



Offertory Collection:

Last week: €1,842 Thank You.

Christmas Offerings

There is an envelope for the Christmas Offering for the clergy in the set of four envelopes posted earlier in the year. There are also envelopes available at the churches. Thanks for your kindness.

Mass Times

Dec 26th, 27th, 29th and 30th, Morning Mass at 11am in Enniskeane

Dec 31st/Jan 1st: normal weekend Mass times

Jan 2nd, 3rd, 5th: morning Mass at 11am

Jan 6th: (Epiphany) Mass at 10.30am & 7.30pm in Enniskeane

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Experience the Christmas story in the land where it actually happened. Take the trip of a lifetime to the Holy Land. June 12-22nd 2017. Group Leader, Micheál de Barra and Spiritual Director, Fr. John Newman (Bible Scholar). For bookings tel 0868337681 or email culturaltoursireland@gmail.com

Collection Envelopes 2017

Many thanks to the people who use our parish envelopes for the weekly and holy day collections. They help us claim back rebates of income tax from Revenue.

Also if you go to Mass in Bandon, Newcestown, Timoleague, Clonakilty, Kilmichael or Dunmanway parishes we get our parishioners' envelopes sent on to us (and we send on theirs).

Thanks also to the people who distribute the boxes each year — members of the parish assembly and others.

Welcome and stay!

This weekend we welcome everyone to our celebration of the birth of Christ. Throughout the year, the people of this parish are dedicated to keeping Christ at the centre of our lives in every way we can. People do this by personal prayer and good works, and by participating in the sacraments — God's way of pouring his help into our lives and our parish when we need it. Our people return thanks to God throughout the year by acts of service to God, to one another, to the parish and to people who are unknown to us when we support those most in need.

People of all ages are the life-blood of this parish and we are grateful for all the many ways people put life and light into our parish throughout the year. If you are already involved — sincere thanks. If you would like to connect with the parish through the year, you will be especially welcome.

If your home throughout the year is not here, please stay in touch on www.enniskeaneparish.ie www.facebook.com/enniskeane and @1871E

Nollaig na mBan

Come & celebrate with Castletown Ladies Club on Fri. 6th Jan at 8pm in Castletown Hall. Meal €10. Non-members very welcome. To book, ring Nuala at 023 8847575, or text Rose at 085 1509454 before Jan 2nd.

St Oliver Plunketts Diary Dates

Christmas Morning Swim in Inchydoney at 10.30am

St Stephen's Day - Puc Fada at 11am

Dinner Dance in Fernhill House Hotel on Jan 21st 2017

Fashion Show in Fernhill on 18th Mar

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

25th Dec 2016

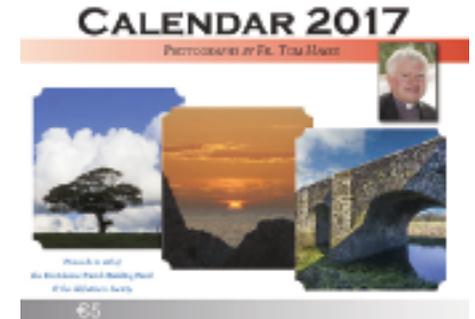
Christmas – Season of Light

When St John began to put together an account of the life of Jesus Christ he didn't include the story of how Jesus was born in Bethlehem. The other authors of the gospels had done that. Besides, John was writing his gospel for the people who didn't know where Bethlehem was – the people outside the Holy Land.

So John uses a series of images to talk about the birth of the Son of God. "The Word was made flesh – and lived among us". The Light has come into the world. "All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of mankind."

A lot passes through our hearts, our minds and our spirits (not to mention our bodies!) during the intense but short celebration of Christmas. And even though we all seem to be doing the same thing we do it in very different ways. But it is to the one and the same God we turn.

Each person makes their own place where the Christ-child may be laid. But it is in the very act of God's Word being born among us and taking on human flesh that we find the seeds for our hope, our faith and our love. May our loving and faithful God of all the ages bless you and yours this Christmas time and fill you with his peace in the coming year.



Images by Fr Tom Hayes are still available in shops throughout the parish or at the parish office at a cost of €5. Copies will also be available after Mass on St Stephen's Day and after all Masses next weekend. Proceeds will be divided between the Cork Branch of the Alzheimer's Society and the Enniskeane Parish Buildings Fund.

Christmas Thought

"Lord,
As we celebrate another Christmas
Help us to live each moment gratefully
May we have the faith to trust in the gifts you have given us
May we have the hope that overcomes the dark thoughts that sometimes cloud our vision
May we have the love that makes our world a better place.
We make this prayer through Jesus our brother, born for us again in Bethlehem. Amen"

Fr. Tom Hayes PP, Parochial House, Enniskeane. 023-8847769 / 087-9311472

Email parishpriest@enniskeaneparish.ie

(Off-duty Wednesdays)

Parish Office: Tuesdays 9.30am – 12.30pm; 2.30pm – 5.30pm & Thursdays 9.30am – 1pm; 1.30pm–2.30pm. (Closed Holy Days) Tel 023 8847769 parishoffice@enniskeaneparish.ie