

Parish Newsletter

Christmas Day
Year A

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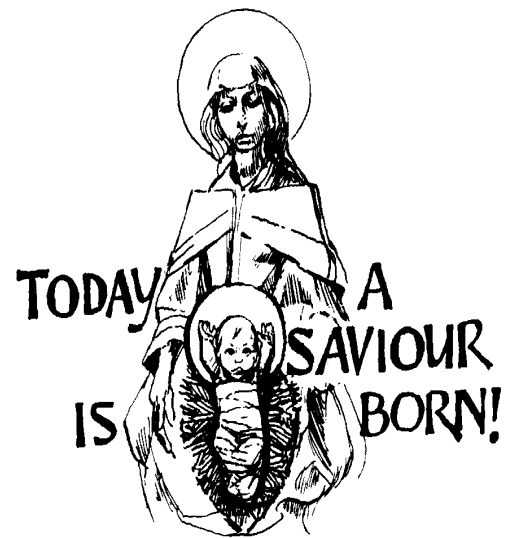
THE DEEP END Christmas Day

If you were to put together a guest list for the birth of the Messiah 2000 years ago one might expect political leaders like Caesar Augustus and religious leaders such as the chief priests and the Pharisees to be included. Yet for Luke, the shepherds are some of the first to welcome Jesus into this world and are the first 'preachers' of the Good News. Many would find it completely shocking that Shepherds would be included. It was a disreputable trade and shepherds were considered 'unclean' because of their profession. At first they were terrified, but the angels reassured them: 'do not be afraid'. The response of the shepherds was immediate: 'let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing which has taken place'.

The poor, the marginalised, the outcast will be the first to experience the abundance of God's hospitality through Jesus and the shepherds come in their name. We are told that people were amazed by the shepherds and their words. Their journey didn't end in Bethlehem, for them it was perhaps only the beginning as they returned 'glorifying and praising God'. We are invited to Bethlehem today, to open up our hearts to the one who has come to bring hope and joy. And we return, like the shepherds, 'glorifying and praising God for all they have seen and heard'. We must allow that love to penetrate our hearts and celebrate with our family and friends the joy that lives amongst us. And when we have finished celebrating we remember that the real work of Christmas begins once again:

'When the song of the angels is stilled. When the star in the sky is gone.
When the kings and princes are home. When the shepherds are back with their flocks.
The work of Christmas begins; to find the lost; to heal the broken; to feed the hungry;
to release the prisoner; to rebuild the nations; to bring peace among people; to make music in the heart.'
Howard Thurman

Jane Mellet



St. Peter's Church, Milford

Saturday 24th	7:00 pm Children's Christmas Mass	
	10:00pm Christmas Vigil Mass	
Sunday 25th	Christmas Day	
	11: 00 am Christmas Day Mass	
Thursday 29th	10:00am Intention	
Friday 30th	10:00am Feast of the Holy Family	
Saturday 31st	7:30 pm Anne Ryan	(Anniv)
Sunday 1st	Mary the Holy Mother of God	
	11: 00 am Madge Felle	
Wednesday 4th	10:00am Intention	
Friday 6th	The Epiphany of the Lord	
	10:00am Intention	
	7:00pm January First Friday Mass	
Saturday 7th	7:30pm Noel Grennan	(Anniv)
Sunday 8th	The baptism of the Lord	
	11:00am Intention	

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays - Kerrykeel
9: 00 am – 8: 00 pm

Thursday's - Milford
10: 00 am – 10: 00 pm

Confessions

Milford
After 7: 30 pm Mass
every Saturday

Kerrykeel
5: 30 pm on Saturday's

Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kerrykeel

Saturday 24th	8:30 pm Christmas Vigil Mass	
Sunday 25th	Christmas Day	
	9:30am Christmas Day Mass	
Saturday 31st	6:00pm Intention	
Sunday 1st	Mary the Holy Mother of God	
	9:30am Intention	
Thursday 5th	7:00pm Vigil Mass The Epiphany of the Lord	
Saturday 7th	6:00pm Mary Ferry	(Anniv)
Sunday 8th	The Baptism of the Lord	
	9:30am Intention	

Please Remember in your Prayers:

Jane Conlon, Milford, whose funeral took place in Milford on Wednesday.

All those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:

Alec Alcorn, Pauline Neian, David Reynolds, Anne Ryan, Madge Felle, Desmond Toye, Bridget Crerand, Mary B Horner, Fr. Peadar Arnold & Frances Griffin.



Local SVdeP number 086 0611040

This is a dedicated confidential number, just leave a voicemail and a trained SVdeP volunteer will be in touch.

Rosary

There is a rosary every Tues at 3pm in St. Peter's Church. All welcome, tea served.

Dancing Milford Hall

Dancing at the Milford Hall continues on Thursday evenings from 8:30-10:30pm.

New to the Parish?

If you are new to the parish and would like a box of envelopes to make a weekly contribution then please contact the Sacristy or the Parochial House, Milford on 074 9153236. Thank you.

Whoriskey Christmas Lights Kerrykeel

Michael and Mary Whoriskey are having their annual quiz night in the Beachcomber bar, Rathmullan on THURSDAY 29th DECEMBER at 9.30pm
All proceeds in aid of Pieta house Northwest and Mevagh Fire service Carrigart .

New Years Day - Special Mass

A special Mass will be held in Milford on Sunday 1st December- at 11am for all those who have had children baptised in St. Peter's Church in 2016.

Diocesan Calender

A new Diocesan Calender is available in the Sacristy at a price of €3.

Special Bingo-Milford Hall

A special Christmas Bingo will take place in the Milford Hall on Christmas Night 25th December at 8:30pm.

All Lines €30,

All Double lines €40

All Houses €100.

Books €10, small books €5.

Come along and enjoy the night.

Community 5k Walk/Run

The Ray and Rathmullan community are organising a community 5k walk/run on Thursday 29th December at 2pm in Rathmullan. The aim is to show support to our friend Bridget and her family at this difficult time as they are dealing with an on going health issue. We would really appreciate if you could come along with your family to show support as after all that is what is really important especially at this time of year.

Looking for a career in the care sector?

Family Carers Ireland are providing the QQI Level 5 Healthcare Award in 2017 in or around your area based on demand. One day topic specific workshops also available. For more info contact the training unit on 0579322920.

Rosnackill Activity Centre

Operation Transformation National Walks day Saturday 7th Jan @ 9.30am. Registration for OT activities Jiving, Women on the Move & Couch to 5km from 11.00am-12. Couch to 5km Trialough Starting Tuesday 10th Jan Tues 6pm, Thurs 6 pm & Fri 8pm cost €50 for 8 weeks

Women on the move Starting 9th January First Health checks will take place on 9th from 6.00 -7.30pm. Mon & Wed night 8-9pm €80 for 8 weeks

Annual Duck Race

The Annual Milford Tidy Towns Duck Race will take place on St. Stephens Day Monday 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.

In this last Parish Newsletter of 2016 and before Christmas, I would just like to wish everyone in the parish a peaceful and happy Christmas celebrating the birth of Christ, and I wish you many blessings for 2017.
Fr. Adrian.

*Come, God-with-us:
who braves our rejection and hurt, who
holds us in acceptance and love.*

*Come, God-for-us:
who whispers in our ears that we – each
of us – are beloved children...*

Church Collections for last weekend were:

Milford: €1,145.00

Kerrykeel: €300.00

Many thanks for your
contributions to the
Parish.

Thought for the Week

*O God Help us to
be masters of
ourselves, that we
may be servants
to others.
A. Paterson*

Milford Hall Bingo

Bingo Sunday Night at
8:30pm in the Hall.

Snowball tonight is:
€8,000.00

Second Snowball
€4,800.00



Church Ministries



Milford

Ministers of the Word

Sat 31st December

P. Mc Laughlin & K. O. Gorman

Sun 1st January

S. Ramen & L. Blaney

Ministers of the Eucharist

Sat 31st December

P. Sweeney, E. Gillespie
& B. O Donnell

Sun 1st January

C. Mc Gettigan, M. Mc Fadden
& M. Mc Rory

Children's Liturgy

Sun 1st Jan Team D

Mary, The Holy
Mother of God

Sun 8th Jan Team A

The Baptism
of the Lord

Kerrykeel

Ministers of the Word

Sat 31st December

Joe Harkin

Sun 1st January

Aine Mc Ateer

Ministers of the Eucharist

Sat 31st December

Brian Mc Garvey

Sun 1st January

Eileen Mc Ateer