



### St. Patrick's Parish, Doon- 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. 2018

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Dear Parishioner,

Have you ever heard the story of the ant and the grasshopper? It tells the tale of a grasshopper who has spent the summer singing and so is not prepared when winter comes, whereas the ant has been working hard all summer and has stored up enough food for winter. Like many of Aesop's Fables, it has a stark moral lesson, in this case about the virtue of hard work and being prepared for the future. Of course, Advent is about looking forward to Christmas and our celebration of the birth of Jesus. It is a special time of preparation to welcome him anew into our lives. But today's readings remind us that Advent is also about looking ahead to another time, the second and final coming of Jesus at the end of time. 'Advent' comes from the Latin word adventus, meaning 'coming'. The problem, of course, is that we have no idea when this will happen. Unlike the ant and the grasshopper, we have no way of knowing when the seasons will change. We don't even know when the sun will set on our own individual lives. All we can do is to be prepared and to 'stay awake' – to live now in such a way that when we meet Jesus, we will be ready. This readiness is less a practical skill than a condition, or a way of life. Look at how St Paul describes it: he talks about increasing our love for one another, and continually making progress in living the life that God wants. That is how we store up treasures here on earth to make sure we are ready for the heavenly things to come. **First Friday** Next Friday is 1<sup>st</sup> Friday with usual communion calls after morning Mass. Devotions during 7.30pm mass. **Holy Day 8<sup>th</sup> December** Feast of the Immaculate Conception it is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass on Friday evening 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7.30pm and 11.00am on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Offertory Collection:** last Sunday €1,070 thank you for your contributions.

#### Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Dec.:

<b>Readers:</b>	<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>
6:30pm Mary Hayes	Bridie Stapleton/Mary Ryan
9:30am Mary Lysaght	Nora Coffey/Bridget Duggan
11am Margaret Ryan	John O'Brien/Eddie Stapleton

#### Anniversaries: 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Dec.:

6:30pm: Mary Joe Griffin, Glasha Talann & Paddy Duggan, Cooga. Ellen McGrath, Clogher. Dan & Josie Ryan (Con), Moanduff. Michael Ryan, Gurtnageire. Denny, Alice & Pat Hayes, Gurtavalla.

9:30am For the People of the Parish

11am John & Margaret Loughman, Gurtnageire. Mary & James Carr, Glengar  
Michael Moloney, Toomaline 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv. Paddy O'Malley, Glengar 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv & deceased members of the O'Malley family

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December @ 11am Anniversary Mass for Mairead Hayes, Lisowen

**Recently deceased** We pray for Brid Ryan, Gurtavalla whose funeral took place during the week. Sympathies to the bereaved. May she rest in peace.

**Men's Shed:** continue to meet every Mon. night @ 8pm in the Convent. Doon & District Men's Shed in association with the other organisations of the parish are holding an information meeting with the Local

Gardai & the Limerick Crime Prevention Officer in the Fr. McGrath Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec at 8pm. All welcome

**Doon GAA:** Lotto No's drawn 8-24-27-29, no winner. Next week's draw will be held in Moore's Bar

**Belfrey Café:** are holding an evening of poetry, song and food on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 7pm. Pop along for some coffee and cake or a 3-course dinner with a little entertainment also. All welcome

**Cathedral Gala Concert:** Thurles Cathedral Choir accompanied by the Clonmel Orchestra, in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Thurles on Sunday December 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 8.00 p.m. An evening of Seasonal Music & Song. Free admission. Donations appreciated. Proceeds to Cathedral Re-Roofing Project.

**Radio Maria Ireland:** Catholic Radio Station now available via TV – Saorview (Freeview) Channel 210.

**Doon Historical Society:** Dr. John O'Callaghan will give a talk on Fri. 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. @ 8pm in the Fr. McGrath Hall: On Limerick: The Irish Revolution 1912-23, to tie in with his book of the same name. All are welcome.

**Doon Text Alert:** if anyone wishes to sign up to the Text Alert system please give your name & number to the Post Office or members of the group, Denis Duggan, Con Hourigan, Francis Cummins & Josephine Morrissey. There is an annual subscription of €10. The Texts from local Gardai will seek the public's help & provide warnings of any suspicious activity in the area.

**Doon Defibrillator Group:** have a new telephone number. For help & access to each defibrillator enclosures please dial (061) 574300.

**Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal:** On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov a truck filled to capacity with 9,649 gift filled shoeboxes left the depot & are currently on their way to Albania making for a lot of very happy & excited children this Christmas. On behalf of Team Hope I would just like to say a massive THANK YOU to all who helped again this year by donating a box, donating to have a box filled or volunteering in the depot & it's all the little things that help make big things happen.

**Doon Community Council: Senior Citizens Christmas Party:** will take place on Sun. 9<sup>th</sup> Dec., beginning with mass @ 1pm. If you plan on attending, collect an invitation from any of the following: Spar shop, Post Office, Richardson's Butcher, Doon Pharmacy or McNamara's Hardware & return by Mon. 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec. For catering purposes, we need to know numbers attending so invites must be returned to these businesses by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Thanks to Jim Keane & his cast/crew for a very enjoyable performance of 'A Living Will' last weekend. Thanks to all who attended on the night.

**St. Vincent de Paul Annual Collection:** takes place after all Masses next week-end. Your support as always is gratefully appreciated. If you or a member of your family, a neighbour or friend could do with some support, please do not hesitate to call on us. Our confidential number is 087 1459024.

**Seinn Cashel & Emly:** is a project promoting & encouraging liturgical music in secondary schools. 510 students from 11 secondary schools across the diocese including Scoil na Trionoide Naofa will raise their voices & hands in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Thurles, on Wed. 5<sup>th</sup> Dec. @ 7:30p.m. All are welcome.

**First Holy Communion:** will be celebrated at 11am on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2019. A preparation meeting for parents is in the Convent School Hall on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> of November at 7.30pm.

**Scoil Na Trionoide Naofa:** will hold their Annual Christmas Fair on Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Dec. From 2-5pm. Cost per stall is €10, if interested in securing a stall, please contact the school (061) 380378.

**Advent Sundays at Glenstal Abbey:** Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30pm. Why not come & join us in exploring the great themes of Advent & our lives therein - 'Tuning into Real Time'. All welcome