

## ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 11th December 2022

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### Third Sunday of Advent

In today's Gospel we see Jesus at work; enabling the blind to see, the deaf to hear and the lame to walk. It is a marvellous display of compassion for suffering humanity. At Mass we meet the same compassionate Jesus.

#### Theme of the Weekend Readings

We are moving through Advent and the day of the Lord's coming is close.

#### First Reading

The coming of the Lord is a time of great joy for the world.

#### Second Reading

St. James reminds us to be patient.

#### Gospel

Jesus brings relief to the suffering.

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	No Mass in Rosbercon
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	09:30 am Mass in Mullinarrigle 11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

#### Weekday Masses

##### Rosbercon

Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	10:00 am Mass
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	10:00 am Mass

##### Christmas Masses

###### Rosbercon

Saturday - Christmas Eve, Vigil Mass	08:00 pm
Sunday - Christmas Morning	11:00 am

###### Mullinarrigle

Christmas Eve, Vigil Mass	06:00 pm
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###### Tullogher

Christmas Morning	09:30 am
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**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** takes place in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel every Wednesday morning from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

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

**Christmas Reconciliation Services:** Confessions for Christmas will be heard after the weekend Masses of Advent.

There will be a **Special Mass with Anointing of the Sick** for the 'Over 55s' of the parish in Rosbercon Hall this Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 03:00 pm followed by a reception and music. The Mass and Reception will be followed by the **Parish Draw** at 04:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

We welcome into our Christian Community **Emily Rose Richardson**, daughter of John and Laura, Assumption Terrace, who was baptised in the Church of the Assumption, Rosbercon, on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022.

#### Recent Deaths

Denis Vereker, Ballincrea, Slieverue  
Breda White (née Kirwan), Inistioge

#### Anniversaries

Maggie O'Connor, Tinnakilly—Months Mind  
Victor Mullally, Busherstown, Glenmore  
Ned and Mary Mernagh, Assumption Terrace  
John Sinnott, Raheen  
Pat O'Neill, Tinneranny  
Nora Woods, Ballymartin  
Dick Hennessy, Hoods Grove  
Maise Gaule, Mullinarrigle  
Patrick Scarff, Garrenbeg Lodge, Rosbercon  
Peggy Walsh, Hoods Grove  
David Wilson, Ardross, New Ross  
Nan Wilson, Castlemoyle, New Ross

**A Message from Fr. Dan: The Crib, the wonder of God's love.** The Nativity Scene or the Christmas Crib is first of all a beautiful Christmas decoration. But of course, it is much more. Its origins go far back in history. St Francis of Assisi, on a visit to Rome, had been struck by the mosaics, showing the birth of Jesus, in the Roman Basilica of Saint Mary Major. Francis had earlier visited the Holy Land and the caves in Greccio in his native Italy reminded him of the countryside around Bethlehem. His dream was to recreate in his native Greccio the wonder and awe which he experienced in Bethlehem. He also hoped that this experience could be made available to the local people of Greccio.

Fifteen days before Christmas, Francis asked a local man named John to help him to bring to life the memory of the baby born in Bethlehem. He wished the baby to be lying in a manger, upon a bed of hay, with an ox and an ass standing by. His friend prepared the stable in a cave and on December 25th, friars came to Greccio together with people from the local farms. They brought flowers and torches to light up the scene. When Francis arrived, he found a manger full of hay, with the ox and donkey in place. All those present experienced a new and indescribable joy in the presence of the first Christmas Crib.

The priest then celebrated the Christmas Mass over the manger, showing the bond between the birth of Jesus and the Sacrifice of the Mass. At Greccio there were no statues; the nativity scene was acted out by the people present. In this way the first Christmas crib became part of the process of passing on the faith to the people. Beginning with the childhood of Jesus the people learned to experience God's love for them at every stage of Jesus' life. At Christmas, in the Crib, we see and experience God's love for us. We see and we feel that God is with us and that we are with him. We realize that true happiness lies in the knowledge that we are loved. Like Saint Francis, we open our hearts to this simple scene. We thank God, Jesus, and the Blessed Virgin Mary whose love accompanies us every day of our lives.

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**Mass Intentions for Saturday/Sunday,  
10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Mullinarrigle:** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 09:30 am  
Stephen Mullally, Ballyconnaught  
Jim Ryan, Ballyconnaught

**Rosbercon:** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 11:00 am  
Michael, Eileen, Catherine Cashin, Shanbogh

**Collection of Parish Funds**

**26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> November and 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

<b>Offertory Collection</b>	€ 974.00
<b>Weekly Envelopes</b>	€ 1,321.00
<b>Parish Debt on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022</b>	€ 28,353.61

**The Christmas Offering Envelopes for Fr. Dan and the Boxes of Weekly Envelopes for Parish Funds for the coming year** will be available towards the end of the week. Many thanks for your loyalty and generosity to the Parish and to Fr. Dan.

**Rosbercon Parish Draw** will take place this Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022, at 04:00 pm in Rosbercon Parish Hall at the end of the Mass for the Senior Citizens. Please return ticket stubs and money in time for the Draw. Many thanks to all who have contributed so generously.

The Annual **Giving Tree** makes a welcome return to Rosbercon Church this year. Through the tree, gifts are brought to the patients of the two local hospitals in New Ross. Parishioners are asked to take a tag from the tree and return the gift requested with the tag on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

**Greetings:** Rosbercon Parish Pastoral Council has sent Christmas Cards and Greetings to parishioners who have emigrated from the parish down the years. Fr. Dan and Parishioners send special Christmas Greetings and prayers to all our Emigrants. We hope and pray that you are settled and happy in your new country. We miss you and will be thinking of you in the Christmas Season.

**December** is the month of the Birth of Our Saviour; it is the month of mid-winter, the month of the shortest day of the year. It is the last month of the calendar and the month of gift giving. During the month of December, we pray to come close to Jesus in our lives and in our prayer.

**Advent** is a time of patience- quieten our hearts; a time of waiting – be filled with joy; a time of hope – the blind recover their sight; a time of healing – lepers are cured; a time to believe – we are beloved by God. (See today's gospel)

**To make you Smile**

**Family Ties** - There was a car accident in a small town. A crowd surrounded the victim so that the newspaper reporter couldn't get close enough to see. He hit upon a bright idea: 'I'm the father of the victim', he cried, 'please let me through.!' The crowd let him pass so he was able to get right up to the scene of the accident, where he discovered, to his embarrassment, that the victim was a donkey.

**Humour**

The monastery had fallen on hard times and the abbot decided to establish a business to defray the expenses. The monks first considered a bakery or a winery but being English they decided to open a fish-and-chip restaurant. The establishment soon became very popular. One customer, thinking he was very clever asked one of the brothers, 'I suppose you're the fish friar?' 'No' he answered 'I'm the chip monk'.

**Reflection**

John the Baptist was no reed swaying in the wind.  
A reed swaying in the wind is a symbol  
Of those who are easily influenced,  
Who go along with whatever is popular,  
And who have no conviction of their own.  
But the humble reed can teach us something.  
The fact that it is light means that it is  
At the mercy of every wind that blows.  
But it has great strength too.  
The greatest storm cannot uproot it.  
Even when giant oaks comes tumbling down,  
The slender reed still stands secure.  
Lord, teach us that there is strength  
In weakness and suppleness  
And give us the wisdom to know  
When to bend and when to stand.

**Wisdom**

Have a heart that never hardens, and a temper that never tires, and a touch that never hurts.

**Many congratulations** to Listerlin Tidy Towns Committee who have made such a wonderful contribution to the appearance of Listerlin village and Church. The Christmas Tree, the Outdoor Crib and the Christmas decorations and lights look spectacular. The Lighting of the Tree and the generous wine and refreshments party last Sunday evening was thoroughly enjoyed by the large number of children and adults who attended. Well done to all involved.

**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.

◆ **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 Bríd Vereker.

◆ **GLENMORE TULLOGHER ROSBERCON COMMUNITY GAMES**

A meeting of GTR (Glenmore Tullogher Rosbercon) Community Games is taking place on Thursday 15th December at 08:00 pm in the Glen Bar, Glenmore and all are welcome to attend and to become part of the local Area Committee.

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