

## NEW YEAR BLESSINGS TO ALL

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER, 2nd January 2022

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### Second Sunday after Christmas

St John says: 'The Word (God's Son) became flesh and dwelt among us.' Our religion is founded on this great mystery. As we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, Christ is present among us. Let us draw close to him in confidence and place our New Year Resolutions in his presence.

#### Theme of the Weekend Readings

We praise God because we have lived to see 2022.

**First Reading:** A hymn in praise of God's wisdom.

**Second Reading:** St Paul speaks of the blessings that come through Jesus.

**Gospel:** The marvellous opening verses of St. John's Gospel.

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> January: 7:00 pm Mass in Rosbercon

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January: 9:30 am Mass in Mullinarrigle  
11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

#### Weekday Masses

##### Rosbercon

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January: 7:00 pm Vigil of the Epiphany

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January: 11:00 am Feast of the Epiphany

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January: 10:00 am

##### Mullinarrigle

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January: 9:30 am Feast of the Epiphany

**Feast of the Epiphany** - Little Christmas - is celebrated on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

All Masses from Rosbercon Church will be streamed live through our webcam on [www.rosberconparish.ie](http://www.rosberconparish.ie)

#### Anniversaries

Billy Malone, Cooleen

Jo Doyle, Weatherstown (Months Mind)

#### A Prayer for the New Year

Lord, in this New Year which we have begun

May we have enough happiness to keep us agreeable,

Enough trials to keep us strong,

Enough sorrow to keep us human

Enough freedom to keep us happy,

Enough failure to keep us humble,

Enough success to keep us eager,

Enough wealth to meet our needs,

Enough faith to banish depression,

Enough hope to look forward,

Enough love to give us comfort,

And enough determination to keep going

#### A Message from Fr Dan – Arise, shine, for your light has come:

On Thursday next, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022 we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. We are celebrating how the Three Wise Men or Magi saw a new and different star in the sky and decided to follow it. Prompted by the Holy Spirit, that star led them on a remarkable journey to a humble stable where they recognized, in that fragile child, the Christ. In time the light of the Risen Christ would overcome the darkness and fear of the world and lead us all on the road to heaven.

In 2016, in his sermon on the Epiphany, Pope Francis reflected on how the Light of Christ transforms the world. The Pope called on each person 'to rise and go forth, to leave behind all that keeps us inward-looking, to recognize the splendour of the light that has come with the coming of Christ'. That 'light' is the glory of the Lord.

We cannot delude ourselves into thinking that we shine with our own light. Individuals, no matter what work we do or how talented we are, do not shine with our own light. Our role is simply to be reflectors, recognizing the light of Christ and radiating that light to the world. Christ is the "true light", the true sun that lights up all things. Thankfully we don't have to exhaust our energy lighting up the world!

Saint Ambrose, one of the early fathers of the Church explained that the Church or 'The People of God' can be compared to the moon. The moon can only reflect the light of the sun. The saint went on to explain, 'The moon is in fact the Church... [she] shines not with her own light, but with the light of Christ. She draws her brightness from the Sun of Justice, and so she can say: 'It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me'.

Christ is the true light shining in the darkness. To the extent that we remain close to him, we are able to be a light to the people we are sent to serve. There are many stars in the sky! In a very busy world, our task is to seek out the star that will guide us to Christ and to follow his guiding light. The Wise Men found Jesus in the simplicity of Bethlehem. The light of Christ would in time draw millions of followers and guide them along the path of peace.

*From the Ennis Parish Newsletter (Adapted)*

**Rosbercon Parish Safeguarding Representatives** are Brid Vereker, Millbanks Close and Anne O' Sullivan, Ballykenna. If you have a Safeguarding concern, contact Brid or Anne.



*Wishing Everyone a very Peaceful Christmas  
And a Happy New Year*



## Mass Intentions for the Saturday/Sunday, 8th/9th January 2022

**Rosbercon:** Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 11:00am

Jerry Moore, Tinnakilly  
Jackie Tubritt, Raheen

**Collection of Parish Funds 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> December 2021 will be available next week**

**Parish Debt on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021: € 38,475.04**

**Christmas Offerings:** Many thanks to all who have contributed so generously to the Christmas Offerings. Your generosity to the Parish and to the Priests is much appreciated.

**Live the Day:** During 2022 can we learn to appreciate what we have, before it becomes what we had and can we learn from this day forward to forget what is gone and lost forever, appreciate what still remains and look forward to what is coming next. That is the essence of the journey of life, a journey that will ultimately lead us to a new life, new hope and resurrection.

### **Reflection: *The Wild Geese***

Then I saw the wild geese flying  
In fair formation to their base in Inchicore  
And I knew that these wings would outwear the wings of  
war  
And a man's simple thoughts outlive the day's loud lying.

Don't fear, don't fear, I said to my soul,  
The bedlam of time is an empty bucket rattled,  
'Tis you who will say in the end who best rattles,  
Only they who fly home to God have flown at all.

*Patrick Kavanagh*

**Wisdom:** The child is not likely to find a father in God, unless he finds something of God in his father.

**Humour:** We live in an age where most teenagers think that Vatican 11 is the Pope's summer residence!

### ◆ **Newsletter Sponsors**

We list below the people, companies and businesses that have kindly supported and sponsored the Parish Newsletter in 2021. We would like to thank them all for their generosity during these tough and challenging times and wish them all a Happy Prosperous and Successful and Safe New Year in 2022, and ask that our Parishioners give them support throughout the coming year.

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And a Happy New Year*

