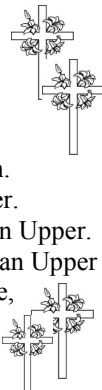


## Anniversaries

Frances Kenny, Goggins Hill.  
Pad Spillane, Ballinabearna.  
Nora Keogh, Rigsdale.  
Eily Lombard, Rearour.  
Sheila Tuthill, Ballinaboy.  
David McCarthy, Enniskeane.  
Anthony Marshall, Meadstown.  
Tom O'Donoghue, Coolatooder.  
Phyllis O'Sullivan, Ballygarvan Upper.  
Thomas O'Sullivan, Ballygarvan Upper  
Con, Hannah & Dick Cullinane,  
Rearour.



## We Remember

*Frank O'Herlihy, Ballinphellic* who died during the week. *We pray for his family, neighbours and friends.*

## Christmas Mass Bouquets

Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards available in the **Pan Centre (Parish Office)** 4885062 or sacristy after Mass.

## Tree Lights Ballygarvan

**Ballygarvan Foroige Club** invite you to the Switching on of **Christmas Lights on the Old Chestnut Tree at Ballygarvan Community Centre** (Old School) on Sunday **December 8th at 5.00pm**. Refreshments from 4.00pm and Cllr. **Ben Dalton** will switch on the Lights at 5.00pm.

*All welcome.*



## MASS TIMES Next Week

Monday 9th:-  
*Ballygarvan 9.30am*

Tuesday 10th:-  
*Goggins Hill 9.30am*

Thursday 12th:-  
*Ballyheada 10.00am*

Saturday 14th:-  
*Ballyheada 7.00pm*

Sunday 15th:-  
*Ballygarvan 10.00am*  
*Goggins Hill 11.30am*

## Bambinelli Sunday December 15th

**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 next week end.

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.



**Christmas Offering Envelopes** available in all churches.

# Ballinhassig Parish



## Newsletter

*for Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill*

**Vol. 28 No. 13 Sunday: December 8th, 2019 (Second Sunday Of Advent)**

*Fr. Christy*  
writes...

### CHANGE OF HEART AND CHANGE OF WAYS

A new way of doing things, a new way of thinking. That's the message John the Baptist brings. Its thinking beyond ourselves and thinking especially of our relationship with others. After all, it's how we live in relationship with others, is how we live out our faith and what we believe in.



The prophet Isaiah paints the perfect picture of peace and harmony. This is what the coming of the God's promise will bring about. To start making this a reality is what we are called to do.

Advent is about preparing, getting ready and ultimately preparing ourselves. We can get so caught up in all the other preparations, and they are important too, that we can forget to prepare ourselves and our hearts to welcome the Lord when he comes.

John the Baptist had the courage to be himself and to carry out his task in the face of opposition. His call is not to despair but to hope and to believe that God's grace may come at any moment. As John the Baptist nudges us in a new direction let us embrace his call, change our ways and open our hearts up to the Lord's call, 'to make his kingdom come on earth, as it is in heaven', and bring Isaiah's picture of peace and harmony into being.

2019 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) ballinhassigparish@gmail.com www.ballinhassigparish.com Parish Priest:- Fr. Christy Fitzgerald Telephone: 4885104 or 087/9439666*

## Christmas Liturgy Meetings

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

**Ballygarvan:** December 8th after 10.00am Mass.  
**Goggins Hill:** December 8th after 11.30am Mass.  
**Ballyheada:** December 14th after 7.00pm Mass.

# 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.....)



## Flowers - Collection

**Church Flower Groups** collection for christmas flowers and church flowers throughout the year on Saturday/Sunday **December 14th/15th.**  
 Your continued generosity and support appreciated.



## Church Cleaning

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

**Saturday December 14th:-**  
**Ballygarvan church 10.00am**

**Saturday December 21st:-**  
**Ballyheada church 10.00am**



**Tree Lighting -Halfway Tidy Village Association** invite you to the Switching on of **Christmas Lights in the Halfway on Sunday December 8th at 6.00pm.**

All welcome. Please note sponsors of tree and lights were Kenneth Buttimer, Walsh Traders & Victor Carroll garage.

(no sponsorship was given by Bandon Co-Op as noted previously)

# Thank You - Shoe Box

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 illness etc. a total of **SEVEN HUNDRED AND NINETY FOUR Boxes** were collected in the parish this year. Amazingly the number of boxes you return are increasing annually. Truck loads of boxes from Ireland are on their way to Eastern Europe & Africa for christmas 2019.

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 Gala Shop, Ballinhassig** who facilitated us 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 again in 2019 for your continued support and generosity.!!!!**

## Christmas Flowers

**Ballinhassig Parish Social & Active Retirement Club** will host **Breeda Keohane** who will give a demonstration on **Christmas Flower arranging** in the **Marian Hall (Main Hall)** on **Monday December 9th at 7.30pm.**  
 All welcome!!!!!!



# Bazaars

**Goggins Hill Parents Association :-** Monster 'Cake Sale & Raffle' on Sunday **December 15th** in the **School Hall, Goggins Hill after 11.30am Mass.** Cakes, prizes, book sale and children's activities etc. Support appreciated.  
*All welcome.*



**Ballygarvan Camogie Club:-** Annual Christmas 'Bazaar' on Sunday **December 15th at 2.00pm** in the **GAA Hall, Ballygarvan.** Santa arrives at 2pm.  
 Great spinner prizes, vouchers, hampers etc. *All welcome.*



# Toy Mass - Thanks

**Ballinhassig Parish Assembly** would like to sincerely thank all the children who brought a toy/toys to Mass on **November 30th & December 1st (nearest date to Feast of St. Nicholas Dec. 6th)** for our annual **Toy Mass in aid of VDP.**



Your generosity and kindness is much appreciated and once again we received a huge array of toys, games etc.

Your toys have been collected by **St. Vincent De Paul** for distribution to poorer children who will now receive a toy this Christmas.



## Ballymartle ICA

Christmas flower demonstration by **Jane Morgan** in Community Centre, Riverstick on **December 11th at 8.00pm.**  
 Admission 10Euro.