

PARISH OF BALLINAKILL/DERRYBRIEN

Tel: 090 9745021 – Mob: 087- 2492898 – email: ballinakillderrybrien@clonfertdiocese.ie

Saturday / Sunday 12 / 13 December 2020 '3rd Sunday of Advent'

Masses - Ballinakill:

Sat. 12 Dec.: 8pm (A) Paddy Kennedy, Imelda Murphy & Deceased Family Members.

Mon. 14 Dec.: 9.30am Pat O'Connor, Ennis, formerly Curra.

Tues. 15 Dec.: 9.30am.

Wed. 16 Dec.: 8pm Month's Mind: Nicholas Larkin.

Thurs. 17 Dec.: 9.30am.

Fri. 18 Dec.: 8pm (A) Hugh Martyn.

Sat. 19 Dec.: 8pm. (A) Willie Gardiner.

Masses - Derrybrien:

Sun. 13 Dec.: 9.30am (A) Mick & Kay Cunningham.
(A) Nonie & Jack Kelly.

Fri. 18 Dec.: 7pm.

Sun. 20 Dec.: 9.30am.

Christmas Masses Are As Follows:

Christmas Eve: Thursday 24 December.

Ballinakill, 5pm. **Booked to Capacity.**

Derrybrien, 7pm. **Booked to Capacity.**

Ballinakill, 9pm. **Few Places Available.**

Christmas Day: Friday 25 December.

Derrybrien, 9.30am. **Places Available.**

Ballinakill, 11am. **Places Available.**

St. Stephen's Day Saturday 26 December:

Ballinakill, 12 noon. Vigil Mass 8pm.

Sunday 27 December: Derrybrien, 9.30am.

Monday 28 December (Bank Holiday) Ballinakill 12 noon.

If you haven't already done so, please book you Christmas Mass as soon as possible. Numbers need to be monitored for each Mass. Please contact Fr. Pat.

Lotto No's: 13, 16, 17, 31. Jackpot: €12,000. No Jackpot

Winner: Next Draw: 13/12 in The Clubhouse. **Win/Share €150:**

Woodford Lights Committee. Tickets; Available on Klubfunder Lotto Site/Klubfunder app. Draw/results on Facebook Sun. @ 7pm. www.klubfunder.com/Clubs_Larkins_GAA_Club_/lotto

Church Renovation Work:

Any donations towards this work would be most appreciated.

Ballinakill/Derrybrien Community Hall Raffle Results:

Well done to all who won prizes. **1st Prize;** trailer of timber kindly donated by Niall Dervan; **Won by Thomas Daniels, 2nd Prize;** hamper value €100 Adrian Moran, **3rd Prize;** Christmas Cake kindly donated by Mary Monahan; **Won by Robyn & Chloe Rourke, 4th Prize;** hamper John Sheil, **5th Prize;** hamper Haylee Illien. **6th Prize;** hamper kindly donated by Aisling Kearns; **Won by Alan Slattery.** Many thanks to all that purchased tickets and to the people who donated so generously.

Timber & Kindling For Sale Bags Of Soft Wood/Hard Wood:

Curra area. Tel: Keith 0873490787.

Priests' Christmas Collection Is Due:

This weekend.

ALONE COVID-19 Support For Older People:

National Support Line/additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19. Professional staff available to give advice/reassurance/answer queries/ 7 days a week, 8am-8pm, Tel: **0818 222 024.**

We Really Appreciate Your Support To Not Just Our Local Business But:

To all of the local businesses that stock with us. Shop local for Christmas. Kylemore Farmhouse farm shop/café, Abbey, open Fri./Sat./Sun. 10am-4pm. Pre-built/build your own hamper with award winning local Cheeses. Tel: 083 8455272, kylemorefarmhousecheese@gmail.com Book/pay securely online.

Christmas Retreat Wednesday 16 Dec. 8-9pm – Please Join Us For:

Seasonal Prayers & Reflections online from The Chapel of St Columbanus at NUI Galway. **Theme:** Amidst all that remains challenging in our world. This retreat provides a sheltering place for prayerful reflection during Advent. Inspired by the values of Christ, the retreat cultivates hope/healing as we navigate our way forward towards the LIGHT. Facilitated by Fr. Ben Hughes from the Chaplaincy Centre at NUI Galway. Open to everyone. Please book your place before Tues. 15 Dec. by email: ben.hughes@nuigalway.ie The ZOOM link will be emailed to you after bookings are completed.

In Hopeful Expectation: Advent Prayers At Home In Time of Pandemic:

We are invited to set aside some extra time/space for prayer/reflection/good works. With Covid-19 we may not be in a position to gather as usual for our religious services. This challenges us to find new ways of reflecting on our faith/praying. To assist us see www.clonfertdiocese.ie/ Facebook/Twitter.

Cope Galway Domestic Abuse 24-hr Confidential Helpline 091 565985:

Older people who need to stay home to protect themselves/homeless families /individuals/inc. those in emergency accommodation. Women/children experiencing domestic abuse. We need your help to continue supporting vulnerable people in our community who are most affected by Covid-19.

St. Brendan's Ed. Centre, Loughrea: Places On Following Courses:

QQI Level 5 Safety and Health Wed. 13 Jan. 9.30-1pm. QQI Level 5 Nutrition Thur. 14 Jan. 1.30-4pm. QQI Level 5 Care Skills 9.30-1pm; 18 Jan. Care Support 1.30-4.30pm (a few places left). QQI Level 5 Communications Wed. 13 Jan. 6.30-9.30 pm. QQI Level 5 Spreadsheets Friday 15 Jan. 9.30-1pm (A few places left). QQI Level 5 Infection Prevention Control Thur. 25 Feb. 9.30-1pm. QQI Level 4 Culinary Skills & Level 5 Hospitality Operations in Feb. days/date/times are not decided yet. Please email: freda.murphy@greb.ie Centre no 091 841387 or john.melville@greb.ie Tel: 087 9332033

Seeing Your Life Through The Lens of The Gospel – There Is One:

1. Among you whom you do not know. We can know about Jesus but do we know him. What helps you to know Jesus in a way that enables you to follow in his footsteps, trusting God as he did/seeing other people as he did?
2. John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus. Who have been the people who have borne witness to you of the good news of the gospel that God loves you; a friend/parent/teacher, etc.? To whom have you borne that witness?
3. John appears in the story as one who had the courage to be him -self in the face of loud/aggressive people. He was also a person who knew his own value, did not make exaggerated claims/was content with his mission. Can you recall times when you have been able to be yourself, even in the face of criticism from others?
4. John was 'the voice of one crying out in the wilderness' – announcing confidently to those in the wilderness that they must not despair because God's grace may come to them at any moment. Have you had the experience of being in the wilderness/feeling lost? From whom did you hear a voice that gave you hope? Have you been able to give hope to other people when they were in the wilderness? Do these questions have any special relevance to you in the midst of the current situation in our country?