

The Parish of Leitrim Ballydugan/Kilmeen.

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(The parish newsletter is available on-line @ www.clonfertdiocese.ie)

Christmas Time: Mass Times

Date	Time	Church	Intention
Saturday 30th December	6.30pm	St. Andrew	Private Intention
Sunday 31st December	11.00am.	St. Jarlath	Pat Melody
Monday 1st January	9.00am.	St. Andrew	Private Intention
Tuesday 2nd January	9.00am.	St. Andrew	Private Intention
Wednesday and Thursday: No Mass			
Epiphany of the Lord Vigil Mass	7.00pm	St. Andrew	Private Intention
Saturday 6th January	6.30pm	St. Andrew	Martin Costello
Sunday 7th January	11.00am.	St. Jarlath	P.J. Leahy
Note: Mass times for this week.			
<i>Confession is available before or after 6.30pm Mass on Saturday or by appointment.</i>			

Eucharistic Ministers: Saturday 30th December: Cathy Boyle

Sunday 31st December: Mary Callanan

Readers: Saturday 30th December: Cathal Lenehan.

Sunday 31st December: Ryan Keleghan

Pray for the sick of the Parish: Remember in your prayers any parishioner that may not be in good health.

A very Happy and Peaceful New Year to you all.

1st January: Mary, the Mother of God. At the message of an angel, the Virgin Mary received the Word of God in her heart and in her body, and gave Life to the world. Hence, she is acknowledged as being truly the Mother of God and Mother of the Redeemer. (Lumen Gentium, 52).

The Epiphany of the Lord: The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan, and the wedding feast of Cana in Galilee. In the Magi, representatives of the neighbouring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. - CCC, 528.

Reflection: A gaze - This gaze of Jesus is very important to Pope Francis. The scene of Jesus's encounter with another rich young man - the calling of Matthew the tax collector - is the basis for the motto on his papal coat of arms "miserando atque eligendo." The phrase can be roughly translated as "by having mercy and choosing him." Francis likes that the Latin word "miserando" has no easy modern translation. It means "by having mercy" or as he prefers to say "mercying." Jesus's gaze is "mercying"; he looks upon people and things with a love that sees the fullness of what they are and might be. - Vincent Millar, *The Furrow*, December 2017, p.690.

Workshop on Authentic and Respectful Self-Assertiveness. Carmelite Abbey, Loughrea, 3 Monday nights January. 29, February. 5, & 19 (7pm to 10pm)

Registration by Jan. 3rd Enquiries: Mary Silke, PRH Educator 090 6624937

"Calling all Past Pupils of Presentation College Athenry. (PCA)"

A fundraising initiative has been launched by a working group of PCA Parents Council, for facilities at the new school. Become involved by attending future events, reunions etc. to be organised. We need your help, e.g. a 600-page book on history of school, interviews and photographs. Ideal Christmas present. Book available to view in Athenry Library. Book is available via Pitch4Pres@gmail.com.

Keep up to date with developments on this important issue via school website www.presathenry.ie

Study Hub Loughrea: January 2nd to 6th Intensive Courses for Leaving and Junior Certs in Maths, French and Irish. Small group sizes and three hours per subject per day. Contact Breda 086 3792360

Progressive 25 Card Game in aid of Ballinasloe Social Services in Ballinasloe Golf Club on Tuesday 2nd January @ 8.30pm Entry Fee: €10 per person. Please support.

The Leitrim/Ballydugan Community Centre and Field Committee would like to say a big thank you to all for helping make the recent Sale of Work a success. Your generosity and help is very much appreciated and goes a long way towards maintaining this important community facility.

A thought: A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step.