

## Anniversaries

Eileen O'Connell, Gortnacloagh.  
Michael Sheehan, Ballinaboy.  
Jack Johnson, Blackrock.  
Sean Hurley, Rigsdale.  
Eddie Carey, Corran.  
Tim Hurley, Tulligbeg.  
Eileen O'Shea, Coachford.  
Jackie Murphy, Skehanagh.  
Kevin Cleary, Ballygarvan.  
Moses Fenton, Ballygarvan.  
Bridie Lynch, Newcestown.  
Jeremiah Galvin, Newcestown.  
Con & Mai Bowen, Ballygarvan.  
Cain O'Mahony, Fivemile Bridge.  
Dan & Kathleen Kelleher, Riverstick.



## Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to **Julie, Colm and Brendan O'Shea, Ballinphellic, Innishannon** on the death of their brother **John O'Shea, Ballinphellic, Innishannon.**



**Tim Noonan, Briar Hill** on the death of his wife **Patricia (Trish) Noonan (née Walsh) Briar Hill and Shona, Terry, Cathy and Jamie Noonan, Briar Hill** on the death of their mother **Patricia (Trish) Noonan, Briar Hill.**

*Sympathy also to all other relatives, friends and neighbours of the above.*

***In death Life is changed not Ended.***

## Mass Times Next Week

**Monday 29th:-**  
*Ballygarvan* 10.00am

**Tuesday 30th:-**  
*Goggins Hill* 10.00am

**Thursday 2nd:-**  
*Ballyheada* 10.00am

**Friday 3rd:- First Friday**  
*Ballyheada* 8.00pm  
**HOLY HOUR 7.00pm- 8.00pm**  
*Fr. Christy & Rev John will make the usual visits to the housebound.*  
*If you would like to be included on this visitation list please contact Mary at the Parish Office 4885062.*

**Saturday 4th:-**  
*Ballyheada* 7.00pm

**Sunday 5th:-**  
*Ballygarvan* 10.00am  
*Goggins Hill* 11.30am

## MASS CARDS

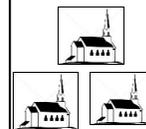
*All Mass Cards including Christmas Mass Bouquets now available in the PAN Centre (Parish Office). Contact Mary at 4885062.*

**ALONE** -Support for older people.  
Helpline open seven days a week.  
Contact **0818 222 024.**

# Ballinhassig Parish

## Newsletter

*for Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill*



**Vol. 30 No. 9 Sunday: November 28th, 2021 (First Sunday Of Advent)**

*Fr. Christy ....*

## A TIME TO TAKE STOCK

Preparations are in full swing. The Christmas lights and decorations are up in many places. The shops have been promoting their Christmas stock for at least a month now. Yet, if we focus on Christmas only we could be missing the point and miss out on a great opportunity for ourselves this Advent.

Advent is a time of preparation, but if it's not totally about preparing for Christmas, then, what is it for. Advent comes from the Latin word 'coming'. Yes it is about focussing on when Jesus will return, as he promised.

These first weeks of Advent are a time of reflection, preparing for the Lord when he returns. Our reflective preparation is about taking time to take stock of our lives. To pause as it were and see how better I can do things to get ready for the Lord's coming amongst us.

Our scripture readings are pointing us to the end of time and the Lord's judgment. The emphasis is on being people of honesty and integrity. People whose lives are really in tune with the Lord and our Advent prayer of 'watching' ourselves and 'staying awake' is about us being ready to meet him when he comes.

2021 Ballinhassig Parish Newsletter

*Notices for inclusion should be received not later than 2.00pm on Wednesday by Mary O'Halloran (4885062,4885257)  
PAN Centre/Parish Office (phone/fax 4885062)  
ballinhassigparish@gmail.com www.ballinhassigparish.com  
Parish Priest:- Fr. Christy Fitzgerald Telephone: 4885104 or 087/9439666  
Deacon:- Rev. John Guirey Telephone 087/1266257*

## The Pope's Intentions – December 2021

*For catechists*

We pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

## The Advent Wreath



Most churches and families have an Advent Wreath. The custom wasn't always an Irish one. Wreaths were popular in Germany, Austria and Northern Europe. As people began to travel to these countries they saw the attractive wreaths and brought the idea home. This week end we have one in each of our three Churches as this Sunday **November 28th** is the **First Sunday of Advent**. The wreath is a symbol of what Advent means.

### ADVENT



The circle represents “**eternity**” and the “**faithfulness**” of God, it never ends. The **evergreen** foliage is a reminder that Jesus is ready to renew our relationship with Him. The **Four Candles** represent the **four weeks of Advent** and each Sunday another one of the candles is lit. Three **purple** candles and one **rose** colour. Purple is the traditional colour for Advent meaning “**Penance**” and the **Rose** colour in lit on the third Sunday which is **Gaudete** Sunday, or a day of **Rejoicing** that the coming of Jesus is near.

So Advent is a time for us to **prepare** to receive Jesus into our **hearts, our lives, our homes and our parish.**

We need to **invite** Him.

A very short traditional prayer for Advent is simply  
“**COME LORD JESUS**”



We can say this at any time, travelling, in the house or when we pass a Church or Grotto. Having the Advent Wreath in the house the prayer could be said with children round the wreath, maybe at bedtime or before a meal. Remember when we invite Jesus into our lives **He will never come empty handed.** He will come to you with **some special gift or blessing**, something He knows you need. But you have to be **READY** and **WAITING.** So “**Stay awake**” “**Be ready**” so that He Knows you're expecting Him.

**STAY AWAKE! COME LORD JESUS.**

## TRÓCAIRE URGENT CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This Christmas Trócaire will deliver life-saving support to thousands of families across the developing world. As well as supporting people living through conflict natural disasters, hunger and climate change Trócaire has launched a special appeal to support families who have not been able to grow food or earn money due to Covid-19. Please consider supporting this vital work this Christmas. You can make a general donation to the Trócaire Christmas Appeal by calling 1850 408 408.

More details on. [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org)

**Sincere thanks to all who contributed to the Trócaire collection in our three churches last week.**

**Your continued generous contributions are much appreciated.**



## ADVENT PRAYER & REFLECTION



Advent is a time for us to **prepare** to receive Jesus into our **hearts, our lives, our homes & our parish.**

We need to **invite** him.

In this season of Advent we need to turn our attention to our **inner preparation** for Christmas.

On Thursday **December 2nd** Rev. John Guirey will lead a short **Live-streamed Prayer Service** for **ADVENT** from Ballygarvan church at **7.30pm.** (again on Thursday 16th at 7.30pm)

You are invited to log in to:-  
**ballinhassig parish facebook page.**

(November 28th is the first Sunday of Advent 2021.)



### Readings December 5th (Cycle C)

Bar 5: 1-9,  
Ps 125, R/v 3.  
Phil 1:3-6, 8-11.  
Lk 3:1-6.

### Advent Week 1:- Hope

*As we light this first candle of the Advent wreath together, Lord, grant us hope. As trees lose leaves and temperatures drop, we feel that the new life of Spring is far away.*

*May the Advent candlelight shine like our commitment to one another, that we can find wisdom and strength in reaching out and holding one another's hope. Like Mary and Joseph on the journey to Bethlehem, may we remain hope-filled through all of the challenges set before us on the way. 'I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.' (Psalm 130:5)*



## Christmas Market

**Ballyheada National School Parents Association** will hold a Christmas Market on **December 12th from 1.30pm-4.00pm** at **Ballyheada N.S.** playground. Monster Raffle on the day. Tickets also on sale outside Cottrell's Gala on **November 27th** and **Friday December 3rd** and on the day of the market. Local craft stalls, bake sale, fun and games. All welcome.



### Childminder Wanted

Wanted childminder **three days** a week for **one child**, aged 5years. Transport essential as she is attending Goggins Hill pre-school. Further details **086/3232342** or **087/8172915.**



### Thought for the Week

*My pain may be the reason for somebody's laugh.*

*But my laugh should never be the reason for somebody's pain.*