

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 27th November 2022

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First Sunday of Advent

Advent is a time of watchfulness. We are waiting for the final coming of Christ at the end of time. Since this time is hidden from us, we maintain a state of watchfulness. During Advent the Church invites us to come to the House of God, so that God may teach us his ways and help us to walk in the light.

Theme of the Weekend Readings

The Church's New Year begins this weekend. Advent is a time of preparation for Christmas.

First Reading

Isaiah regrets that God's people stray.

Second Reading

Paul thanks God for the graces the people have received.

Gospel

Jesus tells us to be on our guard.

Weekend Masses

Saturday 3rd December 7:00 pm Mass in Tullogher

Sunday 4th December 9:30 am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses

Rosbercon

Wednesday 30th November 10:00 am Mass

Friday 2nd December 10:00 am Mass

Christmas Reconciliation Services

Confessions for Christmas will be heard after the weekend Masses of Advent.

Christmas Masses

Rosbercon

Saturday - Christmas Eve, Vigil Mass 8:00 pm

Sunday - Christmas Morning 11:00 am

Mullinarrigle

Christmas Eve, Vigil Mass 6:00 pm

Tullogher

Christmas Morning 9:30 am

There will be a **Special Mass with Anointing of the Sick** for the 'Over 55s' of the parish in Rosbercon Hall on Sunday 11th December at 3:00 pm followed by a reception and music. The Mass and Reception will be followed by the Parish Draw at 4:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

All Masses from Rosbercon Church will be streamed live through our webcam on www.rosberconparish.ie

Recent Death

Jim Maher, Kilkenny City and New Ross

Wisdom

Forbidden fruit creates many different kinds of jam.

Anniversaries

Matt, Norah and Luke Cody, Ballyrue

Anna Travers, Dublin

Luke Hennessy, Glenensaw

Maureen Croke Long, Thomastown

Jimmy Phelan, Smithstown

Kate Lee, Kilbrahan

Monica Whitty, Glenbarra

Lucy Dillon, Rosbercon

Bob Saunders, Ballyknock

Kathleen Murphy, Brownsford

A Message from Fr. Dan: Advent

This weekend we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. The word 'Advent' means 'coming'. The celebration of Advent is particularly welcome to those who know themselves to be poor, and who look forward to something greater to come. The season of Advent lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas.

The first two Sundays in Advent look forward to Christ's second coming, and the third and fourth Sundays look back to Christ's first coming at Bethlehem. The Church celebrates Advent each year to prepare us to celebrate Christ's coming as an infant in Bethlehem over two thousand years ago. To help us in our Advent preparation we use the Advent Wreath. The wreath is a circle, which has no beginning or end. Our lives began at birth but like the wreath they will have no end because our destiny is to share in the life of God in the Kingdom of Heaven forever.

The wreath is made of fresh plant material, because Christ came to give us new life through His passion, death, and resurrection. The four candles represent hope, faith, joy, and peace. Three candles are purple, symbolizing penance, preparation, and sacrifice; the pink candle is for joy and highlights the third Sunday of Advent, when we rejoice because our preparation is now half-way finished. A fifth white candle is placed in the middle and is lit on Christmas Day to celebrate Jesus' birth.

The white candle stands for Christ, who entered this world to scatter the darkness of evil and show us the way to light and joy. The progression of lighting candles each weekend of Advent shows our increasing readiness to meet our Lord. We invite all our people to be aware of the meaning of the Advent wreath and to say a short prayer when they visit the Church. This prayer will help us to focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

Prayer for Advent: 'Almighty God, grant your people the wonder of meeting Christ at his coming this Christmas, so that having shared His life on earth we may one day share with him the Kingdom of Heaven'.

From the Ennis Parish Newsletter (Adapted)

To make you Smile: 'The early bird may get the worm, but it's the second mouse who gets the cheese'

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Mass Intentions for Sunday 4th December 2022

Mullinarrigle: Sunday 4th December at 9:30 am

Margaret Ryan, Guilcough

Michael, Mary and Bridie Tobin, Listerlin

Collection of Parish Funds 12th/13th & 19th/20th November 2022

Offertory Collection € 812.90

Weekly Envelopes € 977.10

Parish Debt on 24th November 2022 € 28,353.61

We thank all who have contributed so generously to the October Stations and November Offerings. Outstanding envelopes may be handed in at Mass or to the Parochial House.

We thank all who attended **The Special Remembrance Mass** in Rosbercon Church on Friday 18th November. It was a lovely way to come together to remember our loved ones who died in the last year. The Mass was organised by the Parish Pastoral Council.

Rosbercon Parish Draw

It is Parish Draw Time of the year again! To help meet our financial commitments and to continue to maintain the Buildings of the Parish we will be holding our usual Parish Draw on Sunday 11th December 2022. Tickets will be distributed to the homes of the parish during the coming weeks at a cost € 2.00 each or a book of 6 for € 10.00. Each household and wage earner is asked to buy three books or as many as you can!! This Draw has been very successful over the years and Fr. Dan is confident that it will be this year also.

Reflection: Fire, by Pope Francis

At the opening of the Amazon Synod, October 2019

A fire does not burn by itself;

It has to be fed or else it dies;

It turns into ashes.

If everything remains as it was,

If we spend our days content

That 'this is the way things have always been',

Then the gift vanishes,

Smothered by the ashes of fear,

And by the anxiety of defending the 'status quo'

Humour

A mother and her four year old daughter were out walking. The little girl picked something from the ground and put it in her mouth. The mother took the thing away and asked her not to do that again. 'Why not' asked the child. 'Because it has been on the ground and you don't know where it came from'. The little girl looked at her mother in admiration and asked 'Mum, how do you know all this stuff, you are so smart'. 'All mums know this stuff; it's on the mum test,' said the mother. The little girl thought for a while and said 'Oh, I get it', 'If you don't pass the mum test you have to be a dad. Exactly said the mother!

Just a thought: "What is Christmas?"

It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace."

Rosbercon Parish Pastoral Council would like to send a Christmas Greeting Card for 2022 to parishioners who have emigrated from the parish down the years. Please let us have the names and addresses of any family members, friends or neighbours whom you wish to receive a card. The emigrants will also be remembered at our Parish Christmas Masses. Names may be handed in to the Parochial House or to the Parish Office. Names may be posted, texted or Emailed to Fr. Dan at danieljcavanagh49@gmail.com

Rosbercon Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Brid Vereker, Millbanks Close and Anne O' Sullivan, Ballykenna. If you have a Safeguarding concern, contact Brid or Anne. Please note Safeguarding Statements are displayed in the porches of the Churches of the Parish.

◆ TULLOGHER ROSBERCON VINTAGE CLUB

The Tullagher Rosbercon Vintage Club will hold their Christmas Party Night on Friday 2nd December in the Rhu Glen at 8:30 pm. 4 Course Meal and Music by Pat Cooney. Tickets € 25.00. All welcome. For more information on tickets please contact Jamie Doyle—087-6869137, Bob Saunders—086-1060689.

◆ NEW ROSS ACTIVE RETIREMENT

The New Ross Active Retirement will hold their general meeting on Friday 2nd of December in the Youth Centre, Nunnery Lane at 10:00 am.

◆ NEW ROSS DRAMA WORKSHOP

Present an evening of One Act Plays in St. Michael's Theatre, New Ross on the 29th and 30th November 8:00 pm nightly. Tickets € 12.00. For more information or to book tickets please contact 051—421255.

◆ ST. MOLING'S CHAPTER ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Our annual collection will take place throughout December. To this affect, blue coloured donation envelopes will be placed on tables inside each of our Churches. Donations can be returned either by placing them in the weekend mass offertory collection boxes or by handing them directly to committee members. All donations are greatly appreciated at this difficult time, every cent received goes solely to the relief of our disadvantaged Parishioners. Our Chapter which covers every corner of the Parish was first mentioned in Parish records in 1967. It has survived over the years due to the dedicated service of both current and in particular, past members. Many of these are now deceased and no doubt the Good Lord has not forgotten them for their good work. Should any Parishioner become aware of a genuine need within our Parish please inform our committee on 087— 7140112. All contacts are dealt with discreetly.

Committee Members; Richard McElwee, Mary B. Conway, Seamus Waters, Catherine Cottrell, Margaret Saunders and Brid Vereker.

◆ SHANBOGH NATIONAL SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

We are currently accepting applications for the school year 2023/2024. For an application form, contact us at our website shanboghns.ie, on 051-880308 or at shanboghns@gmail.com. Closing date for applications is Friday, 9th December, 2022.

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