullen, Denis Cullen, Joe Fennell, Old Grange, Jack & Mai O'Connell, Rathangan & Deceased Members of the O'Connell & Thorpe Families, Patrick Brady, 6 Togher Wood, Michael & Mary Brady, Skirteen, Patrick, Annie & Elizabeth Archbold, Grange, Elizabeth, Joseph, Son & Paddy Miller, Borraderra, May & Thomas Malone, Cis & Jim Lawlor, Quinsboro, Betty O'Connor (nee Miller), Skerries, Mr. Greely, Main St., Angela & Peter Broughal, Passlands, Dina Hackett, Portlaoise & Deceased Members of the Gahan Families, Ballinglass, Brigid Murphy, Bridie, Joe & Brendan Reilly, Birmingham, Deceased Members of the Carroll & Miller Families, Borraderra.

Wednesday 20th December 2023, 10.00 am Mass

Sister Roseanna, Patrick Casey, Deceased Members of the Carrah Family,

day 21st December 2023, 10.00 am Mass

James & Winnifred Freeman, Loretto Kelly, Noel Maher, Kildangan, Polly McLoughlin, Monasterevin, Séan Murphy, The Glebe, Deceased Members of the McBride & Murphy Families.

Weekly Collectiona

Envelope Collection: € 450.00
Baskets Collection: € 985.00

READERS

Saturday 23rd December 2023
6.30pm: Ger Harrison

Sunday 24th December 2023
9.00am: Jarlath Killeen
11.30am: Ann Fearon
5.00pm: Mary Sweeney
9.00pm: Liz Fitzpatrick

Monday 25th December 2023
9.00am: Tom Fitzgerald
11.30am: Ann Fearon

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Saturday 23rd December 2023

6.30pm: Ger Harrison, Pat Ryan, Hannah Duffy

Sunday 24th December 2023

9.00am: Sr. Angela
11.30am: Carmel McAlinden, Mary Lawlor, Ann Fearon
Children Mass

5.00pm: Fiona Behan, Cathy Cullen, Mary Ryan, Ann Whelan

Vigil Mass

9.00pm: Andrew Mahon, Mary Doyle, Dan Clancy, Pat Ryan, Lily Donoghue

Monday 25th December 2023

9.00am: Davina Weldon, Anne McLoughlin, Paddy Clarke
11.30am: Marie Lawless, Fiona Behan, Ann Whelan

CHOIR

Saturday 23rd December '23
6.30pm: Victor Kennedy

Sunday 24th December '23

9.00am: Gary Farrell
11.30am: Family Choir
5.00pm: Family Choir
9.00pm: Gospel Choir

Monday 25th December '23

9.00am: Tommy McGlynn
11.30am: Parish Choir

LOTTO

19/12/2023

TEAM: B

Mary Sweeney,
Mary Doyle

Monasterevin Parish Lotto

Draw Results 12/12/2023

Numbers Drawn: ,

5, 12, 13, 22

Next Weeks Jackpot €5,000

NO WINNER

Winners Promoter

€30 Betty Keogh B. Keogh
€30 Albert Kelly P. Kelly
€30 Dan Miller R. Callanan
€30 Celia Kelly A. Kelly
€30 Pat Mullen R. McDonnell
€20 Ruban Pereira G. Harrison
€20 Paddy Kelly B. Kelly
€20 S&S The Glebe R. McDonnell
€20 Jim Ryan A. Kelly
€20 Brid O'Connell P. Kelly

Next Draw 19/12/2023

Thanks for your continued support

Ballykelly G.F.C. Lotto

Draw Results 11/12/2023

Numbers Drawn:

3, 4, 17, 28

Next Weeks Jackpot: €4,000

No Winner:

Winners Promoter
€20 Stephanie Ryan S. Ryan
€20 The Fitz Gang B. Fitzgerald
€20 Gerlie Gohan G. Broughal
€20 Cillian, Aoife & Tara P. Pender
€20 David & Lee Moore P. Moore
€20 T. Greed M. Heavey
€20 The Whelan's A. Cullen
€20 Shannon Donohoe G. Harrison
€20 Anne McCormack P. Moore
€20 Dave Fogarty P. Moore

Next draw: 18/12/2023

Thanks for your continued support

MONASTEREVIN G.F.C.

Weekly Draw Results:

08/12/2023

1st €100: Tom Moran P. Earley
2nd € 50: John Duffy John
3rd € 25: C & E McLoughlin Bingo
4th €25: Ann Finn Bingo
Seller: Peter Earley

No Draw 15th December

Double Prize Money on 22nd
December. Tickets available form
usual sources.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHURCH

In order to decorate the Church
for Christmas we would be very
grateful for the donation of
Poinsettias for the Church.
The flowers can be left on the
altar rails from this week on.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sunday

16th January 2024

TEAM: B

Sheelagh Murphy, Corina Kelly,
Anna Duffy

MONASTEREVIN PARISH CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2023

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
MONDAY 18th DECEMBER 2023
7.30PM
(FIVE PRIESTS PRESENT)

SUNDAY 24th DECEMBER 2023
2.00 PM - 4.00 PM
(IN CONFESSION BOX)

CHRISTMAS MASSES
SATURDAY 23rd DECEMBER 2023
6.30 PM - MASS

CHRISTMAS EVE

SUNDAY 24th DECEMBER 2023
9.00 AM MASS
11.30 AM - MASS

5.00 PM - CHILDREN'S MASS

9.00 PM - VIGIL MASS

(IN CANDELIGHT WITH THE GOSPEL
CHOIR)

CHRISTMAS DAY

MONDAY 25th DECEMBER 2023
9.00 AM & 11.30 AM - MASS
(WITH PARISH CHOIR)

TUESDAY 26th & WEDNESDAY 27th
DECEMBER 2023
NO MASSES

THURSDAY 28th & FRIDAY 29th
DECEMBER 2023
10.00 AM - MASS

COMMUNION TO THE SICK &
THE HOUSEBOUND
FRIDAY 22nd DECEMBER 2023

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY
MASS TIMES
SATURDAY 6th JANUARY 2024
10.00 AM & 6.30 PM

The Parish Office will close on
Friday 22th December 2023 at
1pm and will re-open on
Tuesday the 2nd January 2024 @
9am. We still have a beautiful
selection of Christmas Mass
Bouquets and other items in stock .

ST. BRIGID'S CAMINO WALK ON MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY.

St. Brigid is reputed to have been born in the Townland of Umeras, just outside Monasterevin, Co. Kildare. This year a new Bank Holiday to honour St. Brigid takes place on Monday 5th February.

To commemorate Brigid Monasterevin Parish have organised a Camino Walk in her honour. Starting at St. Brigid's Shrine at Monasterevin - Rathangan Road (R414), Eircode: W34 X529, @ 11am on Monday 5th February (walk is approx. 6km). Car parking provided at Mountrice Cross.

The walk will be led by Bishop Denis Nulty & will journey via Umeras then along the New Canal Blue Way, finishing in St. Peter & Pauls Church, Monasterevin with a service of light at 12.30pm.

THE ADVENT WREATH

We invite you to continue or start the tradition of having an Advent wreath in the home. As you light a candle on your Advent wreath for the first time, pray this prayer of blessing.

A Blessing Prayer

Loving God, let your blessing come upon us as we light this wreath.

May it be a sign of hope for us as we prepare for your coming and may it turn our hearts to you in the days ahead.

Give us and the world your peace and love as we wait in joyful hope. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

VACANCY FOR ADMIN ASSISTANT PARISH OFFICE, MONASTEREVIN

Duties: Provision of Service to Parishioners. Computerisation of Parish Records. Typing and printing of Parish Weekly Newsletter.

OTHER VACANCIES
Caretaker Parish Property
Cleaner Ellistown GFC

To apply:
Monasterevin Community
Employment Scheme
Parish Centre
Monasterevin
Tel. 045 525143

Kildare, Monasterevin & Rathangan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

27th May - 1st June 2024

€825 pps
4* Hotel Eliséo

Accompanied by
Fr. Liam Merrigan &
Fr. Bill Kemmy

Direct flight Dublin to
Tarbes (Lourdes)

For Further Details &
Booking
Form Contact :
Monasterevin
045 525346
Kildare -
045 521352
Rathangan -
045 524064



This is Gaudete Sunday.

The third candle is pink and symbolizes Joy. It is called the "Shepard's Candle" and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy.

LIVE CRIB

The live crib is back this year. The Nativity Garden will include a live crib on Sunday 24th December from 4.00pm



PRAYER FOR GAZA AND ISRAEL

Christ, Prince of Peace, hear our prayer and lament, for our suffering sisters and brothers.

Our hearts are heavy as we witness lives torn apart, as we see the faces of frightened children and hear the pleas of those without water or food. We pray for the dead and the grieving,

for the injured and the afraid. We pray for courage and perseverance, for those working for healing and to bring aid.

We pray for world leaders, that they may strive for a just and lasting peace.

God of new beginnings, in your ways are compassion and hope.

Open our hearts to dialogue and understanding. Lead us all to answer your call

to become peacemakers today, and all the days of our life. Amen

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

GREETING

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us.....
Amen.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

(The Gloria is omitted awaiting its Christmas Proclamation.)

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....



LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING **Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,

as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM **(Ps. Lk.1)**

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **[R]**

2. The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. **[R]**

3. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty. He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy. **[R]**

SECOND READING **1Thessalonians 5:16-24**

A reading from the first letter from St. Paul to the Thessalonians

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything - hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL **John 1:6-8. 19-28**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you - unknown to you - the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines:

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters,
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.



focus on sunday

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE) 17th December 2023

The coming of Christ is a message of joy: a joy founded and rooted in God's love and care for his people, and his promise of an eternal companionship.



PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray, be offered to you unceasingly, to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work. Through Christ our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right and just.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Say to the faint of heart:
Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come,
and he will save us.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults and prepare us for the coming feasts. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.
Amen.
Go in peace.
Thanks be to God.



Everyone's life is a witness to something. Foster and adoptive parents give a child a whole new life, often at great financial and emotional cost to themselves. They bear witness to humanity's compassion and care for others. The doctors and nurses of

Doctors without Borders go into war zones, at great peril to themselves, in order to give new life to those who have been injured in conflict. They witness to the heroic selflessness which lie within human beings. In their lives, they, like John the Baptist, witness to the One who came that "they may have life and have it to the full." Others, perhaps very damaged by their life experiences, who care only for money regardless of the hurt they cause to others, witness to the self-centredness which also lies inside each of us.

Jesus came to show, first Israel, then the whole world, how to live as the People of God. John the Baptist pointed him out when he came, but many rejected Jesus' message of caring and sharing and universal love. Some, especially the religious leaders, also rejected the messenger; John the Baptist, like Jesus, was also put to death.

Today, we are all called to be John the Baptist, witnessing to Jesus' continuing presence in our world with his message of universal love. We may not end up with our head on a plate, but witnessing to Jesus' love for the poor and unwanted can sometimes be seriously detrimental to our popularity!

Fr. Peter McVerry

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

John the Baptist told the people that he was not The Jesus promised to come. He said that he was "A Voice." A voice is a wonder. What makes a voice? Who makes a voice? Poets tell us that everything that exists has a voice ...a story to tell. A Tree has a voice. A flower has a voice. The ballad singer's voice delights people. The baby's voice makes us laugh. May we use our voices to give good to the world and praise the glory of God.