



St. Patrick's Parish, Doon- 22nd December, 2019

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Dear Parishioner,

Today's Gospel recalls the central role played by St Joseph in the story of the birth of Jesus. A man of honour from the outset, the goodness of his character is further highlighted by his response to God's voice. When he wakes up after hearing God's instructions in a dream, he immediately acts on it and takes Mary into his home. His openness to God's will is a crucial element in the story that follows: his partnership with and support of Mary, the birth of Jesus, his care for the child 'who is to save his people'. Christmas is very near now, and we are busy and preoccupied with our preparations. A good time, perhaps, to pause in silence, to rest with God, and to listen to what he might have to say to us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you the people of Doon for your continued support and kindness to me which is very much appreciated. I offer my condolences to all those who lost a loved one and who are grieving at this time and for whom Christmas will be difficult. To the newly baptised children in our Christian Community I welcome them to our faith community. Congratulations to the children who received First Penance and First Eucharist in 2019. To the newlyweds of our parish I wish you many years of happiness and joy in your lives together. To all the volunteer groups within the church and the parish who help to make Doon a better place to live and visit I thank you for your contributions to our community. **I wish you and your families a very Happy and Blessed Christmas.**

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: 24th/25th Dec:

Readers:

6:30pm Roisin Crowe

9:30am Marie Duggan

11am Therese O'Dea

Eucharistic Ministers:

Mai O'Dwyer/Cait McMahon

Neil Maher/Ann Hayes

Patricia Murphy/Pauline Reale

PLEASE NOTE: there will be No Mass 26th / 27th December.

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: 28th/29th Dec:

Readers:

6:30pm Mary Hayes

9:30am Pakie O'Brien

11am Catherine Tierney

Eucharistic Ministers:

Joan Hogan/Mary Hayes

Margaret Loughman/Marie Ryan

Marian Murphy/Noreen O'Dwyer

NEW ROTA: for Readers & Eucharistic Ministers will be drawn up over the next few weeks.

If you wish to have your name removed or would like to join please contact Fr Jimmy ASAP.

Anniversaries: 21st/22nd Dec:

6:30pm Fr Tom Ryan, former PP

Patrick & Ellen Kennedy, 2 St Fintan's Tce

& deceased members of the Ryan A Family

Cooga

9:30am For the people of the parish

Elizabeth & Patrick Reale, Assumption Tce

11am John Ryan Gurtavalla & Edinburgh

Maureen Crowe, Carrigmore

CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS: Sunday 22nd December 10.15 - 10.45am. 11.45 - 12.15pm.

Christmas Eve 5.15 - 6.00pm.

MASS CARDS: Available in the sacristy

RECENTLY DECEASED: You are asked to remember in your prayers Jim Kennedy, Lucan Dublin and formerly Brackile, Pallasgreen brother of the late Celia McMahon, Foilaclera whose funeral took place during the week. Our sympathies to the bereaved.

ENVELOPE & PARISH CALENDAR 2020: Have been distributed during the week. Your contributions to the weekly envelope collection and the basket goes some way towards maintaining the parish buildings and meeting targets set for the parish by the Diocesan Finance Committee as well as paying the bills incurred in the everyday running of the parish. I sincerely thank those who contribute to the parish finances. If you have not received a box of envelopes and would like to contribute please contact Fr Jimmy who can arrange envelopes for you.

DOON & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED: continues every Monday night in the Convent @ 8pm

WREN WALK FOR CHERNOBYL: What better way to walk off the Christmas dinner but with a walk through Kilmoylan Woods on **St Stephen's Day**, Thursday 26th 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.

ADORATION GROUP: There will be no Adoration on Christmas Day or on January 1st. Adoration will resume on Wednesday 8th January. The Doon Parish Eucharistic Committee would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

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.

DATES FOR THE DIARY: Confirmation is Tuesday 31st March 2020. **First Holy Communion** is Sunday 3rd 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.

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.

"BLEISCE" DOON PARISH JOURNAL: Issue No 28 is now on sale in Spar, Richardson's Butchers and Doon Pharmacy at a cost of €10 – an ideal Christmas Gift.

LEGION OF MARY: The next meeting of the Legion of Mary will be held in the Pastoral Centre on Tuesday 7th January @ 7pm. There will be no meeting in December. Wishing a very Happy Christmas to all parishioners. New members urgently needed and most welcome.

DÚN BLEISCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Annual Table Quiz in Moore's Bar, Doon on Friday 3rd January 2020 @ 9:30 pm - €20 per Table. Raffle and a good evening's entertainment guaranteed.

DOON COMMUNITY COUNCIL: On behalf of the community we extend our thanks to the Bleisce Parish Journal committee for providing the beautiful parish crib, to Mike Holmes for doing the artwork, to all who helped with its installation & to Fr. Donnelly for blessing it. We thank everyone who used the hall & facilities during the year. Christmas greetings & Happy New Year to you all. We look forward to working with you again in 2020. For bookings call 085 1443470

SPLIT THE POT: Congratulations to Tom Hayes, Kilmoylan this week's winner of €365.

EAST LIMERICK BRANCH IRISH RED CROSS: Are holding a raffle to fund the building of a Training & Ambulance Centre here in Doon. The prize is Garage Equipment to the value of €3,000. Tickets are €10 each available from www.ifundraise.ie/Ambulancebay or by contacting John Collins on 086 8030390

DOON GAA LOTTO: no's drawn 12-20-27-29 no winner. Next week's draw will take place in Moore's Bar with a jackpot of €6,000

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