



St. Patrick's Parish, Doon- 28th December, 2019

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Dear Parishioner,

We like to imagine, sometimes, what the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph were like. What was their daily routine? How did they eat, work and pray together? There are very few details in the Gospels about Jesus' early years, other than the accounts of his birth and one story detailing the time he went missing in Jerusalem and was found in the Temple. But in today's Gospel we get an insight into some of the early challenges faced by this little family. While Jesus was still small, Joseph was urged in a dream to escape with the family to Egypt as Jesus' life was under threat. Can you imagine what that experience was like for them – leaving their home and fleeing to another country, not knowing when, or if, it would be safe to return home? Sadly, millions of people in our world do not have to imagine this type of experience – they live it every day. Like many others, the Holy Family were, for some time, forced to leave their home country due to persecution – this is the very definition of a refugee or displaced person. This painful human experience was at the very heart of the family experience of Jesus himself. Later in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus tells us that when we welcome strangers, we welcome Jesus himself. Compassion and welcome for strangers, particularly those who are vulnerable, was a key element of Jesus' life and ministry. It should be central to ours, too.

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: 4th/5th Jan:

Readers:

6:30pm Mairead Maher

9:30am Pakie O'Brien

11am Kay Ryan

Eucharistic Ministers:

Paud Sweeney/Mary Ryan

Catherine Crowe/Mary MacLeod

Donal Ryan/Bridie Stapleton

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 28th/29th Dec:

6:30pm Maura & John Hayes, Bank Place

9:30am Elizabeth & Patrick Reale, Assumption Tce

11am Maureen Crowe, Carrigmore

4th/5th Jan:

Nora & John Thompson

Peggy O'Dwyer, Carnahalla

Special intentions

Phylis Brosnan nee Danaher & her brother
Mikey and their parents Patrick & Mary,
Reenavanna

Margaret Cummins, Carrigmore and her
brother Ned Ryan

Sean, Gillian & PJ Richardson, Lacka

Wednesday 1st Jan @ 10am Special intentions

Friday 3rd Jan @ 9:30am Con & Kay O'Driscoll, Main St

Friday 3rd Jan @ 7:30pm Con O'Connell, Cooga 1st Anniversary

Monday 6th Jan @ 11am Michael Quigley, Toomaline

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no 9.30am Mass on Monday 30th or Tuesday 31st December. Mass @ 10.00am on 1st January 2020.

MASS CARDS: Available in the sacristy

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: Thanks to all who turned up to support our walk on St Stephen's Day. A total of €574.36 has been raised to date and will go directly to the up keep of our "Home of Hope" in Belarus. Thanks to Spar for supplying fresh mince pies and all who helped out on the day.

ADORATION GROUP: There will be no Adoration on January 1st. Adoration will resume on Wednesday 8th January. The Doon Parish Eucharistic Committee would like to wish you all 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.

HILLVIEW GROVE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION: Defibrillator Fundraiser raffle was held on the 24th December. Winners of the raffle as follows: 1st prize Jenny Clancy, 2nd prize Ann Lynch & 3rd prize Joan Daly. Thanks so much to all who donated prizes and brought raffle tickets and supported our stall at the Christmas Fair this year. A total of €193.10 was raised on the day & all proceeds go towards our defibrillator. Thankyou Hillview Grove Residents Association

LEGION OF MARY: The next meeting of the Legion of Mary will be held in the Pastoral Centre on Tuesday 7th January @ 7pm. 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.

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 7-11-17-28 no winner. Next week's draw will take place in Whelan's Bar with a jackpot of €6,200

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