

Offertory Collection 14th Dec

Ahiohill €427 Castletown €443
Enniskeane €1086

Dec 8th : Totalled : €900

Enniskeane Church Crib

It is intended to erect the Christmas crib on Tues Dec. 23rd at 7:30 pm.

Any donations of red berry or other holly and ivy will be welcome. Also any helpers will be most welcome.

Recently Deceased

Kindly pray for Mona Galvin, late of Ringabella, Minane Bridge, who was buried in Castletown Cemetery on Friday with her late husband Joe who died in 1987. May she rest in peace.

A Holy Hour for Christmas

Enniskeane Church, on Sun 21st Dec. 3 - 4pm. 'Come, let us adore Him'.

St Joseph's Young Priests

The annual pre-Christmas afternoon retreat takes place in Myross Wood on Sun 21st Dec. at 3 p.m. Everybody most welcome.

O God of Love, O Radiant Dawn,

On this the last Sunday of Advent, as the new day dawns, may we remember how your birth lit the darkness of night with the hope of freedom, the joy of a promise fulfilled.

Be with us.

Shine your light in our hearts so that we might know your wisdom, see your faithfulness, and believe in your creative, seemingly impossible ways. We ask this through Christ, our Savior and our love. Amen.

Community Notices

Accord Bantry

Engaged Couples Course - run over two days (Fri 7-10pm & Sat 10am - 4pm). Couples should attend a course at least 3 months before they intend to get married. Booking is essential and course information is available from The Accord Centre, Bantry 027 50272. www.accord.ie

Ballineen/Enniskeane Art Group

2015 Calenders are available in all local shops. Proceeds to Cork Simon .

St Oliver Plunketts GAA

Christmas Morning Swim in Inchydoney at 10.30am. Proceeds to "Friends of Jamie Wall" fundraising drive.

Poc Fada on St Stephen's morning beginning from the Clubhouse at 11am
40th Anniversary Calendar available from Barry Ryan PRO 086 8091147

Bluebell Fitness

Christmas Party Special Class at Ballinacarrigaon Tues 23rd at 7.30pm. Guaranteed loads of fun, games and fantastic prizes galore to be won, kindly donated by local businesses. Everyone, including newcomers welcome, bring your friends. For more details Ring Oona: 086 234 3546 or check out Bluebell Fitness Facebook Page

Thought for Today

"Opportunities are usually disguised by hard work, so most people don't recognise them"



The Newsletter is published and printed at the Parish Office. Priority is given to content relating to the faith community of Enniskeane Parish. Other notices may be published when space permits. These may be left at the Parochial House or emailed to parishoffice@enniskeaneparish.ie before 11am Thursday.

Enniskeane and Desertserges

www.facebook.com/enniskeane + www.enniskeaneparish.ie

Free

Parish Bulletin

21st Dec 2014

This sacred week

Monday 22nd at 7.30pm; Penitential Service at Enniskeane Church. This opportunity to receive the grace of God's forgiveness involves the community praying together and then as individuals people confess their sins to a priest. Our neighbour Fr. Bernard Cotter will lead the prayers and we'll have the help of several other priests for the confessions. All ages most welcome.

Wednesday 24th (Christmas Eve): Confessions at Enniskeane Church (confession box) from 11.30am to 1.30pm.

Christmas Eve Mass: 7.30pm at Enniskeane Church; 9pm at Ahiohill Church.

Thurs 25th, Christmas Day: Mass at 9am at Ahiohill; 10 am at Castletown Kinneigh; 11.30am at Enniskeane.

Fri 26th, St Stephen's Day: Mass at Enniskeane at 11am.

Sat 27/ Sun 28: usual weekend schedule applies.

Community spirit

Many thanks to the people who took part in the Community Carol Service is on Wed 17th Dec in the BEDA Hall.

It was hosted this year by the local Methodist community. There was a full hall and no was in a hurry home. Special thanks to the Junior Choir and to Cór Inis Céin who took part, as well as some of our parishioners who read readings.

Pope Francis and Christmas

Speaking last week at St. Joseph's parish in Rome, Pope Francis asked people to prepare spiritually for Christmas.

"Be joyful as you prepare for Christmas," he told them at Mass, urging as a first step that people thank God each day for the blessings they have been given.

A Christian's Christmas joy has nothing to do with "the consumerism that leads to everyone being anxious on Dec. 24th because, 'Oh, I don't have this, I need that' -- no, that is not God's joy."

"At Christmas, let us pray," he said. "Don't forget, we pray for Christmas joy. We give thanks to God for the many things he has given us and for faith, first of all."

Gospel Thoughts

Today's Gospel recounts the story of the Annunciation in which Mary is told that she will conceive and bear the Christ-Child. Many traditions have grown up around this scene and have influenced both eastern and western Christian art. One of these depicts Mary spinning a veil for the temple when the angel appears. This will be the same temple veil that will be torn in two at Christ's death. In his Great Canon, the eighth-century bishop, Andrew of Crete, speaks of this scene in the following way: 'As from purple silk, O undefiled Virgin, the spiritual robe of Emmanuel, his flesh, was woven in thy womb.'

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(Off-duty Wednesdays)

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