



## Mountmellick Parish Newsletter

### The Holy Family Sunday December 31st, 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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#### THE HOLY FAMILY

‘The Baby Jesus with his Mother Mary and with St. Joseph are a simple but so luminous icon of the family. The light it casts is the light of mercy and salvation ... for the human family and for individual families. This light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth in those family situations in which, for various reasons, peace, harmony, and forgiveness are lacking. Let us pause here for a moment and pray in silence for all these families in difficulty, whether due to problems of illness, unemployment, discrimination, the need to emigrate, or difficulty in understanding each other. Let us pray in silence for all these families.’ *Pope Francis, December 2014.*



#### Thanks Audrey

We wish the very best to Audrey this weekend as she retires from her role as Organist and Director of the Sunday Morning St. Joseph’s Choir. Audrey has given sterling service to the Parish for a long number of years be it on Sunday mornings or the major feasts of Christmas and Easter, and celebrations of First Communion and Confirmation etc etc. Her love of music and her generous sharing of that love was exceptional. Audrey, thanks so much. We’ll miss you from your perch up on the gallery. To you, to your husband Michael and to Rosemary, Michael, Graham, many thanks. Enjoy retirement. As the gift and beauty of music lives on in your heart may it continue to bring you great delight and happiness. Every blessing agus míle buíochas.



#### 2024 Envelopes

**Please take your 2024 box of envelopes as you leave after mass. Many thanks to all who generously and regularly return their weekly envelopes.**

**For the next few weeks, as you return your envelope contributions, please write your name on the front of the envelope.**

**Míle buíochas.**

#### NEW YEAR PRAYER

Loving God, we thank you for this past year with its positive moments and its more difficult ones. We thank you for the love we have received from family and friends and for the successes we have had at work and at home. We thank you also for the hard moments; the moments that we struggled with; the moments of challenge; the moments of uncertainty; the moments when we have been afraid for our safety and of those we love; the moments when we lost those dear to us. As we look forward to the next year we ask for Your grace and blessing. Give us health and strength; give us faith and hope. Send us Your Spirit. Give us peace with the choices we make; Grant us joy as we look ahead and discern the future. Most of all give us the love that will guide us through whatever challenges we come across. Help us to walk beside each other with patience and forgiveness putting our hands in the hands of Your Son Jesus. He guides us and strengthens us. He is always by our side. He gives us hope. He helps us see beyond the small ‘now’ to the bigger picture and the wider dream, the dream imagined for us by You, our God. You who live and love forever and ever. Amen.

*(A Jesuit Publication)*

## REMEMBERING OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED - ANNIVERSARIES

**Month's Mind Masses:** Regina Smith, Esker Gate, Seamus O'Riordan, Davitt Road, mass on Tuesday January 2nd at 7.30pm.

**1st Anniversary Masses:** Josephine O'Rourke, Twomey Park, mass on Thursday January 4th at 7.30pm.

**For the following whose anniversaries are remembered this weekend and for whom Mass will be offered:**

Maureen Phillips, Patrick Street, Denis & Margaret Whelan, Clonsaughey, John O'Donnell, Ashgrove, Noel Lynch, Chapel Street, Kathleen Delaney, Sandymount, Michael & Ellen Murphy, Chapel Street, Margaret Kearney, Irishtown, Ann & Karen Kelly, Davin Park, Ann Dunne, Emmet Street, Margaret Harrison Ball, formerly Emmet Street, Bridget Culleton, Derrycloney, Paddy & Maura Bishop, St. Joseph Tce., Nell & Joe Daly, Wolfetone Street, Essie Hyland & Molly Conroy, Clonaslee, Gerry & Ann Corcoran, Graigue, John Jack Delaney, Pattison Est & Irishtown, Sean Peake, Ashgrove.

**For those whose anniversaries occur at this time and for whom Mass will be offered next weekend Saturday/Sunday January 6th & 7th:** Attracta (Trac) O'Brien, Cappanlug, Dora Mitchell, Clonterry, P.J. Dempsey, Davin Park, Denis Quinn, Harbour Street,

### MOUNTMELICK PARISH

#### Collections - Collections

Saturday/Sunday Dec 23rd & 24th.

Envelopes: €1,705 - Baskets: €750

**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](http://www.mountmellickparish.ie)

#### CHEQUES CHEQUES

Please make all cheques for the parish payable to

"Mountmellick Parish No 1 Account".

#### Ministers of the Word Saturday/Sunday Jan 6th & 7th

**7.30pm:** Fiona Walsh

**11.00am:** Sheelagh Coyle

#### Ministers of the Eucharist Saturday/Sunday Jan 6th & 7th

**7.30pm:** Claire Dempsey & Anna Reddin

**11.00am:** Therese Wall & Michael Gormley



#### Friday January 5th - First Friday.

**Masses:** 10am Parish Church & 8.00pm Clonaghadoo.



#### Congratulations

To Caoimhe Nelson & Peter Conran who married in St. Mary's Church, Clonaghadoo, on Thursday 28th December. May the Lord keep them forever in fidelity and love.

#### 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.



#### FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

**Saturday Jan 6th**

**Mass Times: 11.00am and 7.30pm Parish Church.**



The word **Epiphany** means "manifestation" or "showing forth." On this feast of the Epiphany, we celebrate the fact that Jesus is revealed not just to the Jewish people, but to the world. Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana. We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a saviour. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus. May God's Light guide us through the unknown of the coming year as we rely more deeply on God's love and care for us.

#### MOUNTMELICK PARISH LOTTO

**The next lotto draw will take place on Wednesday January 3rd 2024.**



#### 2024 PARISH CALENDAR

The 2024 Parish Calendar will be available this weekend to pick up at the back of the churches.

#### "BINGO BINGO

Mountmellick Community Arts Centre this Sunday evening at **8.00pm. Check!!**

**The Parish Office will be closed on Mon & Tues 1st & 2nd Jan. Open on Wed 3rd Jan at 10.30am.**

#### Kildare & Leighlin SAFEGUARDING

Designated Liaison Person & Director of Safeguarding - Ailish Higgins.

Telephone: 085 8021633.

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