

## Parish Assembly

The January meeting is on Monday Jan 23rd.

## Collection Envelopes 2017

Many thanks to the people who use our parish envelopes for the weekly and holiday 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.

Note a change to the next box: the 2017 box is smaller because it only has envelopes up to August 2017. This is because we will then change the 'box year' to begin in Sept. each year and end in August. In this way, people can distribute the boxes in fine weather!

## Christmas Offerings

There is an envelope for the Christmas Offering for the clergy in the set of for envelopes posted earlier in the year to each home. If it's lost, there are also envelopes available at the churches. Thanks for your kindness and support for the income of the clergy right throughout the year.



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](mailto:parishoffice@enniskeaneparish.ie) before 11 am Thursday.

## A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year a happy one!  
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,  
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;  
Not by making your path easy,  
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;  
Not by taking hardships from you,  
But by taking fear from your heart;  
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,  
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;  
Not by making your life always pleasant,  
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,  
and by making you anxious to be there to help.  
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.  
Amen.

## Parish on Radio

John Greene presents a programme on C103 FM radio every Sunday evening at 7pm. It is called "Where the road takes me". The programme on Sunday Jan 1st is about our parish!

It features a segment on the story of the 'new' altar at Castletown Kinneigh Church with Fr Tom Hayes. The Cór na nÓg Inis Céin will sing Christmas Carols. The programme also features Colum Cronin recounting the history of the Kilmichael graves at Castletown – as well as recalling his own involvement with music over the years.

## Today's Thought

"We turn not older with the years, but newer every day"

# Enniskeane and Desertserges

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Free

Parish Bulletin

1st Jan 2017

## A Year of Hope ahead

The past year has seen extraordinary events across the world. There's a been a mix of tragedies, natural disasters, political surprises, Brexit, wars and some inspiring initiatives.

Ireland has marked the centenary of 1916 with a balanced commemoration of the events in Dublin a century ago.

Locally, our parish has had several milestones, too. We have had the highest number of funerals in one year for a long time (44 this year, compared with 29 last year). So we are particularly conscious of the families among us for whom this time of year has a particular sadness this year. Our parish has also rallied around in a Christ-like and sincere way in support of all those who have been bereaved.

During the year, we have also had the highest number, for a long time, of Station Masses celebrated across the parish in people's home. Sincere thanks to all who have welcomed the Lord into the their homes – along with neighbours and friends.

The number of marriages celebrated in our parish churches was seven this year and eleven last year. However, we know that other parishioners celebrated their marriage in other parishes during the year and we wish them all every blessing.

Many families are celebrating the birth

of children in the past year and we have welcomed 43 children into the Christian family through Baptism in our parish. (We had 41 baptisms last year and 55 the previous year.)

## Castletown Church works

During 2017 we will be carried out significant works at St. Joseph's Church, Castletown Kinneigh. Part will involve the installation of a completely new heating system and this work will commence on Jan 9th.

This means that the church will be closed for the following three weekends. The 10.30am Sunday Mass will instead be celebrated at Enniskeane Church. Please note that the rotas for all the ministries will apply to the Mass in Enniskeane i.e. the altar servers, gifts bearers, Prayer readers, Minsters of the Word, Ministers of the Eucharist, collectors, etc will all serve their usual part at the Mass in Enniskeane.

## Jan 6th Holy Day

Friday Jan 6th is the Feast of the Epiphany and a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated in Enniskeane Church at 10.30am and at 7.30pm.

## First Friday Calls

The sick and housebound of the parish will be visited with Holy Communion on Thurs 5th and Fri 6th at the usual times.

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

Email [parishpriest@enniskeaneparish.ie](mailto: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](mailto:parishoffice@enniskeaneparish.ie)