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St Joseph's Grammar School, Carol Service and Development Fund Prize Draw

Our annual Christmas Carol Service will take place on **Mon 19 Dec at 7.30pm in St. Patrick's Church, Donaghmore.** Entrance is free. The School Development Draw will take place at the end of the Carol Service. The top prize is £10,000 with two further prizes of £1000 and five £100 prizes. Funds raised will be used to equip two new suites of ICT facilities for the next generation of pupils at the school. Tickets are available to buy from the school reception or by telephoning any of the office staff. Tickets cost £20 for one or three for £50. All support for this important endeavour is gratefully appreciated. Tel: 028 87761227.

Killeeshil Community Centre

Christmas Dance - **Fri 16 Dec at 9.30pm.** Music is provided by the 'Cascades'. Adm. £5.00. Everyone welcome.

Parish Office
Mon - Thurs 9.00am - 5.00pm
Friday 9.15am - 1.15pm
Tel : **8772 6893**
Parish Website:
www.parishofdungannon.com
Parish Email:
info@parishofdungannon.com

CHRISTMAS CANDLES

The Irish custom of leaving a Candle in the Window is a common tradition at Christmas in Ireland.

It was a symbol of welcome to Mary and Joseph as they travelled looking for shelter. It was a symbol of the Irish tradition of hospitality signalling to any stranger that they were welcome to the house and that none would be turned away.

The candle has symbolism of Ireland's sad History of emigration.

It was a light of hope that a long lost and missed emigrant member of the family would return for Christmas - so the candle would guide them home safely in dark evenings.

It was a light of hope and connection that as a candle was lit for a family member far away, they also would be lighting a candle connecting back home. The placing of a lighted candle in the window of a house at Christmas is still practised today.



ARAS MHUIRE
Religious Goods & Bookshop
Shamble Lane, Dungannon
Tel: **028 8772 6852**

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS
Christmas Cards, Individual and Boxed Advent Candles & Cribs. Children's books, 2017 Calendars & Diaries .

Trócaire gifts also on sale.
Email: arasmhuire@lycos.com
Mon – Sat 9.30am – 5.00pm
Open during Lunch Hour.

Parish of Dungannon

Killyman, Drumglass & Tullyniskin

St Patrick's, Dungannon

St Malachy's, Edendork

St Brigid's, Killyman

Sacred Heart, Clonmore



3rd Sunday of Advent

11th December 2016

Rt Rev Dean Colum Curry, PP, VG – 02887 722775

Fr Seamus White, Fr Radoslaw Szymoniak, Fr Aidan McCann &

Deacon Andy Hegarty – 02887 722631

EMERGENCY CALLS ONLY –07518 542 360 Please note new number

PARISH OFFICE - 02887 726893

Dear Parishioners,

Having reprimanded the local ruler for his immoral lifestyle, John the Baptist ended up in prison with plenty of time to think and reflect. He wondered whether his cousin Jesus really was the promised saviour, the one the people had longed for. John had expected a more militant type. He thought the messiah would wield authority and assert his influence with power and strength. Having wrestled with his doubts and questions, he managed to send some friends to ask Jesus the straight question: "Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?" The reply was equally direct: "Go back and tell John what you hear and see – the blind see again, the deaf have their hearing restored and the poor are being given new hope."

Today, in the midst of many options and choices, imprisoned by anxieties and uncertainties, the young especially, ask a similar question. Where is the promised saviour of the world?

The question is addressed to each of us. No answer in mere words will satisfy. As we are learning from the example of Pope Francis, actions are more important than words, service is more persuasive than doctrine, the young are more influenced by lifestyle than preaching or teaching. Do our actions bring hope to the poor? Maybe our prayer today should ask God to remove our blindness to enable us to see the plight of the alienated, to open our ears to the cry of the poor.

The various ways that Jesus attended to people are indications as to how his followers must carry on his work. "Giving sight to the blind" points towards our mission of bringing light wherever there is darkness of sin and lack of inner freedom. "Enabling the lame to walk" symbolises freedom from oppression, corruption and exploitation. "The cleansing of the lepers" exhorts us not to discriminate against anyone but to be just towards all. Our responsibility to the deaf is to help them hear the life-giving message of Jesus. In short, Jesus came to give life, promote life and facilitate life. Similarly, the actions of his followers must always be life-giving.

Are you the one who is to come or do we look for another? It is a challenge question for each of us.

With every blessing,
C Curry PP

SUNDAY MASSES (including Vigil):

St. Patrick's: Sat at 6.15pm
Sun at 8.00am, 10.30am & 12.30pm
Polish Mass: Sun at 5.30pm
Edendork: 10am & 12noon
Clonmore: Sun at 10am
Killyman: Sun at 11am

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Patrick's
Mon -Fri: 7.45am, 10am, 7.30pm
(No 7.30pm Mass on 15 Dec)
Sat: 10am
St Malachy's: Fri: 10am
Novena prayers will be said during the 7.30pm Mass on Monday.

CONFESSIONS

St Patrick's
Mon-Sat 9.15am – 9.55 am
Saturday 12.30pm – 1.00pm
5.30pm – 6.00pm

BAPTISMS

Please contact the Parish Office on 028 8772 6893, to arrange.
Please give at least 2 weeks' notice.
We welcome:
Iara Fali Sa Silva Martins
Ruby Sophia McDonagh

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Meets every **Wednesday at 8.00pm** in the Convent.

OUR LADY'S GROTTO EDENDORK

Rosary at Grotto **8.30pm every Thurs.**

PARISH COLLECTION

Sunday 4 December
Envelopes & DDs £3,418
Loose Plate £790-30
908 Envelopes issued
438 envelopes returned

RECENTLY DECEASED

Victor Marshall, Viewfort
Nan Morgan, Donaghmore Rd
Eileen Foy, Dunclare Hts
Donal Kane, Tullydraw Rd
John-Joe Morgan, Redford Park
Bridget Currie, Edendork
Francis Kane, Church Mews
Frances Slevin, formerly Ardbeg
Theresa Cullen, formerly Lowertown
Seamus McCann, Bogbawn, Killyman
Please remember them in your prayers.

FEAST DAYS

Dec 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe
St Finnian
Dec 13 – St Lucy
Dec 14 – St John of the Cross

Clonmore Choir Annual Carol Service

A significant feature of the Advent Season is the sound of Christmas Carols. The timeless quality of these beautiful hymns reminds us of the wonder and simplicity of the Incarnation – the fact that God so loved the world that he sent his only Son to live among us. We are very pleased that the Clonmore Choir will once again present a Carol Service with seasonal reflections and prayers in St Patrick's Church, Dungannon this week-end – **Sun 11 Dec at 7.00 pm.** We hope many people will avail of the opportunity to come and experience something very special

Dungannon District Lourdes Committee

Annual Christmas Draw will take place on **Tues 13 Dec.** Tickets are available from any committee member.

St Patrick's Primary School Christmas Pageant
St Patrick's Church
Thurs 15 Dec at 7.30pm.

Celebrations at St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, in preparation for Christmas

Thursday 15 December, 7.30pm:
Messiah by Candlelight presented by The Palestrina Choir, Dublin, featuring four soloists and the Lyric Opera Ensemble. Tickets £20.
Tuesday 20 December, 7.45pm:
Christmas by Candlelight presented by The Choir from St Patrick's High School, Keady along with Karl McGuckin, Fra Fee and Malachi Cush. Tickets £15.
Tickets for both events are available at Dungannon Parish Office (028 8772 6893).

FIRST STEPS WOMEN'S CENTRE,
Christmas Fayre
Thurs 15 Dec 11am – 2pm
21a William St, Dungannon.

Christmas with the Cantabelles
in Ranfurly House Dungannon
16 Dec at 8pm.

Cantabelles are four local singers - Siobhan O'Neill, Ann Marie Slater, Ciara Cullen and Gemma Prince, with Roisin McCurry on piano.
Tickets from Ranfurly House
[028 877 28 600](tel:02887728600) or www.dungannon.info

Youth 2000 Christmas Retreat
Newbridge College, Co Kildare **16-18 Dec.** For info & to book contact 003531 6753690 or email: office@youth2000.ie.

Dungannon Thomas Clarke GFC in association with Domino's Pizza presents: A cracker of a Christmas comedy '**Deck the Falls**' in the Bardic Theatre on **Fri 30 Dec.** Starring Ciaran Nolan (from cult Irish movie Man about Dog) and Gerard Jordan (Game of Thrones) – Tickets available from; www.bardictheatre.com/box-office or by telephone 028 8772 5286 or from Stewart's Music Shop, Irish Street.

ANAM CARA, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its next monthly Parent Evening on **Wed 14 Dec, 7.30pm – 9.00pm** in the Armagh City Hotel, Armagh. This event is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether the death was recent or not.

STORMONT ROSARY VIGIL FOR LIFE - Please join us in a beautiful candlelight Rosary Vigil for the protection of Ireland's unborn babies at **Parliament Buildings, Stormont** (Main Gates) Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast at **7.30pm Mon 12 Dec**, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadeloupe. For more information contact Rosary Crusade for Ireland on [028 9027 8484](tel:02890278484) or info@preciouslife.com

Action on Hearing Loss
Hearing Aid Information and Support Session - **Tue 13 Dec**, in **The Junction, Beechvalley Way, Dungannon - 10.30am-12.30pm.** Drop in for NHS batteries and help with using and cleaning your hearing aid. We can also do a quick hearing check for anyone who is worried about their hearing. Information on how to manage hearing loss and other services that can help is also available.