



NEWSLETTER FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C 23RD DECEMBER 2018

A PARISH OF THE MULLINGAR DEANERY

Fr. Mark English P.P.
Parochial House Tel: 044-9374127
www.parishofkillucan.ie
Parish Office: Tel: 044-9374127 Tuesday and Friday

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MASS INTENTIONS:

ST. JOSEPH'S, RATHWIRE.

Sunday 11.30am Missa pro populo (*Mass for the People of the Parish*)

Christmas Eve Children's Mass 6pm Missa pro populo

Christmas Day 11:30am Missa pro populo

Sunday 11:30am Missa pro populo

ST. BRIGID'S, RAHARNEY.

Saturday 6pm Edward & Rose Glennon

Sunday 10am Paddy, Rose & John Larkin

Christmas Eve Candlelight Mass 9pm Missa pro populo

Christmas Day 10am Missa pro populo

Saturday 6pm Missa pro populo

Sunday 10am Missa pro populo

Mass St. Stephen's Day – Friday with the Camillians

Confessions: Fridays after Mass and Saturdays after the Vigil Mass



MASS OFFERTORY COLLECTION: ST. JOSEPH'S €260.00 ST. BRIGID'S €510.00
PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND (weekly envelopes): €611.60



THROUGH BAPTISM WE WELCOME INTO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY: Mack Anthony Farnan

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION in St. Joseph's Tue. 1pm-9pm. & St. Brigid's Wed. 6pm-10pm:
Special Diocesan intention of prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

TO ASSIST NEXT WEEK

ST. BRIGID'S Ministers of Holy Communion Christmas Eve: 9pm Edward Fox, Margaret Farrelly, & Sean Coyne.
Minister of the Word: Lily Connaughton *Christmas Day:* 10am Peter Fagan, Edward Fox & Martina Mockler.
Minister of the Word: Liz Naughton. *Next Weekend Ministers of Holy Communion:* 6pm Douglas Hynes, Margaret Farrelly & Sean Coyne. 10am Molly Doyle, Clifford Naughton & Paul O' Looney. *Ministers of the Word:* 6pm Catherine Doyle 10am. Roisin Mockler.

ST. JOSEPH'S Ministers of Holy Communion Christmas Eve: 6pm. 4 volunteers required at the sacristy beforehand.
Minister of the Word: Anne Rooney *Christmas Day:* 11:30am Maura Mc Aulliffe, Mary Briody & Sharon Fitzpatrick. *Minister of the Word:* Claire Corroon. *Next Weekend Ministers of Holy Communion:* 11:30am Jimmy Garty, Barbara Gough & Johanna Farrell *Minister of the Word:* Annette Farrell

The new rotas are available in the sacristies



GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS Donations towards the cost of flowers would be most appreciated or indeed if you wish to leave in holly or any kind of fresh red flowers for arrangements please leave them at the church sacristies by tomorrow Christmas Eve morning. Also, if any parishioner or any family would like to make a contribution towards the costs of the new Christmas Cribbs however large or small it would be greatly appreciated. Thanks to everyone who helped make and set up the cribbs in both of our churches which are looking really amazing! Thanks!

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS CHRISTMAS EVE

St. Joseph's Rathwire 10:30 – 11am
Cathedral of Christ the King Mullingar
12noon – 5:30pm

CHRISTMAS EVE

Midnight Mass with the Camillians



The windows on the Advent Calendar are all opened; the Jesse Tree is complete; the Cribbs all set up; the countdown is almost over, everything is ready; school and work are paused for holidays; our thoughts are now with our families celebrating the gift of Life and remembering those with God in Heaven. Gathering to honour the nativity of Our Saviour let us give thanks to God and count our blessings!



Christmas - a time of faith, hope and love! For most of us it is a happy time but in prayer we support those who have to cope with illness or other tough concerns. Know that God is with you - Emmanuel; Christ the Lord. A sincere word of thanks to the local St. Vincent de Paul Society and to all volunteers who so generously contribute to making Christmas a little less stressed and a lot happier for those most in need in our community. I also want to thank the many parishioners who assist with the pastoral, spiritual and financial needs of our parish, especially with looking after the churches, helping at the Masses, sharing in the work at the parish office, the parish grounds, the cemeteries and in the parish schools throughout the year. Special greetings to those home for Christmas and to new parishioners spending their first Christmas with us here in Rathwire, Killucan and Raharney. May the Light of Christ, also bring consolation for those mourning the death of loved ones since last Christmas. Assuring you of my prayers and wishing you and your families, peace and joy as you celebrate our Saviour's birthday. Fr. Mark.



'Dear children, when you gather together in prayer before the Nativity scene in your homes, fixing your gaze on Baby Jesus, you will feel the wonder.... You may ask me: what does 'wonder' mean? It is a stronger feeling, it is more than a common emotion. It is seeing God: the wonder of the great mystery of God made man; and the Holy Spirit will place the humility, tenderness and goodness of Jesus in your heart. Jesus is good; Jesus is tender; Jesus is humble. This is the true Christmas! Do not forget this. May it be so for you and for your family members'.

Pope Francis, 3rd Sunday of Advent, St. Peter's Square 2018

CHRISTMAS 2018 MESSAGE FROM BISHOP TOM DEENIHAN, BISHOP OF MEATH.

As Christmas approaches, I pray God's blessing on the people of the Diocese of Meath for the forthcoming joyful season and the New Year ahead. The Coming of Christ, over two thousand years ago, changed the course of human history and, of course, the word 'Christmas' itself means the 'Feast of Christ'. []The message of Christmas is one of love, hope, joy and peace. Christ came as a child for each one of us, to lead us to God. Christmas is the great family feast and, as such, it offers a time to resolve family differences. The Christmas Carol, *Silent Night*, which is two hundred years old this Christmas, was famously sung in the trenches during World War I and signalled a truce in hostilities, regardless of how short. Perhaps that spirit of Peace and Goodwill might prompt us to settle differences this year? The story of the first Christmas is also one of a young couple looking for accommodation. That story is being retold in our time and in our Diocese. Recent media commentary on the testimony of those who are homeless and living in temporary accommodation, particularly that of a 'Youtube' posting of a young girl in Dublin, shocks us all. I pray that the year ahead will see significant progress in resolving this dreadful problem of our time. Like everyone else, I applaud those who have given of their time and resources over the past years to ease the burden on others. Christmas provides us with an opportunity to acknowledge and support the wonderful work that many of these agencies provide. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul and those who volunteer on our Lourdes Pilgrimage are but a very small example of those who embody the compassion of Christ in our midst. Their work is very much appreciated. This year was memorable in that it witnessed the visit of Pope Francis and the World Meeting of Families in Dublin. The event was a memorable festival of Faith and the testimonies of the families in Croke Park was particularly memorable. I thank most sincerely those who contributed their time, talents and resources in making the event the success that it was. On a more personal note, this year was memorable for me too in that it saw my appointment by Pope Francis to this diocese. While the appointment is daunting, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the priests, religious and people of the Diocese for their welcome and kindness. I am slowly making my way around the Diocese and look forward to visiting the remaining parishes during the Confirmations which begin in February. I pray that the joy, hope and peace of the first Christmas may be present in our Dioceses this Christmas. I pray that all families will experience the warmth of the family celebration and that the celebration of Christmas will be a Christian celebration that will support and increase our faith. Let us never forget that the coming of Christ means for each one of us that we have a future, even when this life is ended, and that we are loved, uniquely, by God. May God bless you and yours this Christmas and may 2019 be a year of blessing for us all.



KILLUCAN S.V.P. Tel: 086-0706571 Check out St. Vincent's Shop	CHILD SAFEGUARDING See the church notice boards and diocesan website.	ACCORD For Marriage Preparation Courses or for marriage and relationship counselling www.accord.ie	VOCATIONS CORNER Ever think about becoming a priest for the Diocese of Meath? www.dioceseofmeath.ie/vocations
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