

## HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 1st January 2023

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### Feast of Mary the Holy Mother of God

On the opening day of 2023 we celebrate the feast of Mary, the Mother of God. We look to Mary to pray for us and to hold a loving hand over our lives. Today is World Day of Peace and we ask that co-operation and tolerance may replace war and violence in the troubled parts of the world.

#### Theme of the Weekend Readings

As individuals and as a community we need the care of Mary the Mother of Jesus.

#### First Reading

A blessing prayer spoken to Moses by God.

#### Second Reading

Jesus, born from Mary, draws us in to the family of God.

#### Gospel

The Shepherds find the infant Jesus

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 07:00 pm in Tullogher  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 09:30 am Mass in Mullinarrigle  
11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

#### Weekday Masses

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 10:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

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

#### Masses for the Feast of the Epiphany as follows

##### Rosbercon

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 07:00 pm Mass  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 11:00 am

##### Mullinarrigle

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 9:30 am

**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)

#### Recent Deaths

Conrad Rogenhagen, Millbanks, Rosbercon  
Sean Cooney, Carrigaline, Co. Cork

#### Anniversaries

Ned and Lena Hanrahan  
Tommy Power, Shanbogh

#### A Message from Fr Dan on the Feast of Mary, Mother of God:

Christmas is the season when we have time to be together, what we might call 'family time'. **Bro Richard Hendrick OFM Cap** has written a beautiful poem about how to enjoy a winter walk in nature and especially in the woods. The following is an extract from that poem and I hope you find it enjoyable:

#### A Meditation

When you walk in the woods, do so at their pace. Not yours. Pause before you enter their embrace, and breathe deep. Slow down to their ancient pace of root, and branch, and story. Then, with a bow, enter; and allow their cathedral coolness to enfold you, and their greened light to anoint you with sylvan sacrament of stained-glass dappling; and your healing will begin.

Listen long enough and they will teach you their tongue words of wood, and weather, and water, united in one song of praise that began with the first Divinely led step into the dance of inter-breathing that you have forgotten how to sing until now.

Touching their great slowness, be reborn in their wisdom that promises, for every Winter a Spring, and roots deep enough to outlast any Summer drought until Autumn's coolness comes. When you walk in the woods, do so at their pace. Not yours.

Each one of us has so many memories of the family we grew up in. That was our home and there we belonged. We could not have survived without the care and the love of our parents. Each of us has a memory of the desperation we felt when we were lost as children. Whether we were left behind in the Church after Mass or wandered off when our mother was shopping, we never forgot the feeling of being lost.

The Feast of the Holy Family reminds us that Jesus too was raised in a family just like ours. He too was lost in the Temple when he was only twelve.

It was Mary and Joseph who created the atmosphere at home that shaped Jesus' character. They gave Jesus good values and from them he learned what was expected of him and what was acceptable. They formed Jesus well and we are told in the gospel that he grew up in 'wisdom, stature and favor' in the eyes of God and men.

Today's feast of the Holy Family reminds us of our own particular childhoods. Our families too were holy and today we remember our fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, friends and neighbours who created our family life and made us the kind of people we became.

*From the Ennis Parish Newsletter (Adapted)*

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Many congratulations to **Ciara Newport, New Ross** and **Patrick Connick, Ballyverneen, Glenmore** who were married in Kingscourt Church, Co Cavan on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2022. We pray that Our Lord will bless their marriage and grant them happiness.

### Collection of Parish Funds 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Figures in January 2023

**Parish Debt on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022** € 26,853.61

**Christmas Offerings:** Once again many thanks to parishioners for your generosity to the Christmas Collection. Outstanding envelopes may be handed in at Mass or to the Parochial House. May the New Year which stretches out before us be especially blessed for you.

### Reflection

Of all the influences upon us,  
The family is the greatest.  
Every family is a small community.  
The virtues that build and foster community are:  
Kindness, gentleness, humility, patience  
Mutual love and forgiveness.  
These are not easy virtues to practice.  
But when practiced with consistency  
The rewards are great in terms of peace  
and harmony in the home

**Thank You and Good Wishes.** Fr. Dan thanks you sincerely for your generosity and loyalty to Rosbercon Parish during 2022. May the New Year be wonderful for you and your family and may Our Lord grant you many blessings during 2023.

**Wisdom:** "A faithful friend is an image of God."

**Humour:** 'The prophets promised that a time would come when the lion and the lamb would lie down together, but they didn't say how much sleep the lamb would get!'

*Woody Allen*

### A New Year Blessing

May the light of your soul guide you,  
May the light of your soul bless the work that you do  
with the secret love and warmth of your heart.

May you see in what you do the beauty of your own soul,  
May the sacredness of your work bring healing, light and  
renewal to those who work with you and to those who  
receive your work.

May your work never weary you,  
May it release within you, wellsprings of refreshment,  
inspiration and excitement.  
May you be present in what you do.  
May the day never burden you.

May dawn find you awake and alert, approaching your new  
day with dreams, possibilities and promises.  
May evening find you gracious and fulfilled.

May you go into the night, blessed, sheltered and protected.  
May your soul calm, console and renew you.

Amen

### ◆ Newsletter Sponsors

We list below the people, companies and businesses that have kindly supported and sponsored the Parish Newsletter in 2022. 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 2023, and ask that our Parishioners give their support throughout the coming year.

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