

Parish Masses / Anniversaries / Other Events:

St. Mary's, Carrigallen (Week commencing Sun. 21st Dec. 2025):

Sun. 21st Dec. – 11.15 am: Mons. John A. Young, Carrigallen.
Tommy Mc Guckian, Killahurk. Bridget Ledwith, Portlongfield.

Mon. 22nd Dec. – 10.00 am: Mass of the Day.

Tues. 23rd Dec. – 10.00 am: Mass of the Day.

Wed. 24th Dec. – 10.00 am: Mass of the Day.

Thurs. 25th Dec. – 11.15 am: Mons. John Cooke & Aisling Cooke, New Jersey and Gortermone.

Sun. 28th Dec. – 11.15 am: Marian Reilly, Beaghmore.
Margaret Sheridan, Drumshinglebe and D.F.M's.

Eucharistic Adoration: Tues. 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm & Wed. 10.30 am to 11.30 am.

St. Mary's, Drumeela (Week commencing Sun. 21st Dec. 2025):

Sun. 21st Dec. – 10.00 am: Missa Pro Populo.

Thurs. 25th Dec. – 10.00 am: Phil, Josephine & Celine Maguire, Cloncoose & the dec'd members of the Kiernan families, Cloncoose and Maguire families, Drumlaugh

Sun. 28th Dec. – 10.00 am: Missa Pro Populo.

St. Mary's, Drumreilly (Week commencing Sat. 20th Dec. 2025):

Sat. 20th Dec. – 8.00 pm: Jim Mc Cabe, Corrawaleen & D.F.M's.

Wed. 24th Dec. 8.00 pm: Candlelit Mass of the Nativity.

Sat. 27th Dec. – 8.00 pm: Seán, Ita and John Sutherland, Toome.

Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesdays from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

CHURCH AREA

OFFERTORY COLLECTION - 13th / 14th DEC.

Carrigallen	€816 (Incl. €166 returns from Aughavas/Cloone/Mohill/Fenagh)
Drumeela	€442 (Incl. €62 returns from Aughavas/Cloone/Mohill/Fenagh)
Drumreilly	€595 (Incl. €106 returns from Aughavas/Cloone/Mohill/Fenagh)

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The greatest gift you can ever give is not found in the shops or under the Christmas Tree. It is found in the hearts of your loving family and true friends.

CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

Mon. 22nd Dec: St. Mary's, Drumreilly - 6.30 pm.
St. Mary's, Drumeela - 7.15 pm.
St. Mary's, Carrigallen - 7.45 pm.

Tues. 23rd Dec: Church of the Sacred Heart, Arva - 6.30 pm.
Church of the Immaculate Conception, Coronea - 7.30 pm.
St. Brigid's Church, Killeshandra - 8.00 pm.

IN OUR PRAYERS, WE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING:

MARGARET MC KIERNAN (*née Connolly*), Kildoragh, Ballinamore & formerly of Ardunsaghan, Drumreilly whose funeral took place in St. Patrick's Church, Ballinamore on **Wed. 17th Dec.** followed by burial in Oughteragh Cemetery.

BETTY MC CONNON (*née Kennedy*), Castlebaldwin, Co. Sligo (*sister of Brian Kennedy, Aughoo*) whose funeral took place in St. Patrick's Church, Ballyrush on **Tues. 16th Dec.** followed by burial in the adjoining cemetery. *May their souls rest in heavenly peace.*

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION SERVICE with individual Confessions in St. Patrick's Church, Ballinamore on this **Sunday evening, 21st December at 6.00 pm.**

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT will take place in Knock Basilica on this **Sunday 21st Dec. at 8.00 pm.** This joyous evening of festive music and well-known Christmas carols is the perfect way to begin your Christmas celebrations this year. Set in the candlelit surroundings of Knock Basilica, the evening will feature Schola Cantorum Basilicae and Knock Youth Choir. Musical accompaniment will be by the Con Tempo string quartet and pianist Mark Keane. The event is free of charge. No booking required. Watch online on www.knockshrine.ie

CHRISTMAS DAY CHARITY SWIM FOR BRAIN TUMOUR IRELAND at Gulladoo Lake, Carrigallen starting at **12:30 pm on Thursday 25th December.** Everyone is welcome to come along - to dip, watch, donate or all three!

CARRIGALLEN LIBRARY is now closed for holidays. Re-opening on **Friday 2nd January 2026 from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.** A very Merry Christmas to all our service users.

DRUMREILLY G.A.A. CLUB are holding their annual Mc Girl Tournament on **St. Stephen's Day (Fri. 26th Dec.) at 1.00 pm** in Carrickmakeegan GAA Park. All gate receipts will go to the Patient Comfort Fund in Ballinamore Nursing Unit. Refreshments will be served. All support very welcome and appreciated.

TABLE QUIZ: Drumreilly Community Camino are holding a fundraising Table Quiz in Drumcoura Lake Resort on **Saturday, Dec. 27 starting at 7.00 pm.** Four people per table. €10 per person. Prizes and raffle on the night. Music afterwards. We welcome your support.

LEITRIM GUARDIAN available locally in all shops. Many Carrigallen Writers and Poets. Two of the top awards have been won by Dave Kelly (*Literary Award*) and Frank Murray (*Poetry Award*) and. Top stories and poems from Kevin Mc Manus, Gerry Mangan and Kevin Patrick. Maura Williamson & Becky Thomas both have articles on Margaret of New Orleans. Aisling Rawle and Andy Mel Mc Govern featured. Liam Fahy on photos. You can also receive it by post at 071-9643035 or online at www.leitrimguardian.ie

VEHICLE RUN: Carrigallen Macra Club are holding their Annual Vehicle Run on next **Sunday 28th December 2025.** This year it is run to honour the memory of Dessie O'Kelly R.I.P. Registration takes place at Carrigallen Mart from **10.00 am to 11.45 am** with the run commencing from the Mart Car Park at **12 noon.** All proceeds going to Community Funds. €20 per vehicle. Draw prior to departure. Your support will be very much appreciated.

DRUMREILLY ACTIVE AGE GROUP: We are taking a mid-winter break from our weekly meetings. Resuming in January. Watch this space.

PARISH BINGO: **No** bingo in Drumreilly Community Centre on Friday 26th Dec. Bingo in Carrigallen Hall on **Sunday nights at 8.30 pm.** Raffle and Christmas prizes. Please support.

CARRIGALLEN GAA CLUB LOTTO DRAW: Regular weekly Draw is held on Sundays in the Clubrooms. This week's Jackpot is **€3,400**. 4 lucky dip prizes of **€50** if not won. Extra prize for holders of "weekly recurring tickets". Click on "Automatically Renew Purchase" at checkout. **Tickets from local vendors** or <https://member.clubspot.app/c.../carrigallen-gaa/fundraisers> We also now have a Monthly 50/50 Draw. Next Draw will be held on **Sunday 28th December** in the Kilbracken Arms Hotel at 8.00 pm. See our social media pages for details.

CARRIGALLEN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL have a vacancy for a School Transport Escort. Application form and further details available on www.msletb.ie

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL APPEAL FOR CARRIGALLEN/DRUMEELA/AUGHAVAS: At this time of year the Saint Vincent De Paul volunteers are busy responding to calls especially now with the high cost of food & fuel. The SVP Christmas appeal for funds has now begun so that people in need of help can be visited before Christmas. You can contribute to Saint Vincent de Paul by placing your donation in one of the SVP envelopes available in any of the churches from **this weekend** & then put it into the steel box in the front porch. If your household budget won't see you through Christmas, don't suffer in silence; please call us on the number below, we are there to help. If you don't live locally & would like to help financially, please contact our confidential number 087-6024223. Thank you.

OPENING HOURS – DR. FALLON'S SURGERY, CARRIGALLEN.

Mon/Tues Dec. 22/23: Normal hours. Wed. Dec. 24: Christmas Eve - Office Open 9.00 am -12.30 pm as normal. Thurs Dec. 25: Christmas Day: Closed. Call NEDOC on 1850777911. Fri. Dec. 26: St Stephens Day: Closed. Call NEDOC. WEEKEND: As Normal, Call NEDOC. Mon Dec. 29: Open 9am -12.30pm, 2pm -4pm. Tues Dec. 30th : Open 9am - 12.30pm, 2pm -4pm. Wed Dec. 31: Open 9.00 am - 12.30 pm. New Years Day - Surgery Closed. Call NEDOC. Friday Jan. 2nd: Open 9.00 am to 12.30pm, 2.00 pm-4.00pm. **Urgent consultations only between Dec 24th & Jan 2nd**. Normal hours resume on Mon. 5th January.

Feast Days / Memorials during the Coming Week (22nd Dec. – 27th Dec.)

Mon. – St. Evin. 6th Century Irish Monk. Founded a Monastery in Monasterevin.

Tue. – The Martyrs of Crete. Ten Christian men who were martyred in the 3rd Century.

Wed. – Christmas Eve. A day of sacred waiting for Christ's arrival.

Thurs. - Christmas Day. Birthday of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Saviour.

Fri. – St. Stephen. Early Church Deacon in Jerusalem and First Christian Martyr.

Sat. – St. John the Apostle (*Son of Zebedee*). One of the Four Evangelists.

Phone Numbers: Fr. John Mc Mahon [433 9610](tel:4339610) / *Mob.* [086-2126582](tel:0862126582).

Parish Cluster: Fr. Seán Mawn, Ballinamore [071-9644039](tel:0719644039) or [087-6869040](tel:0876869040); Fr. Malachy Moses C.C. Ballinamore [087-4904380](tel:0874904380); Fr. Andrew Tully, Killeshandra [049-4334179](tel:0494334179) or [086-8050526](tel:0868050526); Fr. Peter Tiernan, Cloone/Aughavas [071-9636016](tel:0719636016) or [086-3500114](tel:0863500114).

Parish Website: www.carrigallenparish.ie The Parish Newsletter is uploaded to the site each weekend & you will also find a link to the daily livestreamed Masses from Carrigallen.

FACEBOOK: Parish of Carrigallen, Drumeela and Drumreilly.

Parish Newsletter: It promotes Church & Community events. Articles must state author's name & phone number & can be written into one of the church diaries before **5.00 pm on Wed.** or emailed to carrigallen@kilmorediocese.ie by **12 noon on Fri.** Editors reserve the right to omit or amend articles.

Parish Newsletter

St. Mary's Parish

Carrigallen – Drumeela – Drumreilly

21st Dec. 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year A

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

In most of the classrooms in each of the schools of the parish there is a globe of the world which reminds pupils of "Children helping Children". It makes them aware of giving to less fortunate. There is a slot in the globe to drop their coins. This little way teaches them the habit of giving something small each week and together it will help many suffering children.

Smallness was never an issue with Jesus; He used the image of the mustard seed to convey this. Yes, small things matter! We live in one galaxy, the "Milky Way" with one hundred billion stars! We are only one galaxy in approx. one hundred billion galaxies. When you think of the enormity and complexity of it, God still surprises us by becoming a helpless little infant lying on a bed of straw! As the Christmas gospel reminds us: "Emmanuel, God with us".

Later in the midst of our Christian community that same God becomes fully, truly and really present in a small piece of bread on the altar. As the poet Patrick Kavanagh captured so well when he wrote: "In a crumb of bread, there the whole mystery is". If we were to take this seriously, it is a message that would transform not only our own lives but our society and the world. It's a message that reminds us that the small child in Gaza matters, the small community in Ukraine matter, the small child in Cox's bazaar, Bangladesh matters.

This week reminds us to take time with the small things, take time with your loved ones, take time with Jesus.

Wishing you and your loved ones, a blessed Christmas filled with love and joy and a happy New Year. *Fr. John.*