

Mountmellick Parish Newsletter

1st Sunday of Advent Sunday December 3rd, 2023

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Opening Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday & Friday 10.30am to 1.00pm - 3.00pm to 4.30pm.

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GOD OF HOSTS, BRING US BACK; LET YOUR FACE SHINE ON US AND WE SHALL BE SAVED.

As we begin the season of Advent, our mass readings continue to focus not just on the coming of Christ at the end of time, but also on his coming in our own lives. The 'chosen people' of Israel, newly returned from exile, find the task of rebuilding their land difficult, and ask God to come and help them. They have done penance, and now trust that God will return. In today's Gospel Jesus uses images familiar to his audience to warn them to remain alert and awake, as a doorkeeper would. In this way they will not be caught unawares when the Lord comes again. So, we too, pray to enter this season of Advent trusting that the Lord will come: as he came in history at Christmas; as he comes in our hearts if we keep our door open; and as he will come at the end of time. We pray for all those in the world who are waiting with longing and hope for freedom from oppression and peace. **MARANATHA - COME LORD JESUS.**



First

GROW IN LOVE - First Holy Communion

Next Saturday evening (9th) at the 7.30m mass in the Parish Church and/or next Sunday morning (10th) at the 9.00am mass in Clonaghadoo we look forward to welcoming the girls and boys from 2nd class and their parents/guardians. The

Communion journey to next May and First Holy Communion Day has begun and with the children and their families joining us at mass we all get the chance to walk with them and support them in their preparations.

An Advent Household Prayer

Loving God, as your light grows in the dark of winter, bring its strength and its hope to the people of the Holy Land and to all people who suffer through war and conflict.

Just as you sent the star of Bethlehem to lead the way to your Son, guide all people - leaders and citizens - to follow your ways of peace and justice.

As we remember the difficult journey of Mary and Joseph, may the Holy Family be a source of courage for each of us, helping us to reach out in friendship to the oppressed and displaced of this world.

Help us to see in the Christ-child we welcome this Christmas, the one who came to bring an end to all divisions. Come, Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace. Amen.



Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

On Friday next (Dec 8th) we celebrate this feast day of Mary. We remember that from the first moment of her existence in the womb of her mother Anne, Mary was preserved free from Original Sin. She was full of grace.

Masses Parish Church: 11.00am and 7.30pm.

St. Joseph's Sunday Choir Christmas Carols

Christmas Carol
Service in St Joseph's Church,
Sunday Dec 17th 7.00pm.

All Welcome



REMEMBERING OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED - ANNIVERSARIES

1st Anniversary Masses: Ann Rochford, Lower Forest, Eoin Coss, Grove Park, mass on Thursday December 7th at 7.30pm.

For the following whose anniversaries are remembered this weekend and for whom Mass will be offered: Christopher & Robert Parkinson, Connolly Street, Eileen Horohan, Clonsaughey, Damien Crossan, O'Moores Forest, Martha & Joe Hayden, Bay Road, Dan & Cora Barrett, Wolfetone Street, John & Margaret Conroy, Dangans, Michael Kirwan, Harbour Street, James & Lena Dunne, Wolfetone Street, Elizabeth Dunne, Connolly Street, William McGuire, Ballylanders, Mary Dunne, Lord Edward Street, Sarah O'Neill, Emmet Terrace, Danny Lynch, Harbour Court, Teresa Gallagher, The Commons, Luke McRedmond, Harbour Street, Philip Leech, Rosenallis, Patrick O'Neill, Harbour Court, P. Hibbitts, St. Joseph's Terrace & Bradford, Mary Quigley, Catherine Quigley, Mary Tait, George Muir, Ellen Corcoran, Clonmoylan, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Cloncannon.

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time and for whom Mass will be offered next weekend Saturday/Sunday December 9th & 10th: Frank Lawlor, Wolfetone Court & Aughans, Betty Doyle, Emmet Terrace,
Masses available on parish webcam or church radio.

MOUNTMELICK PARISH

Collections - Collections

Saturday/Sunday Nov 25th & 26th.

Envelopes: €775

Baskets: €970

THANK YOU THANK YOU

DONATE ONLINE

You can make your donation to support the parish via the 'Donate' button on our Parish Website, www.mountmellickparish.ie

CHEQUES CHEQUES

Please make all cheques for the parish payable to "Mountmellick Parish No 1 Account".



Christmas Penance Service

Join us on Wednesday Dec 20th for our Christmas Penance Service.

Visiting priests will attend.

Please remember and support the work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul this Advent.

St. Joseph's Prayer Group

Leading Adoration & Prayer on Thursday evening after mass (8.00pm - 8.30pm) in St. Joseph's Church - **all welcome.** Rosary. Divine Mercy Chaplet. Silent Adoration.



THANK YOU

The family of the late Maureen Delaney wish to thank all those who offered sympathy and support on the occasion of their recent bereavement.

Kildare & Leighlin SAFEGUARDING

Designated Liaison Person &

Director of Safeguarding - Ailish Higgins.

Telephone: 085 8021633.

Email: safeguarding@kandle.ie

Deputy DLP: Telephone: 086 1710643

Local Enquiries. Parish Office @ 057 8624390.

Ministers of the Word

Saturday/Sunday Dec 9th & 10th

7.30pm: Padraig O'Toole

11.00am: Ann Storey

Ministers of the Eucharist

Saturday/Sunday Dec 9th & 10th

7.30pm: Bernadette O'Toole & Sebastian Kopijka

11.00am: Therese Wall & Paddy Buggy

MOUNTMELICK PARISH LOTTO

Wednesday November 29th.

Jackpot Numbers: 1:13:23:26:

Jackpot winner: "Two Amigos" Abbeyleix.

16 Matched '3' - €63 each.

Next weeks Lotto Jackpot is: €10,000

Winner

The 5 Sisters

Promoter

Frances Hibbitts

NIGHT VIGIL TO KNOCK

Bus for Night Vigil to Knock on Thursday December 7th leaving the Square, Mountmellick at 7.40pm. Contact: 087 1210263.

CONCERN WORLDWIDE

A BIG Thank You to all for helping &/or donating in The Concern Christmas Fast fundraising in SuperValu Mountmellick on Friday 24th Nov.

Over €3000 has been raised from both the event in SuperValu & the online donations. The online link continues <https://fundraise.concern.net/alice-c>

THE BALCONY CINEMA

Will show "Oppenheimer" on Wednesday December 6th at 8.00pm. Adm: €5, includes a cuppa and a biscuit.

BINGO NIGHT FUNDRAISER FOR THE ROCK N.S.

Thursday, 7th December @ 8pm in Turley's Pub. Over **€1300 in PRIZES** to be won on the night, plus super raffle prizes. €10 for a single book; €20 for a double book. Join us for a night of fun, big wins and bingo madness! Books on sale from 7.10pm. Eyes down 8pm!

Ideal Christmas Gift

Give a 'gift subscription' to Mountmellick Parish Lotto as a Christmas gift for 1 year, 6 months or 3 months. Gift Cards available in the Parish Office.