

## Mass Schedule for Christmas Period

### Christmas Mass of the Nativity of Our Lord

#### Christmas Eve 24th

Ballygarvan: 6.00pm  
 Ballyheada: 7.30pm  
 Goggins Hill: 9.00pm

#### Christmas Day 25th

Ballygarvan: 10.00am  
 Ballyheada: 10.30am  
 Goggins Hill: 11.30am



#### Mass on St. Stephens Day (Thursday 26th)

Ballyheada: 10.00am  
 Ballygarvan: 11.30am

#### No Mass Friday 27th



#### Saturday 28th

Vigil Mass in Ballyheada 7.00pm

#### Sunday 29th

Ballygarvan 10.00am; Goggins Hill 11.30am

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE**



#### **May Christ's coming this Christmas be a**

Gift of Love;  
 A blessing of Hope and;  
 A promise of Peace for you.  
**Pray for all the departed who  
 have no families to remember  
 them this Christmas season.**

**Please Remember to Pray** for all our parishioners who are unwell at this time, especially those who are ill in hospital, and those in nursing homes. Also remember to pray for all carers, those caring for their own relatives and those caring for others. Remember those who are homeless who have nobody to care for them. We also remember all the bereaved and those suffering any loss at this time. *May your coming this Christmas be for them a time of peace and of love.*

2013 Ballinhassig Parish Newsletter

Notices for inclusion should be received not later than 2.00pm on Wednesday  
 by Mary (4888268), Mary (4885257)  
 PAN Centre/Parish Office (phone/fax 4885062)  
[info@ballinhassigparish.com](mailto:info@ballinhassigparish.com)  
[www.ballinhassigparish.com](http://www.ballinhassigparish.com)

# Ballinhassig Parish

## Newsletter

for Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill



Vol. 22 No. 16 Wednesday: December 25th, 2013 (The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ)

Mary O'Halloran submits....

### **What is Christmas About**

Coming up to Christmas the question begins to form in our minds "What is all this for? "What is Christmas about? It all depends on what you mean by Christmas. The very word conjures up pictures in the mind, each precious and personal. You see there are many kinds of Christmas. There is the Christmas of the excited first time parents, all excitement, love and newness. Then there is the Christmas where the love has died at heart and only silence remains and everyone just goes through the motion of Christmas.



There is the Christmas of children with expectations that stretch beyond the family budget. There is the Christmas of homecoming and crowded airports. We should not forget the Christmas where someone is missing or missed. So many hungers of the heart, but the unchanging Christmas story feed them all, it is a celebration of truth, goodness and togetherness in a world that knows too much evil and brokenness.

Here's one way of looking at the meaning of Christmas.

**C** Stands for **Christ**. *If we leave him out of Christmas, it is like celebrating a wedding without the bride.*

**H** stands for the *hope* he gives us.

**R** stands for the **revolution** he began, *turning hate to love, war to peace, and everyone to their neighbour.*

**I** stands for **Israel**, *the land where he*  *was born.*

**S** stands for the **salvation** he brought. *Those who lived in darkness saw a great light.*

**T** stands for **thanks** - *thanks to the father for the gift of his son. The best way to say thanks is to make room for him in our hearts.*

**M** stands for **Mary** who brought him to birth. *She will help to bring him to birth in us also .*

**A** stands for the **Angels** who sang at his birth, *the sweetest music ever heard on earth.*

**S** stands for the **Star** that led the wise men to Betlehem.

*Christ is the star we follow.*

*His light guides us through each day.*

## Remembering At Christmas

As a parish Community we remember and pray for those who have gone home to God since last Christmas.

We have included all their names as we know them. We commend them all to the mercy of God. We also pray for all other parishioners who have been bereaved and are in sorrow at this time.

Margaret (Mairead) Murphy, Old Abbey  
Francis Kearney, Goggins Hill.  
Catherine Cosgrave, Ballinphellic.

John Coughlan, Meadstown.  
Tammie Duggan, Ballincrannig and  
USA.

Mairead Pattwell, Tulligmore.  
Kitty Roberts, Scart.

Noreen Dunlea, Lisfehill.  
Finbarr Townsend, Ballynaloughy.

Tim Lombard, Adamstown.  
John Joe O'Sullivan, Gortnaglough.

Pat Finn, Goggins Hill.  
Sean Madden, Goggins Hill.  
John Mullaney, Briar Hill.



'The Lord is my Shepherd. There is nothing I shall Want.'



## GOD'S GENEROUS LOVE

Eileen Barry McCarthy, Goggins Hill and Bermingham.

Bridgie O'Halloran, Ballygarvan.  
Mary Cullinane, Liberty Hill.

William O'Donnell,  
Goggins Hill.

Con (Blondie) Bowen,  
Gortnaglough.

Fionnuala Crowley, Briar Hill.  
Maura O'Connell,  
Ballygarvan Lower.

### **WE GIVE OUR LOVED ONES BACK TO GOD.**

*We give our loved ones  
back to God.  
And just as He first gave  
them to us  
and did not lose them  
in the giving  
so we have not lost them  
in returning them  
to Him..  
for life is eternal,  
love is immortal,  
death is only a horizon...  
and a horizon is nothing  
but the limit  
of our earthly sight.*

## Newsletter Writes

*Dear Newsletter Readers,*

*It is approaching the year end once again and this is the time of year for saying thanks to everyone who is involved in collecting news, and the remaining few who distribute the Ballinhassig Parish Newsletter to station areas. Thanks also to those who distribute the newsletter to churches, shops etc.*

*It may look a small production but it takes effort and dedication to keep it going week after week, year after year.*

*The newsletter is produced, edited and printed in the P.A.N. Centre (Parish Office). It is twenty two years since the production of the first newsletter and it is hoped there will be many more in the future.*

*The newsletter is now available on line at:-  
[www.ballinhassigparish.com](http://www.ballinhassigparish.com)*



*It has been a difficult year for many people due to continued economic circumstances, weather related conditions, illness and loss of loved ones.*

*Hopefully you will have a peaceful and happy time with your family, friends and neighbours this Christmas.*

*In this edition we remember and pray for the deceased of our parish.*

*We remember Fionnuala Crowley, Briar Hill who was the editor of the newsletter for many years. May she rest in Peace.*

*Having looked back over the Newsletters of the last year, I am aware that many other families have had bereavements and I offer my heartfelt sympathy.*

*I hope you will continue to enjoy and support the Parish Newsletter.*

*Wishing you Peace, Happiness and Health in 2014. (Mary O'Halloran)*

### Thank You

*Eamon and Brid Long, Ballygarvan wish all those who helped them throughout the past year a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year in 2014.*



**Fr. Kieron wish you and your families a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and every Blessing for the New Year 2014.**

*Christ  
our Saviour  
is Born*

