



St. Patrick's Parish, Doon- 31st December 2017

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Dear Parishioner, Simeon and Anna welcome Mary, Joseph and Jesus to the Temple. They have been waiting for this moment. What kind of Messiah were they expecting? Simeon welcomes this family who must have seemed 'ordinary' and poor. He can see that this child will be 'a light ... for the glory of your people'. Already there is a note of reversal; of boundaries being stretched. Mary is told that this child 'is destined for the fall and the rising of many'. There will be trouble ahead; there will be challenges for many. Simeon knows that many thoughts will be exposed, what people really think will be revealed, who they welcome and who they exclude will be challenged; for God's invitation and welcome have no boundaries. This will be uncomfortable for some. Anna rejoices for all those who were looking for a change, for hope; she knows that this child will overturn systems of oppression and exclusion.

Luke is interested in how humanity responds to the gospel. If Jesus' message is really good news, then this requires a shakeup; a shakeup which challenges comfortable assumptions about the way God works. God's abundant invitation to all may not sit comfortably with many. While Anna prays and fasts for a change of heart in the way Jerusalem operates, Simeon warns Mary that this will not be an easy road. What situations in our own society and in our Church require a shake-up, an uncomfortable but necessary change so that God's love and welcome can shine through?

Offertory Collection: last Sunday's collection was €2,565-many thanks for your generosity

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: 6th/7th Jan:

Readers:	Eucharistic Ministers:
6:30pm Eoin Doyle	John Favier/Paud Sweeney
Servers: Sean Ryan, Sarah Ryan, Bonnie Rose Crowe, James Collins, Avril Crowe	
9:30am Mary Lysaght	Eilín Uí Chuimín/Judith Ryan
11am Margaret Ryan	Patricia Murphy/Pauline Reale
Servers: Orla Hayes & Cathal Hayes, Sean Og & Denis Blackmore, Caoimhe Murphy	

Anniversaries: 30th/31st Dec:

6:30pm Patrick & Elizabeth Reale.
Peggy O'Dwyer, Carnahalla.

9:30am Mass for the People of The Parish
11am Maureen Crowe, Carrigmore-1st Anniv.

Fri. 5th @ 7:30pm Con & Kay O'Driscoll, Main Street – 1st Anniv.

6th/7th Jan:

Michael O'Brien & his parents Molly & Paddy & brother Tom.
Morgan & Kathy Crowe, Cooga.
Gillian, Sean & PJ Richardson, Lacka
Michael Quigley, Toomaline.
Nora & John Thompson, Bank Place
Margaret Cummins, Carrigmore-1st Anniv & Nom Ryan.
Norrie Hartnett, Toher Road.

Recently Deceased: Helen Crowe, The Forts whose funeral took place during the week. May she rest in peace. Sympathy to the bereaved.

Wedding Bells: Congratulations to Áine O'Connell & Tommy Kennedy who were married on Thursday 28th Dec. We wish them God's blessings in their lives as husband and wife.

Masses this Week: Mass on New Year's Day @ 10am. Tue. & Wed. @ 9:30am. Fri. 5th is First Friday with usual Communion calls. Mass @ 9:30am & 7:30pm. The 7:30pm is Vigil Mass for Feast of The Epiphany. Sat. 6th Jan. is the Feast of the Epiphany –it is a Holy day of obligation-Mass @ 11am.

Dates: Confirmation Day- Tue. 10th April. First Holy Communion Day Sun. 6th May.

New Rota for Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: will be drawn up this week. If you have any changes please contact Patricia Murphy (086) 8338898 before Tue. 6pm.

Dún Bleisce Historical Society: Annual Table Quiz in Moore's Bar Doon on Fri. 5th Jan. @ 9:30pm. Raffle & a good evening's entertainment guaranteed. The proceeds from the night are to continue to sponsor a student for Tony Woods (Kenyan Education Fund) Table of 4 €20.

Doon Community Council: will host the play 'Murder Inn' on Sat. 3rd Feb. 2018. Tickets will be available shortly from local businesses & committee members. **Star Stage School:** for children aged 5 & older is coming to Doon. Registration on 10th Jan. from 6-7pm in Fr. McGrath Hall. Phone 087 9826879 for more information.

The Doon Eucharistic Adoration: team would like to wish all parishioners a very Blessed Christmas & a Peaceful New Year. Each Wed. during Adoration we pray for the ministry of our priests & for the needs of our parish. Notice: We will not have Adoration on Wed. 27th Dec. but will re commence on Wed. 3rd Jan. from 10 am to 10 pm.

Wren Walk for Chernobyl: a massive thanks to all who took part on the walk St Stephen's Day, also to Spar for the Mince Pies & to the Nolan Family for the entertainment. A total of €700.10 was raised & will go towards the upkeep of our "Home of Hope".

Sean Ghaeil Awards 2017: Andy Mackey will be honoured on Fri. 5th Jan. by the Sean Ghaeil Committee for his lifelong service to the Gaelic athletic association. The ceremony will take place in the Millennium Centre Caherconlish at 8.30pm and all are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Doon GAA: Lotto No's drawn 8-12-19-28, no winner. Next week's jackpot is €2,800. Membership 2018: Adult Players: €50. Adult Non-Players & OAPs: €30. Juveniles/u18s: €20, monies can be paid to Registrar, Patricia Murphy/Rob O'Connell. **New Years Day Walk/Run:** will take place on New Year's Day, walkers at 1pm & runners at 2pm. Registration open at 12:30pm.