



## St. Patrick's Parish, Doon- 1st December, 2019

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Dear Parishioner,

In the Gospel for this first Sunday of Advent, Jesus warns his disciples at the beginning of the passage, "Be Watchful! Be alert!" and again at the end: "What I say to you, I say to all: "Watch!" When many of us hear a command like this, our natural follow up question is: "What should I be watching for?" The easy answer is that we should be waiting and watching for the birth of Christ on Christmas Day. But he was already born over two thousand years ago. This question is important because we need to clarify what we are watching for so we do not miss the whole point of the Advent Season. What are we watching for and waiting for? I would suggest that the answer is contained in the initial proclamation of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark: "The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news." Our preparing for Christmas often times gets us distracted. We get distracted by all the commercial messages we receive about shopping smart for Christmas from the Black Friday sales, to the special sales two days before Christmas. What we are really waiting for is the deeper faith realization that the birth of Jesus Christ in time is really Good News. "To you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord." So what we are preparing for is a deepening awareness of the Good News that we have a Savior. It was good news for the shepherds and over two thousand years later it is the same for us. During Advent simply say the prayer "Come, Lord Jesus, help me to grow in a greater awareness that you are my Savior. You have saved me from endlessly searching for the meaning of life. You have saved me from turning against myself by your forgiveness. You have saved me from endlessly searching for signs of your presence because you touch me through your Sacraments. You have saved me from thinking that the possessions or positions I have will save me and make me loved. Thank you for continuing to save me."

### Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Dec:

#### Readers:

**6:30pm** Diarmuid Cuimín

**9:30am** Damian Richardson

**11am** Roisin Crowe

#### Eucharistic Ministers:

Mai O'Dwyer/ Cáit McMahon

Neil Maher/Ann Hayes

Patricia Murphy/Pauline Reale

### Anniversaries: 30<sup>th</sup> Nov/1<sup>st</sup> Dec:

**6:30pm** Mary Jo Griffin, Glasha Talann and Paddy Duggan, Cooga  
Ellen McGrath, Clogher  
Michael Ryan, Gurtageira  
Mairéad Hayes, Lisowen and her aunt  
Kathleen Ash whose Months Mind occurs  
Brid Ryan, Gurtavalla (1<sup>st</sup>) & husband Tom  
Dan & Josie Ryan Con, Moanduff and deceased members of the Ryan Con family

**9:30am** For the people of the parish

**11am** John & Margaret Loughman, Gurtageira  
James & Mary Carr, Glengar & deceased members of the Carr family  
Denny Alice & Pat Hayes, Gurtavalla

### 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Dec:

For the people of the parish

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Paddy O'Malley, Glengar (3<sup>rd</sup>)  
Michael Moloney, Toomaline  
William & Bridget Lysaght, Monastery Rd

**FIRST FRIDAY:** Friday next is the 1st Friday of December. Mass @ 9.30am followed by communion calls. Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and devotions during 7.30pm Mass.

**MASS CARDS:** Available in the sacristy

**DOON & DISTRICT MENS SHED:** continues every Monday night in the Convent @ 8pm.

**SEINN:** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December @ 7.30pm in the Cathedral Thurles. Come and enjoy the joyful liturgical singing of our young people from the secondary schools of our Arch Diocese including Scoil Tríonóide Naofa Doon. Admission is free and donations to Cashel & Emly Youth Ministry are welcome.

**CHURCH CLEANING GROUP:** New people are always welcome as many hands make light work. Thanks to the group for keeping the Church so clean for all of us.

**ADORATION GROUP:** people needed to fill in the following times please. Wednesday 1-2pm. if you can help please contact John 086 8586304, Mary 087 1767465, or Marcia 086 4038420.

**WREN WALK FOR CHERNOBYL:** Takes place through Kilmoylan Woods again this year on St Stephen's Day, Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December leaving from the Pastoral Centre @ 1pm. All proceeds go directly to upkeep our "Home of Hope" a foster home in Belarus we have committed to maintain for the foreseeable future. Refreshments served. Your support as always is greatly appreciated.

**DATES FOR THE DIARY:** Confirmation is Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. **First Holy Communion** is Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020. As a community of faith, we pray for our young people their parents, guardians, teachers and families as they prepare for these events in their faith journey. **Scoil Tríonóide Naofa** Carol Service song and celebration Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December @ 7.30pm here in the Church. All are welcome.

**VISITATION OF THE SICK:** Hospitals and nursing homes are no longer permitted to provide a list of parishioners who are their patients or residents to a visiting priest. If you have a family member in a hospital or nursing home who would like a visit, please contact Fr Jimmy to let him know.

**SVP ANNUAL COLLECTION:** takes place after all Masses next weekend, 7<sup>th</sup>& 8<sup>th</sup> December. As you may have seen in our publicity campaign Christmas is the most Worrying time of the Year for some families. People need help with food & fuel especially in Dec & Jan. Your support will be gratefully appreciated.

**DOON COMMUNITY COUNCIL: Senior citizens Christmas Party** on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December, with Mass @ 1pm followed by a meal and entertainment. If you wish to attend, please collect an invite from either Spar, McNamara's Hardware, Richardson's butcher, the Post Office or the Chemist and return it to any of the above businesses by Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. **To book hall, pitch or meeting rooms** call 085 1443470. Birthday party & bouncy castle package also available. Following the series of **Ballyhoura Community Planning Meetings** held earlier this year, Ballyhoura Development have now issued the Doon Community Development Plan. A meeting will be held regarding this at a later date to view copies of the plans

**CHRISTMAS FAIR:** Scoil na Tríonóide Naofa, Doon, will host their annual Christmas Fair on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Stalls available at a cost of €10. Please contact 061-380388 if you would like to reserve a stall.

**PARENTS COUNCIL AGM:** Scoil na Tríonóide Naofa Parents Council AGM takes place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec @ 7pm. Presentation by An Garda Síochána on "Drug Awareness". All parents welcome to attend.

**ADVENT SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:** leaflets are available from the sacristy to those who would like to gather in groups to prepare for Christmas by prayerfully reflecting upon the 1<sup>st</sup> Readings from the prophet Isaiah. This initiative prepared by the Diocesan Biblical Apostolate is also an invitation to call upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we move to finalise priorities for our diocese arising from the Listening Process. Commencing on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> December @ 7.00pm for 7.30pm in Cappawhite Resource Centre** – facilitated by Ann McGrath & Ann Dargan. All surrounding parishes are welcome. See www.cashel-emly.ie for more details.

**DOON GAA LOTTO:** no's drawn 4-21-22-25 no winner. Next week's draw will take place in the Local Bar with a jackpot of €5,400

**PLEASE NOTE:** Notes for newsletter to be emailed or handed in to Fr Jimmy by 6pm Wednesday evening for inclusion the following weekend.

Email [doonparishnewsletter@eircom.net](mailto:doonparishnewsletter@eircom.net)