

ROSBERCON PARISH NEWSLETTER 3rd December 2023

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1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Advent is a time of waiting. We are waiting for the coming of Christ. We pray to be ready to meet the Lord when he comes. As we begin the Advent Season we are invited 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

An impassioned plea for God to show his presence.

Second Reading

St. Paul reminds us to never stop thanking God.

Gospel

St. Mark tells the disciples to 'Stay awake for the Lord's coming'.

Weekend Masses

Saturday 9th December 7:00 pm Mass in Rosbercon
Sunday 10th December 9:30 am Mass in Mullinarrigle
11:00 am Mass in Rosbercon

Weekday Masses

Rosbercon

Wednesday 6th December 10:00 am Mass
Friday 8th December 10:00 am Mass

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception - falls on Friday 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

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.

There will be a **Special Mass with Anointing of the Sick** for the 'Over 55s' of the parish in Rosbercon Hall on Sunday 10th 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.

Recent Deaths

Ellen (Nelly) Kelly (née Moran), Ballinaberna, Ballywilliam
Mary Kelly, Ballywilliam

Anniversaries

Fr. John Murphy, Brownsford
Margaret Mackey, Mullinakil
Eileen, Michael and Catherine Cashin, Shanbogh
Stephen Murphy, Ballina and Dublin
David Wilson, Ardross
Nan and Ned Wilson, Castlemoyle
Lucy Dillon, Rosbercon
Bob Saunders, Ballyknock

We thank all who attended **The Special Remembrance Mass** in Rosbercon Church on Friday 17th 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

Taizé "Prepare the way for the Lord": *Isaiah 40:3-5* Taizé Advent Prayer Services commencing Fridays, 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd December 2023 8:00 pm—9:00 pm, in the Good Counsel College Church, New Ross, Y34 R297. Taizé services are ecumenical Christian prayer and song. All welcome.

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)

Wisdom: "I've learnt that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Maya Angelou

Advent Encircling Prayer

Circle me Lord
Keep protection near; keep danger afar.
Circle me Lord.
Keep hope within; keep doubt without.
Circle me Lord.
Keep light near; keep darkness afar.
Circle me Lord
Keep peace within; keep strife without.
Circle me Lord
Keep love within; keep hate without.

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**Mass Intentions for the Saturday/Sunday
9th/10th December 2023**

Rosbercon: Saturday 9th December at 7:00 pm

Dick Hennessy, Hoodsgrove

Fr. Andy Walsh, Galway

Pat O'Neill, Tinneranny

Mullinarrigle: Sunday 10th December at 9:30 am

Nora Woods, Ballymartin

Rosbercon: Sunday 10th December at 11:00 am

Peggy and Wally Walsh, Hoodsgrove

Margaret and George Dooley, Hoodsgrove

Collection of Parish Funds 25th/26th November 2023

Offertory Collection € 467.10

Weekly Envelopes € 802.90

Parish Debt on 29th November 2023 € 22,353.61

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.

Rosbercon Parish Pastoral Council would like to send a Christmas Greeting Card for 2023 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 or Anne at danieljcavanagh49@gmail.com

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 10th December 2023. Tickets will be distributed to the homes of the parish this week at a cost € 2.00 each or a book of 6 for € 10.00. Each household and wage earner are 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.

Year for Vocations to Diocesan Priesthood – Take A Risk for Christ: This year has been set aside to prayer for Diocesan Vocations under the theme 'Take A Risk for Christ'. As part of this Year of Prayer, you are invited to join with St. Joseph's Young Priests Society and Ossory Vocations in a Holy Hour, which will take place in St. Michael's Church, Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny, on Monday, 4th December 2023 at 7:00 pm, as we come together to pray for vocations in our Diocese. All welcome.

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

Humour: Imagination is something that sits with Dad and Mom the first time their teenager stays out late.

◆ **TULLOGHER CAMOGIE CLUB**

The Tullogher u16 girls will play their Roinn C County Final this coming Sunday 3rd December in Graiguenamanagh at 11:00 am. All support would be hugely welcome as they face off against their Barrow Rangers counterparts. The following Sunday the Minors will play Erin's Own, time and venue yet to be confirmed. The very best of luck to both teams as they aim to secure the double in what has been an amazing season for the girls and their trainers. Sincere best wishes to all concerned.

◆ **SHANBOGH NATIONAL SCHOOL ENROLMENTS**

We are currently accepting enrolment applications for the school year 2024/2025. For an application and more information please visit our website shanboghns.ie. On 051—880308 or at shanboghns@gmail.com. Closing date for completed applications is Friday, 22nd December, 2023.

◆ **TULLOGHER ROSBERCON VINTAGE CLUB**

The Tullogher/Rosbercon Vintage Club will hold their annual Christmas Dinner Dance in New Ross Golf Club on Saturday 9th December 2023; 4 course meal and music by Pat Cooney. Tickets € 25.00 from Bob 086—1060689.

◆ **SOUTH KILKENNY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Friday, 8th December 2023

A night of reminiscing with John Daly.

Time: 7:00 pm

Venue: Rhu Glenn Hotel.

Cost, including food € 25.00

◆ **MULLINAVAT COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Bridge every Wednesday night starting at 7:20 pm. New members are most welcome. Contact Marian on 087-6984706

◆ **COIS NORE CHOIR**

Cois Nore Choir will perform in St. Beacons Church, Mullinavat on Friday 8th December at 8:00 pm. Donations to St. Vincent De Paul. All support greatly appreciated

◆ **NEW ROSS ACTIVE RETIREMENT**

New Ross Active Retirement will hold their general meeting on Friday December 1st in the Youth Centre Nunnery Lane at 10:30 am. After the meeting it's party time looking forward to seeing you all there.

◆ **ROSBERCON TULLOGHER CHAPTER ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

Our annual collection will take place as usual during the month of December. Vincent De Paul blue envelopes will be placed in all of our churches to facilitate parishioners who wish to donate. They can be returned by placing them in the Sunday mass offertory collection boxes or by handing them directly to any of our committee members. The Chapter has been in operation within our parish in excess of 60 years. Our annual collection is the prime source of our funds without which we could not continue. Committee Members—Richard Mc Elwee, Mary B Conway, Seamas Waters, Margaret Saunders, Catherine Cottrell, Bríd Vereker.

◆ **CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR**

There will be a Christmas Craft Fair in Campile Hall on Sunday 10th of December from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm featuring handmade crafts from all over County Wexford and beyond. There will also be tickets for the Mike Denver Concert for sale at the Craft Fair to be held in Campile Hall on Sunday 24th of March. An ideal Christmas present to be purchased in advance.

◆ **NEW ROSS WOMENS SHED**

The Women's Shed are hosting Santa's Grotto in the Function Room of Martin Spider O'Brien's on Saturday 9th December from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. € 5.00 per child including kiddies disco with all proceeds going to local charities. There will also be a Crafters Market from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

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