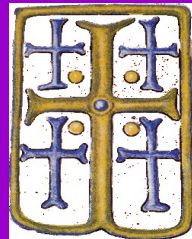




CATHEDRAL OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, SLIGO
NEWSLETTER



Sunday 23rd December 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

God's anointed was born by the power of God's spirit. He is the son of God, and fulfils God's promise of an everlasting kingdom for his people.

BISHOP KEVIN'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

"I wish you every Blessing and Peace this Christmas and I take this opportunity to say a particular word of thanks to all of you who are so generous in using your gifts in the service of your brothers and sisters in parishes, hospitals and schools all over our Diocese.

I know that there are many people in our Diocese who will miss a family member or a friend, this Christmas, someone who has died, or gone into a nursing home, or gone to live in some other part of the world. You will have a special place in my prayers this Christmas. As a Diocesan community, we will miss Bishop Christy and we remember his family at this time".

For full message see www.elphindiocese.ie

CHRISTMAS 2018 TIMETABLE

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE – Today, SUNDAY 23rd DECEMBER at 8.15 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS - MONDAY 24th DECEMBER from 1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE – MONDAY 24th DECEMBER

9.30 p.m. CAROLS

10.00 p.m.: VIGIL Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY – TUESDAY 25th DECEMBER

MASSES at 8.30am, 10.30am & 12.00noon

ST. STEPHEN'S DAY – WEDNESDAY 26th DECEMBER - MASS at 10.30 a.m.

MASSES – THURSDAY 27th & FRIDAY 28th December: 10.30am

MASSES - SATURDAY 29th December 10.30am & Vigil 7.30pm.

SUNDAY 30th DECEMBER MASSES – 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.00noon & 7.00pm

NEW YEAR'S EVE – MONDAY 31st DECEMBER

MASS - 10.30am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30pm

Mass at 11.30pm

NEW YEAR'S DAY - TUESDAY 1st JANUARY

MASS FOR PEACE - 11.00am

MASSES - WEDNESDAY 2nd JANUARY & THURSDAY 3rd JANUARY - 10.30am

MASSES — FRIDAY 4th JANUARY 10.30am & 7.00pm First Friday Mass

SATURDAY 5th JANUARY: MASSES 10.30am & Vigil 7.30pm

CONFESSIONS 2.00pm – 4.00pm

SUNDAY 6th JANUARY - FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

MASSES: 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.00noon & 7.00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES FROM MONDAY 7th JANUARY: 8.00am & 10.30am

CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

Parish office is currently closed and will reopen on Wednesday, 2nd January 2019 at 9.30am.

Dear Parishioners, if you would like to sponsor our newsletter, personally or as a remembrance or thanksgiving, the fee is **€50**. Please contact the parish office.

PRIEST ON DUTY: Fr. Yashin Jos

TODAY - Sunday 23rd December

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8.30am Mass

10.30am Mass: (Children's Liturgy included.)

12noon Mass

7pm Mass: Tea after Mass in Upper Room

8.15pm: Christmas Carol service in the Cathedral

BINGO, GILLOOLY HALL, TONIGHT, SUNDAY 23rd December at 9.00pm with a JACKPOT of €2,050

This is the last Bingo of 2018. (Bingo resumes on Sunday, 6th January 2019.)

Christmas Eve Monday 24th December

8.00am Mass: No Intention

10.30am Mass: Maureen Mullen (Anniversary)

1.00pm-5.00pm: Confessions in the Cathedral

9.30pm: Carols in the Cathedral

10.00pm Vigil Mass (for Christmas Day)

Rosary every weekday
morning at 10.00am.

Christmas Day Tuesday 25th December

Today's Feast Day: The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

8.30am Mass

10.30am Mass

12noon Mass

Blessed Sacrament Chapel
will close after 12noon Mass
today, Sunday 23rd and reopen
after 12noon Mass
on Sunday, 6th January.

St. Stephen's Day Wednesday 26th December

Today's Feast Day: St. Stephen

10.30am Mass: Special Intention

Thursday 27th December

Today's Feast Day: St. John

10.30am Mass: Tommy & Mary McNiffe (Anniversary)

Friday 28th December

Today's Feast Day: The Holy Innocents

10.30am Mass: Bernard & Teresa Lydon (Anniversary)

3.00pm-4.00pm: Divine Mercy Holy Hour in Nazareth Nursing Home Oratory.

Saturday 29th December

Today's Feast Day: St. Thomas Becket

10.30am Mass: No Intention

2.00pm to 4.00pm: Confessions

7.30pm Vigil Mass: No Intention

This week's newsletter
is sponsored for a
Birthday Remembrance.

Sunday Readings for 30th December

1st Reading: Sam. 1:20-22. 24-28; 2nd Reading: Jn. 3:1-2. 21-24; Gospel: Lk. 2:41-52.

rest in peace

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of:

AODHÁN O'HIGGINS, Strandhill,
MARY BURNS, Aughamore Far, Carraroe
and
AINÉ HICKEY, Mullingar.

*May God grant them eternal rest and comfort and console
their bereaved families and friends.*

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9.30a.m. to 4.00p.m.
& Friday 9.30a.m. to 2.00p.m.

Phone: 071 9162670

Email: info@sligocathedral.ie

Restoration Fund website: www.saveaslate.com

Join us online with live WEB STREAMING on our website: www.sligocathedral.ie

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Sunday 16th December

PARISH ENV: €1,646.00

PL/STAND. ORD: €1,600.00

RESTORATION FUND: €145.00

THANK YOU for your support of our Parish and Cathedral.

From the Cluster

ADVENT JESSE TREE The Jesse Tree is a way of reflecting on the key people who prefigure the coming ('adventus') of Jesus. Symbols for the Jesse Tree are:

ADVENT JESSE TREE - WEEK FOUR The Hammer and Saw symbols represent JOSEPH; The Crown symbol represents MARY; The Manger, Chi-Rho and Palm Tree symbols represent JESUS.

ADVENT PRAYER Father, in the wilderness of the Jordan, you sent a messenger to prepare people's hearts for the coming of your Son. Help me to hear his words and repent of my sins, so that I may clearly see the way to walk, the truth to speak, and the life to live for him, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

CHRISTMAS ON OCEAN FM We are pleased to announce that our Carol Service which commences tonight (Sunday 23rd) at 8.15p.m, will be transmitted LIVE on Ocean FM. Our 10.30am Mass on Christmas Day will also be broadcasted Live on Ocean FM. We thank Ocean FM for this wonderful opportunity to unite with all who tune in to these services.

CHRISTMAS DAY OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR SUPPORT OF THE CLERGY This collection is one of four each year for this purpose. The other three are Easter, Pentecost and Autumn. The hope is that these collections raise sufficient funds to pay the agreed monthly salary to priests. Unfortunately the three collections have fallen well short of the required figure. We thank you for your generous support.

CATHOLIC FAITH VIDEOS The attention of parishioners is drawn to the availability of 7 YouTube online videos on the Catholic Faith. Simply google 'Catholicism Beyond Reasonable Doubt', and listen free of charge to these wonderful 7 video Episodes.

BINGO Please join in the fun tonight in the Gillooly Hall. This is the last Bingo of 2018. (Bingo resumes on Sunday, 6th January 2019.)

From the Diocese

TWEETS FROM POPE FRANCIS @Pontifex "Joy, prayer and gratitude are three ways that prepare us to experience Christmas in an authentic way". (16th December 2018) "Jesus knows well the pain of not being welcomed. May our hearts not be closed as were the houses in Bethlehem". (18th December 2018)

FAMILY RETREAT DAY "Living Family" will host a retreat day for all families on Saturday, 5th January 2019 in Summerhill College from 10am to 5pm. Bishop Kevin will celebrate Mass on the day. To book please email info@livingfamily.ie

TRÓCAIRE'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL Archbishop Eamon Martin has urged the public to support Trócaire's Christmas 2018 Appeal during his meetings this week in Iraq with families who are being helped by the charity Trócaire. "Trócaire's Christmas Appeal focuses on bringing aid and relief to people trapped in conflict around the world. Whether that is in Iraq, Yemen, South Sudan or elsewhere, these people need and deserve our love and compassion. I would encourage people in Ireland to support Trócaire's Christmas Appeal. Even small donations can make a big difference to people whose lives have been shattered by conflict." Trócaire's Christmas 2018 Appeal can be supported on www.trocaire.org/christmas. This year's appeal focuses on the plight of those affected by conflict in Yemen, South Sudan and in other countries to enable it to respond to hunger crises, displacement, conflict and human rights abuses.

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO PILGRIMAGE FOR YOUNG ADULTS (18-35) JUNE 2019 Dates: 23rd – 30th June 2019, Age Group: 18 – 35, Cost €650. Package includes flights, 7 nights' B&B, 20kg Check-in luggage plus hand luggage, transfers and insurance. For more information please contact Frank: 087 9880690 or frank.mcguinness@elphindiocese.ie

PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE The Diocese of Elphin is planning to run a Parish Youth Ministry Leadership Training Course in order to offer parishes the opportunity to have trained parish volunteers who will be in a position to support their priest and parish with youth and young adult ministry. For further information please contact: Frank McGuinness, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, t: 087 9880690, e: frank.mcguinness@elphindiocese.ie

Local news

SLIGO MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE can be ordered from 1 to 7 days per week for people of any age who need a little support. [Happy Christmas](http://www.happychristmas.ie) Phone Lorna on 071 9145682.

SLIGO ROTARY CLUB REMEMBRANCE CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION in aid of St. Vincent de Paul and Sligo Hospice will take place in O'Connell Street until Monday 24th December. An Interdenominational Service of Thanksgiving will take place on Thursday, 17th January 2019 at 8.00pm in St. Colmcille's Church, Rathcormack.

ANNUAL GOAL MILE takes place on Thursday, 27th December at IT Sligo Athletics Track from 12noon to 1pm. Please come along to run, walk or jog and support this very worthy cause.

CHARITY LUNCH Women's Little Christmas Black Dress Ladies Lunch in Kilonan Castle on Sunday, 6th January 2019 in aid of *NW Simon Community*, the local homeless charity. Tickets on sale from Mary on 087 7708865 or on Eventbrite. Ideal Christmas Gift for Mum, Daughter or Auntie.