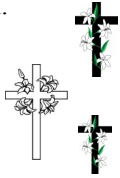


## Anniversaries

Joan Moynihan, Ballygarvan Upper.  
Tom O'Donoghue, Coolatooder.  
Frances Kenny, Goggins Hill.  
Nora Keogh, Rigsdale.  
Joan Edmonds, Ballea.  
Eileen O'Shea, Coachford.  
Bridie Sheehan, Ballinaboy.  
Danny Forde, Ballyhooleen.  
Dave Mulcahy, Adamstown.  
Paddy & Jim Forde, Tulligmore.  
Elizabeth Mulcahy, Adamstown.  
Billy & Maura Murphy, Killarney.  
John & Mary O'Neill, Dunmanway.  
Dan & Kathleen Kelleher, Riverstick.  
Phyllis O'Sullivan, Ballygarvan Upper.  
Thomas O'Sullivan, Ballygarvan Upper



*In God's own time  
We will meet again.*



## Bambinelli Sunday December 17th

*Bambinelli Sunday* is the 3rd Sunday of Advent. We invite families to bring the figure of the Christ child they will use in their family CRIBS THIS YEAR TO BE BLESSED AT MASS.

Take it home and wrap it, place under the Christmas tree ready to be the first gift opened on Christmas morning and then placed in the family Crib.



2017 Ballinhassig Parish Newsletter

Notices for inclusion should be received not later than 2.00pm on Wednesday by Mary O'Halloran (4885062,4885257) Mary O'Donovan (4888268), PAN Centre/Parish Office (phone/fax 4885062) info@ballinhassigparish.com www.ballinhassigparish.com Parish Priest:- Fr. Christy Fitzgerald Telephone: 4885104 or 087/9439666

## MASS TIMES Next Week

Monday 11th:-  
Ballygarvan 9.30am

Tuesday 12th:-  
Goggins Hill 9.30am

Thursday 14th:-  
Ballyheada 10.00am

Saturday 16th:-  
Ballyheada 7.00pm

Sunday 17th:-  
Ballygarvan 10.00am  
Goggins Hill 11.30am

### Liturgy Meetings Reminder

Meetings to organise *Christmas Liturgies* in the churches as follows:

Ballyheada:  
December 9th after 7.00pm Mass

Ballygarvan:  
December 10th after 10.00am Mass

Goggins Hill:  
December 10th after 11.30am

### We Remember

*Timothy O'Leary, Inchigeela* who died recently. *We pray for his family, neighbours and friends.*

# Ballinhassig Parish



## Newsletter

for Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill

Vol. 26 No 12 Sunday: December 10th, 2017 (Second Sunday Of Advent)

Fr. Christy  
writes...

### A Change of Heart

The figure of John the Baptist and his call might fall on deaf ears in large parts of society today. His call is to straighten up, prepare, take stock and change what doesn't work.

For John the Baptist, what doesn't work is everything that shields the presence of God from our eyes. Advent reminds us we will not see the presence of Christ already among us, and coming, unless we are alert and looking for him.

He calls on us to repent. We can only repent if we truly realise there are aspects to our lives that don't match up with the life of Jesus. True repentance means not just changing what we do but really changing how we are deep in our hearts.

"True repentance requires change, an about-face in the ways we think about ourselves and in how we relate to other people. True repentance, in fact, requires a thorough-going change in the ways we think, feel, value, speak, act and live. It involves nothing less than taking on the mind and heart of Jesus. True repentance, John also says, demands outward signs of inward change."

Join us in Ballygarvan next **Tuesday week 19<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.30pm for our **Parish Penitential Service**.

As we prepare the Lord's way, let us be sure that the Lord has a clear path into our lives and into our hearts.



# Christmas Thoughts

"It's sharing your gifts, not purchasing gifts;  
 It's not wrapping presents, its being present  
 and wrapping your arms around the ones you love;  
 It's not getting Christmas cards out on time,  
 It's sending any card, anytime, at the right time;  
 It's not having the biggest and best Christmas light display,  
 It's displaying the Christ light that comes from your heart;  
 It's not Santa coming down the chimney,  
 It's Jesus coming down from heaven,  
 and giving us the gift of eternal life."



## Special Gifts:-

*Here are a few suggestions for special gifts:*

a firm handshake to a shaky soul,  
 a kind word to a lonely person,  
 a warm smile to the disheartened,  
 a sincere concern for someone troubled,  
 a feeling of compassion for the neglected,  
 a comforting thought for the bereaved,  
 a respect for the dignity of others,  
 a defense of the rights of individuals,  
 a word of witness to help a seeking soul,  
 a Merry Christmas to all. (Mary O'Halloran submits.....)



## Thank You – Flowers

Church Flower Groups would like to sincerely thank all those who contributed so generously to their recent collections for **Church Flowers**.



## Thank You – St. Nicholas

Ballinhassig Parish Assembly would like to sincerely thank all the children who brought a toy/toys to Mass on Dec. 2nd/3rd (nearest date to Feast of St. Nicholas Dec. 6th) Your toys have been collected by *St. Vincent De Paul* for distribution to poorer children who will now receive a toy this Christmas.



## Church Cleaning

If you would like to volunteer to help clean the churches for Christmas come along on:-

**Saturday December 16th :-**

*Ballygarvan church 10.00am*

**Wednesday December 20th:-**

*Ballyheada church 10.30am*



## Childminder Wanted

Childminder wanted in the Ballyheada area for twelve week days over the next month beginning **December 15th -January 9th** (MTWF) preferably in the childrens home. Further details contact **087/6650221**.

# Thank You - Shoe Box Christmas Room

Mary O'Halloran would like to sincerely thank all parishioners and friends from outside who took part in **Team Hope Shoe Box Appeal** again this year. Special thanks to the children and staff of **Ballygarvan, Ballyheada & Goggins Hill National Schools** for their continued support and dedication to the project.



Despite economic difficulties, unemployment etc. a total of **SEVEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIVE Boxes** were collected in the parish this year. Truck loads of boxes from Ireland are on their way to Eastern Europe and Africa.

It is nice to know that on Christmas morning when the children of the parish are opening their presents that the unfortunate children in orphanages; street children etc. will also have presents to open thanks to your continued generosity and kindness.

*Special thanks to the proprietor & staff of Cottrell's Shop, Ballinhassig who facilitated once again by making their premises available as a collection point for shoe boxes, and also to all those who delivered their boxes to the PAN Centre (Parish Office). Well done to all for 2017!!!!*



## Ballinhassig Village Association

The **OLD PHOTOS OF THE VILLAGE** will be on display on Tuesday **December 12th from 7.00pm-9.00pm** in the Ballinhassig GAA Rooms for those who did not see them at the Village Stories Day recently. All welcome, come along and see the village in olden days.



## Blood Clinic

Carrigaline:- GAA HALL  
**MONDAY & TUESDAY 11TH/12TH**  
 Time:- **5.00pm-8.30pm**  
 Further details **1850 731 137**

**"A special Christmas Room event" will be held at** Brothers Of Charity, St. Patrick's Upton, Innishannon **on Friday December 15th.**

The specially decorated room supported by **DJ Murphy** of Bandon Garden Centre & **Bandon Co-Op**, will be open for visitors from **10.30am – 8.00pm.** Seasonal Refreshments;

Admission free; donations accepted for **Friends of the Westgate Centre, Bandon & St. Patrick's Upton.**

Monster Raffle, Santa will visit from 3.30pm-5.30pm. Performances by local schools & groups throughout the day as well as sale of seasonal products. Further details **4775202; 086/8167968 and 087/7593665. All welcome.**



## Bazaars

**Ballyheada N.S. Parents Association** christmas 'Bazaar' in the school Hall on Saturday **December 9th** at 7.30pm. All welcome.



**Ballygarvan Camogie Club** annual christmas 'Bazaar' on Sunday **December 17th.** Santa arrives at 2.00pm. Spinners, lots of fun and prizes....Great afternoon assured. All welcome.



**Communion For Housebound**  
 If you are housebound and would like Communion for Christmas please contact the **PAN Centre (Parish Office)** on **4885062** and we will arrange same.

## Thought for the week

*A wise old owl lived in an oak.  
 The more he saw, The less he spoke.  
 The less he spoke, The more he heard.  
 Why can't we be like that wise old bird?*