

Anniversaries

Frank O'Herlihy, Ballinphellic.
Margaret Fitzgerald, Lisfehill.
JJ Fitzgerald, Lisfehill.
Eily Lombard, Rearour.
Pat Healy, Ovens.
John O'Leary, Tulligmore.
Anthony Marshall, Meadstown.
Evelyn Twohig, Goggins Hill.
Frances Kenny, Goggins Hill.
Con, Hannah & Dick Cullinane, Rearour.



Mass Cards

All Mass Cards including Christmas Mass bouquets available in the **PAN Centre (Parish Office)**.
Contact Mary at 021/4885062.

Thank You

Sincere thanks from the **Parish Assembly & Parish Covid Committee** to all those who volunteered to clean our three churches this week in preparation for our re-opening of public Masses commencing this Saturday night **5th in Ballyheada at 7.00pm**.

Our **capacity is 50** in all churches. Please be guided by stewards. Observe 2m distance, sanitise on entry and exit & wear face coverings.

Funerals & weddings numbers permitted remain at 25. Baptism numbers limited.



MASS TIMES Next Week

Monday 7th:-

Ballygarvan 10.00am
Ballyheada 7.00pm

Tuesday 8th:- (Immaculate Conception)

Ballygarvan only 10.00am

Wednesday 9th:-

Goggins Hill 10.00am

Thursday 10th:-

Ballyheada 10.00am

Friday 11th:-

Goggins Hill 7.30pm

Saturday 12th:-

Ballyheada 7.00pm

Sunday 13th:-

Ballygarvan 10.00am
Goggins Hill 11.30am

Live Streamed

SUNDAY only 10.00am

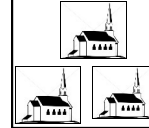
Communion For Housebound

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

Ballinhassig Parish

Newsletter

for Ballygarvan, Ballyheada and Goggins Hill



Vol. 29 No. 10 Sunday: December 6th, 2020 (Second Sunday Of Advent)

Fr. Christy

OPEN OUR HEARTS TO HIM

'Console my people, console them; says your God.' These words from the prophet Isaiah could have been written for us, in our time of continuing pandemic. We have never needed consolation and hope so much. The darkness of the winter evenings doesn't help. We are still feeling challenged by the restrictions and we wonder when it will end. People are wondering how we will celebrate a different Christmas, with family members unable to return home and having to watch our numbers and interactions with one another.

We are challenged also by the words of John the Baptist to 'prepare a way for the Lord'. How are we meant to do that? Preparing for the Lord means opening up our hearts to him and what he invites us to share in. To look beyond ourselves and to be his hope and consolation to others.

For the past nine months we have marvelled at the willingness, kindness and generosity of so many. Maybe our preparation this year could be just that, to offer support, hope and consolation to others by simply being kind, thoughtful and considerate. Of making the phone call, writing a card, being patient, tolerant and giving a smile, even from behind our mask, or supporting those who go out of their way to care for the needy and vulnerable. One way might be responding to the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

2020 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

The Pope's Intentions – December 2020

Intention for evangelisation – For a life of prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

Christmas Thoughts



"It's sharing your gifts, not purchasing gifts;
 It's not wrapping presents, its being present with 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 nod 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.



St. Vincent De Paul Ballinhassig

As we approach Christmas, we are appealing to parishioners who are struggling financially not to hesitate to ring SVP Tuckey St. Cork (021) 4270444 (Monday - Friday 10.00am - 12.30pm & 2.00pm - 3.30pm) or email info.SouthWest@svp.ie All central referrals are forwarded to the local SVP Conference, where they will be treated with the strictest confidentiality and sensitivity.

As our churches reopen for public Masses, the December SVP Collection will take place over the weekend of **December 13th & 14th**. Our blue SVP collection boxes will be in the church porches. Donations can also be made through the SVP website; www.svp.ie/donate. We are in the South West region and **St. Joseph's Conference Ballinhassig Co. Cork must be included in the 'Specific location to help' box at the bottom of the Donate page**. We deeply appreciate the ongoing support SVP receives from parishioners and organisations throughout the year. Many thanks and take care.

ADVENT PRAYER

&

REFLECTION



Advent is a time for us to **prepare** to receive Jesus into our **hearts**, our **lives**, our **homes** and our **parish**.

We need to **invite** him.

We continue our **inner preparation** for Christmas as the Advent season progresses.

During Advent, on Wednesdays a short **Lay led Live-streamed Prayer Service** will be held in one of our three churches at **7.30pm**.

The third week will be Live-Streamed from Ballyheada Church on Wednesday next **December 9th at 7.30pm**.

You are invited to log in to:-

ballinhassig parish facebook page.



A Christmas Tree blessing for Home

Lord Jesus

Encircle this tree with your blessing.

May its twinkling lights remind us

Of the hope and promise of your coming

May the light and cheer it gives,

Be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts

May the presents we place beneath it

Give rise to an appreciation for the gift of your presence among us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.....Amen.



May I take this opportunity to congratulate all the people that contributed to making Ballinhassig Village as festive as always. It just doesn't happen by itself. It was a great privilege for me to be asked to bless the Christmas tree, to begin the Advent of Christmas. In addition, I also wish to acknowledge the invaluable work that volunteers of the parish are doing in giving of their free time in helping families and individuals coping with the pandemic. Well done to all!!

God bless and keep safe..... **Deacon John.**



Readings

December 13th

Is. 61: 1-2, 10-11.

Ps Lk 1:46-50, 53-54,

R /Is 61:10.

1 Thess 5:16 -24.

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28.

Bambinelli

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 next week end**. 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 crib.

