

## ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 4th December 2022

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### Second Sunday of Advent

In today's readings we hear again the voice of John the Baptist calling us to prepare a way for the Lord. We create a space in our minds and hearts so that the Lord may come to us in this Mass.

**Theme of the Weekend Readings:** We are called upon to change our lives during the season of Advent.

**First Reading:** The coming of the Messiah will bring justice and peace.

**Second Reading:** The Scriptures were written to teach us about God's promises.

**Gospel:** John the Baptist preaches.

#### Weekend Masses:

Saturday 10th December: 7.00pm Mass in Rosbercon

Sunday 11th December: 9.30am Mass in Mullinarrigle

11.00am Mass in Rosbercon

#### Weekday Masses:

Rosbercon: Wednesday, 7th Dec at 7.00pm Vigil of the Immaculate Conception

Thursday 8th Dec at 11.00am Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Friday 9th December: 10.00am Mass in Rosbercon

Mullinarrigle: Thursday 8th Dec at 9.30a.m. Feast of the Immaculate Conception

**The Feast of the Immaculate Conception** - falls on Thursday 8th December this year 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)

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

#### Recent Death:

Bishop Martin Drennan, Kilkenny and Galway

#### Anniversaries:

Fr. Johnny Murphy, Brownsford

Margaret Ryan, Guilcough

Michael, Mary and Bridie Tobin, Listerlin

Margaret Mackey, Mullinakill

We welcome into our Christian Community **Niamh Sarah Hall**, daughter of Emmet and Lisa, New Ross, who was baptised in the Church of the Assumption, Rosbercon, on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

**A Message from Fr Dan: The coming of Christ:** We remember with great affection the people who made a real difference to our lives. We are forever grateful to them for their kindness. As we look to Christmas, we reflect on the difference that the coming of Christ makes to the world. I like to reflect, in particular on two gifts Christ brings us. One is the gift of new life and the second is the gift of peace.

Like to-day, the world of the Roman Empire, into which Christ was born, was a world that had grown tired of itself. We have all seen tree stumps, in varying stages of decay, in paddocks, beside streams and on barren hillsides. Sometimes when we stop to look, we see a green shoot; new life emerging from the old and abandoned stump. Is it possible, that we see ourselves as stumps in the winter of our lives? We've done our bit. Yet, this dead wood can become green again. We can still contribute. The coming of Christ encourages us to find a new and more life-giving way of being. Along with nature we too can bloom again in spring.

The Old Testament Jews looked to the coming of the Messiah as the dawn of a new era of peace and harmony in the world. They looked forward to a time when the animals of forest and the animals of the plain would come together in peace and companionship. The wolf and lamb would lie down together. The lion and kid would be friends with the weak offering hospitality to the strong. The cow and the bear would be neighbours and the calf and the lion cub would browse together.

The use of animals as metaphors, invites us to think about our relationships. These images point to a wonderful reconciliation that the coming of Christ brings. The way forward for nations and peoples will not be through power, but through playfulness, or a creativity that allows all to participate as equals. Advent is a call to the inner child in us to recapture the spontaneity, the trust and truthfulness that are the gifts of the Child Jesus.

May we find new life and energy this Christmas and may the peace of God which surpasses all understanding be in our hearts and minds.

**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.

*This weeks newsletter is kindly sponsored by  
St. Moling's Well Committee*

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

**Rosbercon:** Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm:  
Maggie O Connor, Tinnakilly **Months Mind**  
Victor Mullally, Busherstown  
Ned and Mary Mernagh, Assumption Terrace  
John Sinnott, Raheen  
Pat O Neill, Tinneranny

**Mullinarrigle:** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am:  
Nora Woods, Ballymartin

**Rosbercon:** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am:  
Dick Hennessy, Hoods Grove  
Patrick Scarff, Garanbehy  
Peggy Walsh, Hoods Grove

**To make you Smile:** Regarding the three wise men who came to Bethlehem: 'What if there had been three wise women instead of three wise men?' They would have asked for directions; been on time; helped deliver the baby; brought practical gifts; cleaned the stable; made a casserole'. *Letter to the 'Independent', December 1999*

**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 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Tickets have been distributed to the homes of the parish and are 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.

There will be a **Special Mass with Anointing of the Sick** for the 'Over 55s' of the parish in Rosbercon Hall on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00 p.m. followed by a reception and music. The Mass and Reception will be followed by the Parish Draw at 4.00p.m. All are welcome to attend.

**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.

**Love**

"Love is like the wild rose briar,  
Friendship, like the holly tree.  
The holly is dark when the rose briar blooms,  
But which will bloom most constantly." Emily Bronte

**Wisdom:** "A gracious word may smooth the way; a joyous word may light the day; a timely word may lessen stress; a lovely word may heal and bless"

**Humour:** A woman wearing a fur coat was accosted on the street on the street by an animal rights protester. 'What wretched animal had to die to let you wear that?' She replied 'My mother-in-law'.

**Reflections: Christ Comes**

*In the beginning was the word...*  
He who comes, comes to us now.,  
In the silence, in the darkness  
In the confusion, In the loneliness  
As Word and as Light  
as Truth and as Love  
Emmanuel, the name that means,  
God-with-us  
Now...

**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.

◆ **TULLOGHER ROSBERCON GAA DEVELOPMENT DRAW**

1st Prize €250 - Joan Handrick ,Millbanks  
2nd Prize €100 - Orlaith Todd, Shanbogh  
3rd Prize €100 - Willie Purcell, New Ross  
4th / 7th Prize €100 - Robert and Helen Forristal, Shanbogh  
- Eddie O Sullivan, Ballyfoyle  
- John Kennedy , Glenpipe  
- Eoin O Leary, Brownstown

Next Draw: Tuesday, 3rd January 2023 @8.00 p.m.

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