

Parish Newsletter

Fourth Sunday
Of Advent
Year B

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Parish Website & live webcams of Milford & Rathmullan Churches: www.mrparishes.ie

Yes, mother

We sometimes distance ourselves from the real encounter here. As Margaret Silf notes, we sometimes 'put Mary into a glass case, surround her with flowers, and avoid the personal consequences of this moment'. And there could have been very severe consequences for Mary, even death by stoning. Mary's yes is an example of completely surrendering to God's will. She surrenders her motherhood, her entire life to God.

We can think today of those who mother against the odds in our world. In places where there is no food, no clean water, the threat of disease, of torture; those who watch their children suffer from addiction or violence. And we remember those who are the angel Gabriel's of the world, bringing good news and hope that 'nothing is impossible'.



'Hail Mary, woman of Nazareth, home maker, cleaner, preparer of food, fetcher of water, God is with you in your everyday excursions in this ordinary town. Blessed are you among women and blessed indeed are women in their everyday lives, in the confines of family life, in the ambivalence of decision making, in the silences and blessed are the fruits of all our labours'. Janet Lees

Jane Mellett

Happy Christmas and a joyous New Year to all in the Parish

MUSINGS

Today's Gospel recounts the story of the Annunciation in which Mary is told that she will conceive and bear the Christ-Child. Many traditions have grown up around this scene and have influenced both eastern and western Christian art. One of these depicts Mary spinning a veil for the temple when the angel appears. This will be the same temple veil that will be torn in two at Christ's death. In his Great Canon, the eighth-century bishop, Andrew of Crete, speaks of this scene in the following way: 'As from purple silk, O undefiled Virgin, the spiritual robe of Emmanuel, his flesh, was woven in thy womb.' Salvador Ryan

St. Peter's Church, Milford	Eucharistic Adoration	Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel
<p>Saturday 20th 7: 30 pm Intention</p> <p>Sunday 21st Fourth Sunday Of Advent 11: 00 am Kathleen Friel (Anniv)</p> <p>Monday 22nd 10: 00 am Intention</p> <p>Tuesday 23rd 10: 00 am Intention</p> <p>Christmas Eve 7: 00 pm Children's Christmas Mass 10 : 00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass</p> <p>Christmas Day 11: 00 am Christmas Day Mass</p> <p>Saturday 27th 7: 30 pm Anne Ryan (Anniv)</p> <p>Sunday 28th The Holy Family 11: 00 am Intention</p>	<p><u>Tuesdays - Kerrykeel</u> 9: 00 am – 8: 00 pm</p> <p><u>Thursday's - Milford</u> 10: 00 am – 10: 00 pm (Directed Holy Hour from 9: 00 pm every second Thursday of the month)</p> <p>Confessions Milford After 7: 30 pm Mass every Saturday Kerrykeel 5: 30 pm on Saturday's</p>	<p>Saturday 20th 6: 00 pm Peter Doherty (1st Anniv)</p> <p>Sunday 21st Fourth Sunday Of Advent 9: 30 am Intention</p> <p>Christmas Eve 8: 30 pm Christmas Vigil Mass</p> <p>Christmas Day 9: 30 am Christmas Day Mass</p> <p>Saturday 27th 6: 00 pm John Thomas Doherty (Anniv)</p> <p>Sunday 28th The Holy Family 9: 30 am Deceased McFadden & Scanlon Family Members</p>

Please Remember in your Prayers:

Peter Doherty, Drumatrummon, whose 1st Anniversary Mass takes place in Kerrykeel this weekend

And all those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:

Hugh & Mary Coll, Anne Webster, Kathleen Friel, David Reynolds, Kathleen Brosnan, Stephen McElhinney, Bridget McTaggart, Alex Alcorn, Charlie Ferry, Fr. Peadar Arnold & Frances Griffin



SVdeP National Church Gate Collection

The SVdeP would like to thank the congregation for their very generous contribution at last weekend's gate collection. The local SVdeP number 086 0611040 is a dedicated confidential number, just leave voicemail and a trained SVdeP volunteer will be in touch.

Rosary

The Rosary which normally takes place on a Tuesday will not take place over the Christmas period and will resume on Tuesday 13th January.

Trocaire

Trocaire thanks all clergy and parishioners for their amazing support this year without which Trocaire would not have been able to help some of the most vulnerable individuals, families and communities in the world's poorest countries. Trocaire wishes everyone a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. May you receive every blessing in 2015.

The Last Push For The Park

This is the last big push for the playground extension. We are having a Cabaret and Dance on Monday 29th December at Ray Community Centre at 8pm. This event will include big stars from throughout the county, on stage and on the dance floor. Bring your own "refreshments" and glass!! There will be a Chip Van on Site. Massive Raffle! Free transport there and back from Pat Patton's and the Putting Green, by Columba.

Christmas Calls

Christmas calls to the sick and housebound in the parish will take place this coming week on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd in Milford and Kerrykeel.

Feast of The Holy Family - Special Mass

A special Mass will be held in Milford on Sunday 28th December- Feast of The Holy Family- at 11am for all those who have had children baptised in 2014. This Mass will also be held in Kerrykeel on Saturday evening 27th at 6pm.

Kerrykeel Country Market

Having started from humble beginnings in July, we have become a date in the diary for many people and we would like to sincerely thank all our customers for continuously supporting us in 2014. The market will be closed from Christmas until Saturday 7th February. We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2015.

Rathmullan's 20th Anniversary New Year's Day Swim

To celebrate our 20th anniversary a committee has been formed and following several meetings Rathmullan National School Parents Association has been chosen as the benefactor of the bucket collection for this years New Years Day Swim in Rathmullan and a permit has been granted to this effect. We would also like to encourage anyone wishing to raise money for other worthy causes to also come along on the day with their sponsorship cards.

Confessions For Christmas

Confessions for Christmas will take place on Sunday 21st @ 6pm in Kilmacrennan Monday 22nd @ 6pm in Milford Monday 22nd @ 7:30pm in Ramelton Tuesday 23rd @ 6pm in Termon Tuesday 23rd @ 8pm in Kerrykeel

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration will not take place until Thursday 8th January.

Christmas Youth Mass

A Christmas Youth Mass will take place on Sunday 28th December at 5pm in St. Mary's Church, Stranorlar, followed by a Christmas party in the Parish Centre afterwards.

Keep our Graveyards Clean

While everyone works hard at all times to have the Cemetery looking good it would be appreciated if at this special time an effort would be made to have it looking well. Could everyone please ensure that they remove used wreaths and flowers from the graveyard and dispose of them at home. Thank you for your cooperation.

Annual Duck Race

The Annual Milford Tidy Towns Duck Race will take place on St. Stephens Day Friday 26th December at 3pm. You can purchase a duck for €5 from any committee member or in the local shops. Your support is very much appreciated. Presentation of prizes takes place afterwards in the Travellers Inn.

Church Collections for last weekend were:

Milford: €1,525.00
Kerrykeel: €400.00

Many thanks for your contributions to the Parish.

Thought for the Week
He is with us always, with His comfort and joy, if we will only ask.
Dorothy Day

Milford Hall Bingo
Bingo Sunday Night at 8:30pm, in the Hall.
Snowball tonight is: €8,000. 00
Second Snowball €2,650. 00

Church Ministries



Milford

Ministers of the Word

Sat 27th December
M. Carr & P. McCarron
Sun 28th December
S. Greene & S. Friel

Ministers of the Eucharist

Sat 27th December
P. Sweeney, E. Gillespie, B. O'Donnell & K. Logan
Sun 28th December
T. Reynolds, S. Lynch, K. Ferry & C. O'Sullivan

Children's Liturgy

Sun 28th December Team A
The Holy Family
Year B

Sun 4th January Team B
Second Sunday
Of Christmas
Year B

Kerrykeel

Ministers of the Word

Sat 27th December
Joe Harkin
Sun 28th December
Joe Ferry

Ministers of the Eucharist

Sat 27th December
Jacinta Calalghan
Sun 28th December
Eileen McAteer