

Anniversaries

Frances Kenny, Goggins Hill.
Nora Keogh, Rigsdale.
Jackie Murphy, Skehanagh.
Eileen O'Shea, Coachford.
Michael Kelly, Glasheen Rd.
Timothy O'Leary, Meadstown.
Marjorie O'Leary, Meadstown.
Donal O'Halloran, Templemartin.
Tim & Eleanor Hurley, Dunmanway.
Mary Kelly, Glasheen Rd. & Ballygarvan
Phyllis O'Sullivan, Ballygarvan Upper.
Thomas O'Sullivan, Ballygarvan Upper



We Remember

Mary Murphy (née O'Sullivan) Scart & Enniskeane;
Susan Merchant (née Harrington) Crosshaven & Ballygarvan;
James (Jim) O'Hea, Cork City;
Kevin Sheehan, Belgooly who died recently. *We pray for their families, neighbours and friends.*



Sympathy

We offer our Sympathy to:-
Eileen Donovan, Myrtle Hill on the death of her husband **David Donovan** and to **Tom, Anne, Richard, Molly and Paul** on the death of their father **David Donovan, Myrtle Hill;**

Sympathy to the family and friends of **Maureen Mulcahy, Ballygarvan Upper/ Carrigtohill & Waterford.**

MASS TIMES Next Week

Monday 10th:-
Ballygarvan 9.30am

Tuesday 11th:-
Goggins Hill 9.30am

Thursday 13th:-
Ballyheada 10.00am

Saturday 15th:-
Ballyheada 7.00pm

Sunday 16th:-
Ballygarvan 10.00am
Goggins Hill 11.30am

Bambinelli Sunday December 16th

Bambinelli Sunday is the 3rd Sunday of Advent. We invite families to bring the figure of the Christ child they will use in their family CRIBS THIS YEAR TO BE BLESSED AT MASS.

Take it home and wrap it, place under the Christmas tree ready to be the first gift opened on Christmas morning and then placed in the family Crib.



Ballinhassig Parish



Newsletter

for Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill

Vol. 27 No. 13 Sunday: December 9th, 2018 (Second Sunday Of Advent)

Fr. Christy
writes...

PREPARED?

We're not yet into the time of preparing for Christmas, that will begin on December 17th. So then, what is Advent for?

Life doesn't always run smoothly. Life is full of ups and downs for all of us. In the Gospel according to Luke, we are reminded and are PROMISED that God, through Jesus, will take away all obstacles, whether valleys, mountains, winding roads, or rough ways.



Things will be level at last so that all "may advance secure in the glory of God." Now that is a promise! In order to receive that promise, however, we must indeed also listen to the message of John the Baptist and repent of our sins.

Although we all face valleys and mountains in our lives, we, too, have made life more difficult for others by somehow putting obstacles in their lives as well. Reflecting on those times will help us "make straight" our own lives and the lives of others as well.

That 'making straight' is what we are about in Advent. It's why we need to hear the cry of John the Baptist loud and clear. We are challenged to make life good, smooth and positive for others as well as ourselves. When we do that we can truly say we are ready and prepared to meet the Lord when he

2018 Ballinhassig Parish Newsletter

Notices for inclusion should be received not later than 2.00pm on Wednesday
by **Mary O'Halloran (4885062, 4885257)** **Mary O'Donovan (4888268)**,
PAN Centre/Parish Office (phone/fax 4885062)
ballinhassigparish@gmail.com **www.ballinhassigparish.com**
Parish Priest:- **Fr. Christy Fitzgerald** Telephone: 4885104 or 087/9439666

Christmas Liturgy Meetings

Meetings to organise **Christmas Liturgies** in the churches as follows:

Ballyheada: December 8th after 7.00pm Mass.
Ballygarvan: December 9th after 10.00am Mass.
Goggins Hill: December 9th after 11.30am Mass.

Christmas Thoughts

"It's sharing your gifts, not purchasing gifts;
 It's not wrapping presents, its being present
 and wrapping your arms around the ones you love;
 It's not getting Christmas cards out on time,
 It's sending any card, anytime, at the right time;
 It's not having the biggest and best Christmas light display,
 It's displaying the Christ light that comes from your heart;
 It's not Santa coming down the chimney,
 It's Jesus coming down from heaven,
 and giving us the gift of eternal life."



Special Gifts:-

Here are a few suggestions for special gifts:

a firm handshake to a shaky soul,
 a kind word to a lonely person,
 a warm smile to the disheartened,
 a sincere concern for someone troubled,
 a feeling of compassion for the neglected,
 a comforting thought for the bereaved,
 a respect for the dignity of others,
 a defense of the rights of individuals,
 a word of witness to help a seeking soul,
 a Merry Christmas to all. (Mary O'Halloran submits.....)



Flowers - Collection

Church Flower Groups collection for christmas flowers etc. next week end Saturday/Sunday **December 15th/16th.**

Your continued generosity appreciated.



Thank You – St. Nicholas

Ballinhassig Parish Assembly would like to sincerely thank all the children who brought a toy/toys to Mass on Dec. 1st/2nd(nearest date to Feast of St. Nicholas Dec. 6th) Your toys have been collected by *St. Vincent De Paul* for distribution to poorer children who will now receive a toy this Christmas.



Church Cleaning

If you would like to volunteer to help clean the churches for Christmas come along on:-

Saturday December 22nd:-

Ballygarvan church 10.00am
Ballyheada church 10.00am



Handyman Available

Local man available to do work around house or garden (suppling his own tools) cleaning, painting, hanging decorations, setting up TV's etc. and all general handy work. Contact **087/9448885** for details.

Thank You - Shoe Box Bazaars

Mary O'Halloran would like to sincerely thank all parishioners and friends from outside who took part in *Team Hope Shoe Box Appeal* again this year. Special thanks to the children and staff of *Ballygarvan, Ballyheada & Goggins Hill National Schools* for their continued support and dedication to the project.



Despite economic difficulties, unemployment etc. a total of **SEVEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY NINE Boxes** were collected in the parish this year. Truck loads of boxes from Ireland are on their way to Eastern Europe and Africa.

It is nice to know that on Christmas morning when the children of the parish are opening their presents that the unfortunate children in orphanages; street children etc. will also have presents to open thanks to your continued generosity and kindness.

Special thanks to the proprietor & staff of Cottrell's Shop, Ballinhassig who facilitated once again by making their premises available as a collection point for shoe boxes, and also to all those who delivered their boxes to the PAN Centre (Parish Office). Well done to all again in 2018 for your continued support and generosity!!!!



Christmas Flowers

Ballinhassig Parish Social & Active Retirement Club will host Breeda Keohane who will give a demonstration on *Christmas Flower arranging* in the **Marian Hall (Main Hall) on Monday December 10th at 7.30pm.** All welcome.



Community Alert

Ballinhassig Parish Community Alert Meeting on Monday **December 10th** in the **Marian Hall at 7.30pm.**

All welcome.

Cleaner Wanted once a fortnight for *Apartment* in the **Halfway.** References essential. Contact **087/8914664.**



Ballyheada N.S. Parents Association Christmas 'Bazaar' in the school Hall on Saturday **December 8th** at 7.30pm. Cakes, light refreshments, childrens activities, crafts & books. Hampers and Super prizes. *All welcome.*

Ballinhassig GAA Club:- Annual Christmas 'Bazaar' on Sunday **December 9th.** The evening will commence with the **Lighting of the Christmas Tree.** Santa arrives at 5.15pm. Followed by **Bazaar in the Marian Hall.** Great Spinner prizes, turkey vouchers, cash prizes etc. Cake sale, book sale, bits & bobs and Con's lucky Dip. Entertainment for young and old.
All welcome.

Goggins Hill N.S. Parents Association Monster 'Cake Sale & Raffle' in the school Hall on Sunday **December 16th** after 11.30am Mass. *All welcome.*



Ballygarvan Camogie Club Annual Christmas 'Bazaar' on Sunday **December 16th** at **2.00pm** in the **GAA Hall, Ballygarvan.** Santa, Hampers, Great Spinner prizes.
All welcome.



Riverstick Community Centre Christmas Bazaar in Community Centre December 14th, 7.00pm-9.00pm. All welcome.

Communion For Housebound

If you are housebound and would like Communion for Christmas please contact the *PAN Centre (Parish Office)* on **4885062** and we will arrange same.