

NEW YEARS BLESSINGS TO ALL

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 31st December 2023

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FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

We gather on the feast of the Holy Family. We have come from our own families into a wider family – the family of the Christian community. Here we are reminded that we have a common Father, God, and that we are brothers and sisters in Christ.

Theme of the Weekend Readings

All families are especially blessed because of the birth of Jesus into the Holy Family.

First Reading

God promises Abraham that he will have an heir.

Second Reading

The writer praises the faith of Abraham and Sarah.

Gospel—The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

Gospel

A Hymn in praise of the Word of God who is Jesus himself.

Masses for the New Year, 2024: Our Masses in the Parish are as follows

Feast of the Epiphany

Little Christmas - is celebrated on Saturday 6th January and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Masses for the Feast of the Epiphany as follows

Rosbercon

Friday 5th January 7:00 pm Mass

Mullinarrigle

Saturday 6th January 12:00 Noon

Weekend Masses

Saturday 6th January 7:00 pm Mass in Tullogher

Sunday 7th January 9:30 am in Mullinarrigle

11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses

Rosbercon

Wednesday 3rd January No Mass

Friday 5th January 7:00 pm Mass

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

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

Anniversaries

Billy and Stasia Malone, Cooleen

A Message from Fr. Dan: The Coming of Christ: Over the centuries there have been many powerful leaders in our world. In the last 100 years we have had Tzar in Russia, Hitler in Germany, Mugabe in Zimbabwe, Idi Amin in Uganda and Mussolini in Italy. Some of these leaders seize power but many of them were elected and were popular in their own countries. They all believed that they knew what was best for their own people and for the world and that their rule would make a difference to the wellbeing of the people. But we know power can corrupt and all of these leaders left their countries in a far worse state than they found them.

Many people get involved in politics believing in the democratic system. If they make it into a position of power, they too feel that they can change things for the better. Many others are believers in the power of Education. They believe that by educating the people, they will change their lives for the better and this will lead to a better, more just world. We are all people of hope, looking ahead, looking to live in better times.

The Jewish people at the time of Christ lived in very harsh circumstances. Palestine was a conquered country and the Jews lived under Roman occupation and all that that entailed. Invasion and conquest were nothing new to the Jewish people. The Assyrians had conquered and destroyed the Northern Kingdom. The Babylonian armies had conquered Judaea and exiled the whole population to Babylon. The Jews were to spend 70 years in exile.

In their darkest hours the people never lost their hope that a Messiah would come and rescue them from their cruel fate and liberate them. Their Messiah would be a great military and political leader like their greatest kings, David and Solomon.

However, God's way was not man's way. The Messiah, when he came, was not born in a great palace but in a stable, as a helpless child, born to a young woman named Mary. Jesus brought salvation to the world in a way that no one expected or foresaw. His life by any standard was a failure. His few supporters deserted him when he was crucified. His death looked like the end of the road, the end of the Christian way.

Yet, the coming of Christ which we celebrate on Sunday has made such a difference to humanity over the last two thousand years. To this day Christ has no political power. He invites us to welcome him into our lives and to show the world how the life of faith can bring salvation and redemption to the people. Christ is with us in the ordinary and simple ways of our daily lives. If we stay with him, he fills our lives with light and life and hope. Despite all the difficulties, his love leads to a happiness and joy that 'no eye has seen or ear heard'. Jesus is our Messiah. It is his birth that we will be celebrating at Christmas time.



*Wishing Everyone a very Peaceful
And Happy New Year*



Mass Intentions for the Saturday/Sunday

6th/7th January 2024

Tullagher: Saturday 6th January at 7:00 pm

Bridget Power, Glenballyvalley

Anna Lawless, Ballykenna

Rosbercon: Sunday 7th January at 11:00 am

Jackie Tubritt, Raheen

Peg and John Tubritt, Raheen

Nicky Tubritt, Raheen

James, Catherine and John Rice, New Ross

Collection of Parish Funds 23rd/24th December 2023

Figures in January 2024

Parish Debt on 20th December 2023 € 20,853.61

The Christmas Offering Envelopes for the Priests of the Parish and the Boxes of Weekly Envelopes for Parish Funds for the coming year have been distributed to the homes of the parish. Envelopes may be handed in at Mass or to the Parochial House.

Reflection: The Family

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.

To make you Smile: A rich king complained that the rough ground hurt his feet. He ordered the whole country to be carpeted in cowhide. It was his court jester who suggested using two small pads to protect his feet!

Humour: Fr. Brown attended every horse race at the local course. One day while breezing through the training area he came upon trainer Murphy who was giving sugar lumps to the outsider. 'I hope that's not dope you're giving the poor beast' said the priest jokingly. 'Indeed not' said Murphy 'Tis only sugar. Here swallow one yourself and I will as well'. Satisfied the priest wandered off and Murphy made a phone call and said 'Mick, it's all set. The horse has had his treatment and he'll go like the wind and if anything passes him it will be me or Fr. Brown!'

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

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

◆ ROSBERCON FORÓIGE YOUTH CLUB

Foróige want to start a youth club in your area and we need adult volunteer leaders and young people members for the club. A youth club has huge positive benefits to young people in the community, and volunteering offers great rewards to the adults involved. You can make a difference. You can be a positive influence in your community. You can leave a positive impact on your community. For more information, please contact Aidan Gleeson on 086-0674485 or email Aidan.gleeson@foroige.ie

Newsletter Sponsors

We list below the people, companies and businesses that have kindly supported and sponsored the Parish Newsletter in 2023. We would like to thank them all for their generosity and wish them all a Happy Prosperous and Successful and Safe New Year in 2024, and ask that our Parishioners give their support throughout the coming year.

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- ◆ A number of kind anonymous parishioners.



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