

Parish Bulletin - Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 17th/18th 2022

MASS INTENTIONS SATURDAY & SUNDAY

CROOKSTOWN 7PM - Patrick Chambers Sr. Mary Ghent OSM, Jim Leigh - Lipstown, Jason Kenna (1stA), Mary (Myra) Murphy (1stA), Mary Loakman (M.M.), Christopher, Maudi & Mary Bridget O'Toole (A), Bridget Jones (50th A), Kathleen Corcoran (A), Jack & Molly Dunne (A), Julia Dowling Joseph Dowling Jnr, Timothy Fennin Recently Deceased: Bridget Dowling -Ballybarney

BALLYMOUNT 8.30AM - Michael Kelly -Ballymount (A). Recently Deceased: Bridget Dowling - Ballybarney

KILMEAD 10.30AM - Donal Flanagan (A) Aidan Murphy, Kathleen & Chris Kelly (A)

MOONE 12 noon - Esther O'Brien (A) Margaret & John Dunne - Scratham (A) Teresa Hayes (née Martin) (M.M.) Michael Whelan - Bolton Hill (A) James, Charles, Bridget & Sarah Power (A), Michael Whelan - Simonstown (A)

CROOKSTOWN: Wed & Fri 9.30am -Donor's Intentions.

MOONE TUESDAY 10AM - Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion **********

MOONE PARISH CHRISTMAS DRAW



A total of €4885 was raised for the day to day running costs of Moone Church. Thank you for your generosity. Thanks too to all of those who

sold tickets or donated to the cake sale. The Prize Winners are as follows:

€250 - Ann Callaghan, Mullaghmast c/o B. Harrow

€100 - John & Margaret Maher, c/o Fr.



Francis

Turkey & Ham - Seán Woods, Naas, c/o S. Farrell Food Hamper - Fr Francis Christmas Cake -James Keeley, Ballincarrig, c/o S. Farrell Lunch for 2 in Piers Café - Harry Dunne Turkey - Mary Donoghue, Battlemount Christmas Wreath - Phyllis McCarthy, Crookstown





A TOTAL OF €15,725 WAS DONATED TO THE ST LAURENCE O'TOOLE **CONFERENCE - ATHY - OF THE** SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL. THANK YOU FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE

GENEROSITY.

A TOTAL OF €630 FROM MOONE PARISH WAS DONATED TO THE CASTLEDERMOT CONFERENCE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL. ******

WORLD YOUTH DAY

World Youth Day 2023 for 18 - 35 year olds, is taking place in Lisbon. Travelling on July 31st returning on August 8th. Details CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE PRIZE of the package are available, along with the payment schedule, and dates for programme of preparation. Payment of deposits and completion of registration forms are done online and will be available from 1s December. Total cost is €725per person. which includes return flights, transfers, (which accommodation is hostel accommodation), the pilgrim packs, insurance, meal tickets, etc., and group tshirt, booking deposit of €150. If you have any queries, please contact, Conor or Natasha - details below.

BOOKS OF CONDOLENCE

Books of Condolence for the late Pte. Sean Rooney will be available in: Crookstown, Kilmead and Moone Churches this weekend.

Our thanks to Kevin Carton of the Organisation of National Ex-servicemen -Athy Branch - for making this facility available to us.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

CATECHETICAL CORNER - "MBAPPÉ TO SIGN FOR MOONE CELTIC"

MASS TIMES IN NARRAGHMORE & MOONE

ST JOSEPH'S BALLYMOUNT: Sunday 8:30am

Ss MARY & LAWRENCE CROOKSTOWN: Saturday 7pm (Vigil) Wednesday & Friday: 9.30am

ST ITA'S KILMEAD:

Sunday 10.30am Mass is celebrated most weekdays at 10am but is subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Most Blessed Trinity Moone: Sunday 12noon. Holy Day: 11am

THE PARISH TEAM:

FR LIAM RIGNEY PP - 087-2607377; Email: liam.rigney@dublindiocese.ie FR TIM HANNON CC - 059-863 0704 FR FRANCIS MCCARTHY CC -087-6978143 CONOR MCCANN - Parish Pastoral Worker - Narraghmore & Moone 086-7905654. Email: conor.mccann@dublindiocese.ie NATASHA GEOGHEGAN - Parish Pastoral Worker - Athy & Barrowhouse 087-6730300. Email: natashsa.curran@dublindiocese.ie

PARISH SECRETARIES

BER MURPHY & TRISH HOLLIGAN - . Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 10am - 4pm. Ss. Mary & Laurence Church, Crookstown, TEL: 059 8623154. Email: stlaurenceschurch@gmail.com **********

A PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

O Lord, my God, I am not worthy that You should come into my soul, but I am glad that You have come to me because in Your loving kindness you desire to dwell in me. You ask me to open the door of my soul, which You alone have created, so that You may enter into it with Your loving kindness and dispel the darkness of my mind. I believe that You will do this for You did not turn away Mary Magdalene when she approached You in tears. Neither did You withhold forgiveness from the tax collector who repented of his sins or from the good thief who asked to be received into Your kingdom. Indeed, you numbered as Your friends all who came to You with repentant hearts.

O God, You alone are blessed always, now, and forever. *St John Chrysostom*

Copies of the Schedule for Christmas and the New Year are available at the doors of the Church. They are also available to download from our website and our social media. Imagine that?? Imagine that Mbappé or Messi were to sign for Moone Celtic? I know, laughable isn't it?

Hands up if you think that Christmas is just for children? Hands up if you think that it is just about getting the family together and having a good time and a catch up? Next question: if that is what you think, or if that is what others think are you, are they, right or wrong? Well, to be very diplomatic about it, they/you are both right and wrong.

On one level, Christmas is all about the children and family. It is about the personification of the idea of Santa Clause, that we would give without any expectation of a word of thanks, in fact the gratitude going to someone else, just so we can see the joy on the faces of children. In some respects, the meaning of Christmas, finds expression in the travelling of family members to be with each other. Isn't that what Joseph and Mary did? Joseph returned, with his wife, to where he was from.

But if that is the level at which Christmas remains then, that is where we go wrong. Because the real meaning of Christmas is that GOD became human. Think about that for a second? GOD became human. Let's try and get a tiny bit of perspective on it for a moment. It is the equivalent of, well not really but this just makes the point, Kylian Mbappé or Lionel Messi signing for Moone Celtic, laughable I know, except in the case of GOD becoming human, it isn't laughable at all! It actually happened. GOD became human while remaining GOD.

Hang on a second, He is either GOD or He is human, how can HE be both? Well that is part of the mystery of Christmas, that is one of the mysteries of our faith. That the Jesus had human nature, just like you and me. He was fully human. He felt pain, He felt the loss, grief, sadness, loneliness etc... But HE had, or rather has, GOD nature, whatever that is. Whatever it is that we ascribe to GOD us humans to make us human, that too we ascribe to Jesus. Thinking about that for a moment takes Christmas to a whole different level, especially so if you ask the obvious question: Why? Well the answer to that question is to be found at Easter. He assumed our nature so that HE could redeem our nature. He became human to show us what it was to be human but also because our human nature had gone astray it needed to be saved. So you see, Christmas while yes, it is all about the Children and family, it is also all about our salvation. The meaning of Christmas is to be found at Easter. GOD, in an amazing act of humility and love took on our human nature so that we could have the possibility of living for all eternity in the presence of GOD. That is why it is appropriate to say Happy Christmas, because it really is a cuse for happiness and joy. Happy Christmas.

Parishes of Athy, Narraghmore & Moone Schedule for Christmas 2022 and New Year 2023

MONDAY, 19 th December at 7.30pm	CHRISTMAS DAY, Sunday, 25 th December
While Shepherds Watched The Athy Musical & Dramatic Society	8.30am Mass Ballymount
Present the 30th Anniversary	9am MassBarrowhouse
A Celebration of Christmas Songs & Music In St Michael's Church, Athy	10.30am MassAthy
WEDNESDAY,	10.30am Mass Kilmead
21 st December, 7.30pm	12 noon MassMoone
Penitential Service	12 noon MassAthy
including individual confession and individual absolution. in St Michael's Church, Athy	MONDAY 26 th to Friday 30 th December
CHRISTMAS EVE, Saturday, 24 th December	Mass at 11am everyday inAthy Church
Vigil Masses	Mass at 9.30am on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
5pm Family Liturgy:Crookstown (Please note that this service is NOT a Mass)	SATURDAY & SUNDAY
6pm Vigil:Athy	31st December and 1st January, New Year's Day
	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God World Day of Prayer for Peace
7pm Vigil: Crookstown	Normal weekend Mass times
8pm Vigil:	MONDAY 2 nd to Thursday, 5 th January
	Mass at 11am, every day inAthy Church
9pm Vigil: Kilmead	Mass at 9.30am on Wednesday in Crookstown
(Carols at 8.45pm by St Ita's Church Choir)	FRIDAY
11.30pm Vigil: Syro-Malabar Community Mass Athy (This Mass will be entirely in the Malayalam language) <i>If you cannot be present in person in the church</i> ,	6 th January, Feast of the Epiphany 5th January, 7.00pm Mass -Vigil inCrookstown
	9.30am MassAthy
We invite you to join us in prayer at home on	10.30am Mass Kilmead
Live-streaming:-	7.30pm MassAthy
www.parishofathy.ie	
(Athy Church)	
www.narraghmoreandmoone.ie	Parish Radio Athy: 107.9fm
(Crookstown Church, Kilmead Church,	Crookstown: 107fm
Moone Church)	Moone: 88fm