

THINKING ABOUT CHRISTMAS

With the re-opening of the Churches it brings us joy but there are responsibilities with it. We are grateful to those who give of their valuable time to help us return safely.

We thank all our parishioners for their patience as we have been asked to work with reduced capacity, we have been unable to accommodate everybody.

The thought of working with the same reduced capacity at the busiest time of year fills us with dread. Christmas is a holy time of year and is special for many of us.

There are large attendances at Masses but this year it will have to be different.

I would like to encourage families and individuals to come over the 12 days of Christmas.

Christmas is about more than just one day. Families can be welcomed to attend Mass at some point during the twelve days, from Christmas Eve to Epiphany which ends on 6th January 2021. Whatever your opinion of the restrictions or views on the pandemic, please remember we have to trust the advice given to us. All this is done to keep people safe and ensure the best possible service at this time. I ask again for your patience and understanding in the coming weeks. Again, I apologize for how difficult it is for everyone, but we are all trying to do our best at this difficult time. *Fr John*



Christmas Gift Appeal

There are 61 children living in the Direct Provision Centre, BALLINAMORE ranging in age from 1 month to 17 years. An appeal has been launched through their GoFundMe website page by local resident Alice Lynott and friends. The appeal hopes to provide the children with a Christmas gift purchased locally. Any funds leftover will be used for essential items required by the ladies in the Centre. Many of these children have been moving from centre to centre since their arrival in Ireland. We hope to bring a little joy to these children this Christmas. Any donation, no matter how small would be greatly appreciated. Log onto the GoFundMe Website and search for Ballinamore Gift Appeal.

Priests Phone Numbers

Priests phone numbers. **Fr John McMahon** 049 433 9610. **Mobile:** 086 2126582.

Fr S Mawn (B'more) 071 9644039/087 6869040. **Fr J Cusack (B'more)** 087 2408409.

Fr D Hannon (Arva) 087 2830145. **Fr C O'Gorman (Killeshandra)** 049 4334179.

Fr Peter Tiernan (Cloone/Aughavas) 071 9636016/086 3500114.

You may place your notices in the Diaries in each Church before **5.00 pm on Thursdays**. Notices should be signed, and a phone number provided. Or you may email: carrigallen@kilmorediocese.ie by 5.00 pm on Fridays.

The editors reserve the right to omit or amend any notice.

Parish Newsletter

6th Dec 2020 – 2nd Sunday of Advent – Year B

Carrigallen • Drumeela • Drumreilly

G O S P E L R E F L E C T I O N

MARK 1:1-8

In today's Gospel, we meet John the Baptist coming out of the desert, the last of the great prophets of Israel. And his message to the Israelites was to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah and to straighten the paths. The pathways to our hearts often become crooked and uneven due to sin, evil and lack of love. Advent to us can be compared to a modern-day John the Baptist. It gives us notice that there is a great forthcoming event, and it also gives us time to prepare spiritually for it.

We can straighten our pathways through prayerful reflection, honesty, truthfulness, forgiveness and compassion.

This will enable the peace and joy of the Christ Child to enter our hearts this Christmas without any obstructions or complications.

Advent is a time of waiting and a time of preparation.

It is also a time of understanding the promise of a Messiah who comes to heal us, to save us, to teach us how to live.

God made us human so that we might become divine and rejoice in the new life that He comes to give us.

So, this Advent let us choose to prepare well to receive Jesus into our hearts and into our homes at Christmas. Let us not be too distracted by the influence of the commercial world and most of all let us be filled with the understanding that the greatest gift ever given to mankind was a humble child in a stable who came with the guarantee of eternal life for all who believe.



Parish Masses/Anniversaries/Other Events

Carrigallen *All Carrigallen Masses livestreamed on www.churchtv.ie*

Sun 6th Dec 11.15 am Deceased members of the Sheridan family *Callough*
 Tues 8th 11.15 am Vincent Hoban *Main Street*
 Sun 13th 11.15 am Seán, Frank & Pauline Donohoe and deceased family members *Gortermone*

Weekday Masses: Wed Thurs & Fri at 10.00 am.
Tues. at 11.15 am (Holy Day)



Drumeela

Sun 6th Dec 11.15 am Therese & Paucic McGurran and their grandparents *Corglass*
 Tues 8th 11.15 am Pro Populo
 Sun 13th 11.15 am Michael McGerty and deceased family members *Annagh*

Weekday Masses: Tues at 11.15 am (Holy Day)



Drumreilly

Sat 5th Dec 8.00 pm Con & Elizabeth McKiernan *Derrindrehid* and their son Con *Templeport*
 Mon 7th 8.00 pm Francie Quinn *Drumdiffer*
 Sat 12th 8.00 pm Anna May & Hugh Keegan and remembering Elizabeth Murtagh and deceased family members *Gortahose*

Weekday Masses: Mon at 8.00 pm (Holy Day)

The Parish Pastoral Council are holding a socially distant meeting in Carrigallen Hall (Main Hall Area) on Tuesday 8th Dec at 8.00 pm. All members are asked to attend.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Carrigallen: €480 Drumeela: €270 Drumreilly: €160



SANTA Filling the Sacks!



Ho! Ho! Ho!

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. *Amen*

SAINT OF THE WEEK ST FINNIAN OF CLONARD

innian (Fionnán) was born in Carlow where he was educated by the local Bishop before going to Wales to complete his studies. On his return to Ireland he settled in Clonard, County Meath where he established a famous school. His pupils were the initiators of the indigenous monastic expansion in Ireland. He is remembered as the tutor of the saints of Ireland. *He died in 549 and his feast day is celebrated on 12th Dec.*

Carrigallen Community Care

wish to express their regret that due to Covid 19, and the restrictions that are in place there will be no Annual Christmas Party this year. However, it is important for all of us to stay safe in these strange times. We want to take this opportunity to wish you, and your families good health and happiness during the Christmas period. We look forward to better times ahead when we can get back to outings and social events.



LEITRIM GUARDIAN 2021



On Sale Now! Lots of local interest

Ron Bell *Why Carrigallen? (O'Malley's, MJs & Charley Farrelly's)*
 Eamonn Daly *Glenview Museum* • Kevin McManus *poem*
 Killian McGuinness • Maura Williamson O'Reilly—*Vera Kelly*
 Brendan Madden—*Not in Carrigallen anymore*
 Michael O'Rourke *Drumshanbo Gin* • Tommy Moran *Cathal Flynn*
In all the local shops

LEITRIM GUARDIAN for sale in Dublin at
 Books Upstairs 17 Dolier St Dublin 2 or Tel Mary: 087 6216635

COVID-19 SUPPORT LINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8.00am-8.00pm, by calling 0818 222 024.



CARRIGALLEN MACRA

It's coming up to that time of year again and with Christmas just around the corner we have decided to run a Christmas Hamper Draw and we have three lovely hampers up for grabs. If you would like to buy one or two or even three lines, pop into any of the local businesses in Carrigallen and surrounding areas where there will be lines on sale. It's only two euro a line or three lines for five euro. The draw will take place on Sun. 20th Dec. and thanks to all who donated items for the hampers. For more news and information check out our Facebook, Instagram and Snapchapp pages.

Carrigallen GAA. Club Lotto is available on-line. Jackpot €11,200. Tickets can be purchased from our usual vendors and also on our new App. Tickets for Members 100 Club also available on the App, see <https://member.clubspot.app/club/carrigallen-gaa/lotto/tickets>. Next draw this Sunday live on our Facebook Page.

An Post are offering free mailing to and from Nursing Homes in Ireland. Just write FREEPOST where the stamp should be. Many residents in Nursing Homes receive very few cards or visits even in normal times. Why not send a Christmas Card to a patient from your local community and let them know that you are thinking of them.

CARRIGALLEN N S PARENTS ASSOCIATION

are holding a clothes collection to raise funds for the school. We would appreciate all donations at this time. Bags can be left at the school gates on the morning of 7th & 8th December. Thank you.

Drumreilly Drive-in Bingo Committee

resuming our Sunday afternoon Drive-in Bingo session in Drumreilly GAA Park, Carrickmakeegan on this Sun 6th Dec at the earlier starting time of 2.30 pm. Usual prizes including €1000 on the final game. Books €10. Your continuing support will be very much appreciated. The proceeds are divided between the Community Centre and the GAA Club.

