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Kilronan Parish Newsletter

Web: www.kilronanparish.ie

24th December 2017



“Christmas is most truly
Christmas when we celebrate
it by giving the light of love to
those who need it most.”

The Fourth Sunday of Advent.



1. We are all favoured ones and God is with us. Sometimes we are more aware of this than others. How have you experienced being a favoured person, one blessed by God? How have you experienced God's presence? Who has been Gabriel to you — a messenger of good news?

2. 'Do not be afraid.' Mary was perplexed by the words of the angel. Perhaps you too have sometimes been perplexed by life's path and wondered what it all meant. Perhaps at times you have doubted if God was really with you. In your troubled moments who has been an 'angel' helping to lower your anxiety?

3. Mary was taken by surprise by the invitation, but she did not tell the angel she was not ready, nor ask him to return later. She was prepared to go with the invitation even though it was not the 'right moment'. 'Here I am Lord.' What invitations have come to you at the 'wrong time' and how have you responded?

4. Mary's response serves as a model for us — she is one who says 'yes' to what life offers. What is it like for you to say 'yes' to life? Perhaps at this moment in your life you are being invited to say 'Here I am, Lord'? (John Byrne OSA)

Anniversary Masses Keadue

Sun. 24th. Hugh & Mary Guihen.
Peggy Leydon & Mary Guihen.
Sat. 30th. Bridge Bruen & D.M.F.
Mon. 25th. People of the Parish.
Sun. 31st. Shane Barry & nephew Cian,
Michael Hennessy .
Mon 1st. Bridie, Tom & Kathleen Grogan (7pm.)

Anniversary Masses Arigna

Sun. 24th. Declan Foy.
Mon. 25th. Philomena Wynne.
Sun. 31st. Gerry Wynne.

Weekday Masses; 10a.m.: Wednesday, Arigna, Thursday & Friday, Ballyfarnon.

 **Congratulations and best wishes** to Kevin Conlon, Ballisodare and Ruth Tighe, Ballindoon, who were married in Keadue Church on Friday 22nd December.

Christmas Masses Kilronan Parish

Christmas Eve Masses: Ballyfarnon 8p.m and Keadue 10.30p.m
Christmas Day: Masses: Arigna 10.30a.m. and Keadue 12. noon.

The world meeting of Families Icon of the Holy Family will be available in the three churches at the Christmas Masses. Families are asked to place the Icon on the Christmas dinner table or another prominent place in the home and to pray together the prayer which is printed at the back of the Icon.

Ballyfarnon: Minister of Holy Communion: Sun 24th Christmas Eve Veronica Sheeran. Sat 30th Nuala McNamara. Reader: Christmas Eve Tony McDonagh Sat 30th. Veronica Sheeran. Altar Society: Mary Shivnan, Ann Healy. Collectors: Peter Kerrigan, P.J. Healy. Grounds: Ben Costello, Tony McDonagh. Offertory Collection, €295.00.

Arigna: Minister of Holy Communion: Sun 31st. Tommy Earley, Kevin Wynne, Reader: Sun. 31st Mary Guihen. Altar Society: Amanda McPartland, Grace McPartland, Offertory Collection, €700.00.

Wishing all Parishioners a Happy Christmas and Welcome to all who have come home for Christmas and those who are visiting in the area during the Christmas. Christmas is also a time when the absence of loved ones is more keenly felt. We pray for all who died during the year. May the celebration of the birth of Jesus bring hope and peace to everyone this Christmas.

Keadue: Ministers of Holy Communion: Sat 30th Joan Connolly . Sun 31st. Florence Flynn. Readers: Sat. 30th. Berna Gibbons, Sun. 31st. Geraldine Keaveney. Collectors: Sat. 30th. Paul Kelly. Sun. 31st. Tommy Daly. Altar Society: Kathleen Martin, Frances Gaffney, Mary Quinn, Carmel Benson, Phyllis Quinn. Grounds: Patrick McManus, Sean McDonagh. Offertory Collection, €355.00

The Annual Fun Run/Walk held in Ballyfarnon recently raised €1120. This year's nominated charity is Cancer Care West Thanks to all who supported this event

St. Ronan's Lotto: There was no winner of the lotto jackpot when the draw was held last weekend. The numbers drawn were 3, 4, 9 and 28. Consolation prizes were won by the following €70 Irene Kearins, Geevagh, €30 Bernadette Duignan, Arigna, €15 each Maureen Cooney, Ballyfarnon, Vincent McDonagh, Ballyfarnon, Mary McLoughlin, Drumshanbo. The jackpot this week will be €5,300 and the draw will be held in Saddlers on this Saturday night. In the event of the jackpot not being won the consolation prizes will be 5 x €100

Bonus Ball Bash: Last week's winners of €45 each were Teresa Hennessy & Martin Mulvey. Get your €2 entry at The Harp & Shamrock or O'Donnells / O'Carolan Bar

Keadue Sportsfield are holding a 8 km fun run/ walk on St. Stephen's Day. Registration at 11.30 am in St. Ronan's Hall Keadue. Run/Walk commencing at 12 noon.

Keadue CCE: Christmas Trad Music session on the 28th December in McCabes Bar. Commencing at 9pm with a youth session followed by a senior session. All welcome!!

Christmas Message 2017

At Christmas we recall the birth of a baby in Bethlehem. A birth that would dramatically change the relationship between God and the human race. We remember that Jesus was born into a family; he was a son. He was brought up by Mary and Joseph and by his wider family and local community.

We think of our own family and we miss those who are not with us. At this time we are mindful of families that are vulnerable because of poverty, homelessness and exile.

Next August the World Meeting of Families will take place in Ireland. Dublin was chosen by Pope Francis as the venue to host this important event. It will be a conversation about the value of family life; all are welcome to prepare and to participate. We hope that Pope Francis will be there and I hope that you will be able to come and to celebrate family.

I wish you and your family and your friends a Christmas that is joyful and peaceful and full of hope, because of the birth of Jesus, God among us.

Francis Duffy

Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnois