

## My First Christmas in Heaven

I see the countless christmas trees around the world below, with tiny lights like heaven's stars, reflecting on the snow. The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away the tear, for I am spending christmas with Jesus Christ this year.



I hear the many christmas songs that people hold so dear, but the sound of music can't compare with the christmas choir here. I have no words to tell you, the joy their voices bring, for it is beyond description to hear the angels sing.



I know how much you miss me, I see the pain inside your heart, but I am not so far away, we really aren't apart. So be happy for me dear ones, you know I hold you dear, and be glad I am spending christmas with Jesus Christ this year.



I send you each a special gift, from my heavenly home above, I send you each a memory of my undying love. After all, love is the gift, more precious than pure gold, it was always most important in the stories Jesus told.

Please love and keep each other, as my father said to do, for I can't count the love or blessings he has for each of you. So have a merry christmas and wipe away the tear, remember, I am spending christmas with Jesus Christ this year.



### Remembering at Christmas

**Joan, Owen & Anna Moynihan**,  
Ballygarvan Upper;  
**Liam O'Halloran**, Rigsdale.  
**Michael Finnerty**, Tulligmore.  
**Denis O'Leary**, Ballygarvan Upper.  
**Sandie Coleman**, Carrigaline, and all our departed loved ones, those who have nobody to remember and pray for them.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER JANUARY 16th, 2022**

### Anniversaries

Maureen & Timothy O'Donovan, Ballea.  
Eileen Crowley, Goggins Hill Lower.  
Finbarr Lombard, Old Abbey.  
Etta Bowen, Ballygarvan.  
Bridie Sheehan, Ballinaboy.  
John Hennessy, Lower Road.  
Patrick & Teresa Hennessy, Upton.  
Nicholas & Joan Cullinane, Tooreen.  
Patrick & Mary O'Brien, Kilmurriheen.



### 2021 Ballinhassig Parish Newsletter

Notices for inclusion should be received not later than 2.00pm on Wednesday  
by Mary O'Halloran (4885062, 4885257)

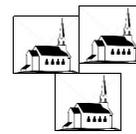
PAN Centre/Parish Office (phone/fax 4885062)

ballinhassigparish@gmail.com www.ballinhassigparish.com

Parish Priest:- Fr. Christy Fitzgerald Telephone: 4885104 or 087/9439666

Deacon:- Rev. John Guirey Telephone 087/1266257

# Ballinhassig Parish



## Christmas Newsletter 2021

for Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill



**Vol. 30 No. 12 Saturday: December 25th, 2021 (The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ)**

Fr. Christy writes....

## THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

It's been a very tough year; being in lockdown for the first five months of this year wasn't the best of starts. A lot of losses have been experienced; for some great heartache, the pain of bereavement and the absence of a loved one. For others recovery from Covid as well as some still dealing with anxiety and fear all makes for a different Christmas yet again!

As we celebrate Christmas we pray that all may find hope and light in the birth of a Child. No ordinary Child. A child who heralds great promise for the world and all its people. This Christmas may we appreciate more the small things; family, love, supporting each other and reaching out to those in need.

May we know peace in our hearts, our home and our community. May we feel secure and safe and above all else may we know how greatly loved each and every one of us is. May the Light of the Child of Bethlehem brighten the darkness we feel, may the warm glow of his love penetrate our hearts. May we because of this, become a beacon of light, hope and love to others.

I'd like to end with these words which were on a Christmas card I received, called 'An Irish Christmas Prayer':

**THE LIGHT OF THE CHRISTMAS STAR TO YOU  
THE WARMTH OF HOME AND HEARTH TO YOU  
THE CHEER AND GOODWILL OF FRIENDS TO YOU  
THE LOVE OF THE SON OF GOD AND GOD'S PEACE TO YOU.**



Thanks to Fr. Christy, Rev. John Guirey, Parish Assembly, Parish Covid Committee, Finance Committee and all the other individuals, committees and groups both church and community based, who helped in any way with maintenance and running of the parish this year especially during Covid 19. Sincere thanks to all parishioners for your continued support to both the Parish & Fr. Christy. Your continued generosity and support is much appreciated. (Mary O'Halloran)

# Remembering At Christmas

As a Parish Community we remember and pray for our loved ones who have gone home to God since our newsletter publication 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.

Con (Nelius) and Mary Bohane, Briar Hill.  
John Hennessy, Ballinphellic.  
John Murphy, Knockpogue.  
Etta Bowen, Ballygarvan.  
Michael Leo Power, Ballynoe.

John Bernard Prendergast, Rigsdale.  
Maura Kiely, Ballinabearna.  
Mamie Murphy, Rigsdale.  
Mary Hickey, Clougheenduan.  
Angela Harrington, Shanagraigue.  
Claire O'Callaghan, Shanagraigue.

Bernie and Rosemary O'Donovan, Tooreen.  
Patrick (Paddy) Griffin, Clougheenduan.  
Brenda Sheehan, Meadstown.  
Anne O'Connell, Ballynoe.  
Eileen Kinsgton, Scart.  
Dr. Timothy O'Connell, Lisfehill.



*Pray especially for all the departed who have no families to remember and pray for them this Christmas*

David Fitzgerald-Gomaz, Ballygarvan.  
Kevin Michael and Margaret (Ciss) Davis, Briar Hill.  
Nora O'Callaghan, Ballygarvan.  
Eileen O'Connell, Kilmurriheen.

John O'Shea, Ballinphellic North.  
Patricia (Trish) Noonan, Briar Hill.  
Anna Sorensen, Ballygarvan.  
Rita McCarthy, Tulligmore.  
John Reynolds, Bawnleigh.

Timothy (Timmy) Sexton, Ballygarvan  
Mary O'Sullivan, Shanagraigue.  
Seamus Casey, Gortnaclough.

Liam Gibney, Inniscarra.  
Mary O'Sullivan, Mallow.  
Brendan O'Sullivan, Farmers Cross.



*You are not forgotten loved one  
Nor will you ever be  
As long as life and memory last  
We will remember thee.*



**Remember to Pray** for all our parishioners who are unwell at this time, especially those who are ill in hospital, those in nursing homes and those who are in their final days of this life. Also remember to pray for all carers, those caring for their own relatives and those caring for others. Remember those suffering from Covid 19 especially long covid effects. 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 this Christmas be for them a time of peace and of love.*

# 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 thirty years since the production of the first newsletter and it is hoped there will be many more in the future.*

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

## COVID BOOSTER VACCINE

*Dr. Patrick Brady* wishes to announce a limited supply of Covid booster vaccines are available to patients over 16 who had 2nd vaccine more than 3 months ago and not had covid in the last six months. Please email:- [ballinhassigmedical@gmail.com](mailto:ballinhassigmedical@gmail.com)

## Thank You

Sincere thanks to the proprietor and staff of **Cottrell's Gala, Ballinhassig & Daybreak Ballygarvan** for your help and commitment to the parish during 2021 by facilitating us with the use of your premises as collection and drop off centres. *Wishing you a happy & holy christmas and a healthy and safe 2022* (Mary O'Halloran)



*It has been an unprecedented and difficult year for many due to the coronavirus pandemic, continued economic circumstances, weather related conditions, illness and loss of loved ones.*

*Eventhough it will be a different christmas for many, hopefully you will have a holy, happy, safe and peaceful time with your family, friends and neighbours. In this edition we remember and pray for our deceased parishioners especially those who died during the past twelve months.*

*Having looked back over the Newsletters of the last year, we are aware that many other families have suffered bereavements and we offer our heartfelt sympathy.*

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

*Wishing you and your families wherever they may be, Peace & Happiness this Christmas and Health in 2022.*

*(Mary O'Halloran & Fr. Christy Newsletter, P.A.N. Centre)*



## Christmas Gifts

*The best gifts in life  
will never be found under a  
Christmas tree,  
those gifts are friends,  
family and the ones you love.*

