

*Church of Our Lady, Star of the Sea,
Bundoran, Co. Donegal.
Phone: 071 98 41290
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Very Rev. Ramon Canon Munster, PP*



Diocese of Clogher
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*Church of St. Joseph, The Rock,
Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal.
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Parish Office-Fourth Sunday of Advent. December. 24th, 2017.

Parish News / Parish News / Parish News.

We wish everyone a very happy and blessed Christmas.

The year to come will concentrate on the spiritual wellbeing of all families. Ireland is the destination for families from all over the world coming together for the world meeting of families which will be attended by Pope Francis. In the days to come, every family will be given a family prayer which they are asked to share, perhaps when they gather for their evening meal. At Mass, we intend to use the same prayer after Holy Communion. Copies will be available at Church doors.

The idea has been suggested that one of the weekend Masses in both Churches might be presented (reader and / or offertory procession) by members of one family either weekly or monthly. Any family who would like to take part should contact the Priest or Parish Office.

Sacramental Calls to the Housebound.

The week beginning Dec 11th. was given over to Sacramental Calls to the Sick and Housebound (approximately forty). Four Funeral Masses in our Churches during the past days greatly affected the above calls. Hopefully those throughout the Parish who did not receive a sacramental visit before Christmas will do so in the days after.

The Advent Wreath - It's Symbolism.

The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning and no end, is used to symbolize the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul and eternal life. The wreath is made from various evergreens, signifying continuous life. The four candles, three purple/violet and one rose/pink represent the four weeks of Advent, one is lit on each of the four Sundays. Each candle represents a 1,000 years and added together they symbolize the 4,000 years, from Adam and Eve to the birth of Christ, the years that humanity waited for the Saviour. The light signifies Christ, the Light of the World..

Each of the four candles on an Advent wreath has their own meaning.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent symbolizes Peace with the lighting of the third purple candle, the Angel's Candle reminding us of the message of the angels:

"Peace on Earth, Good Will towards all people".

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Saturday (Vigil) 7pm. Tommy & Annie Croghan, Josephine, Joe & Eileen McCluskey (Tullan Strand).

Sunday 8.30am. James & Mary Brennan (Main Street).
11am. People of the Parish.

Christmas Eve 8pm. Intentions of the Parish.

Christmas Day 8.30am. and 11am Masses.

Tuesday 10am. Private Intentions.

Wednesday 10am. Prayer Service.

Thursday 10am. Bridie Sweeney (Finner Road).

Friday 10am. Private Intention.

Saturday 10am. Bernard Harte (East End).

Vigil 7pm. Ignatious Boyle & Dec Mbs Boyle Family (Finner Ave).

Sunday 8.30am. Private Intentions.

11am. People of the Parish.

**Sunday 24th Christmas Eve
10am.** Intentions of the Parish.

Monday / Christmas Day Mass 10am.

Tuesday 10am. Prayer Service.

Wed Mass 10am. John & Annie Loughlin (East Port).

Thursday 10am. Prayer Service.

Friday 10am. Prayer Service

Saturday 10am. Prayer Service.

Sunday Dec 31st. 10am.

Mary K. Doherty (West Port).

Terry Doherty (West Port).

Special Ministers for December

7pm. B. McGourty M. Gormley.

8.30am. K. Gallagher, M. Fitzgerald.

11am. R. Chapman, G. McGloin, M. Smyth, B. Connor.

December Ministers of the Word

7pm. John Campbell.

8.30am. Gerry Breslin.

11am. Raymond Kerr.

December Altar Society:

Patricia Brennan, Doris McGurran, Ann Davey, Marian Carmody.

Weekly Ministers 25/12/2017

Minister of the Eucharist Paddy Donoghue.

Ozanam House Paddy Donoghue.

Minister of the Word Paddy Donoghue.

Church Collectors for December

7pm. Cindy Beirne, Kathleen McGrath, Paddy McGrath.

8.30am. Patricia Brennan, Maura Walsh.

11am. James Keenan, Oliver McSharry, Joe Smyth, Winnie Daly.

Altar Servers December 2017

Christmass Day 25th. 11am. Siofra McMahan, Mischa Keenan, Maria Keenan, Justin Kelly, Gareth Carr.

Sat. 30th 7pm. Ryan McGloin, Justin Kelly, Lucy Currid, Mischa & Maria Keenan.

Sun. 31st 11am. Elishia & Grace Rodgers, Siofra McManus, Megan McNamara, Callum Tierney.

St. Macartan's N.S. Pupils Christmas CD available from the School at €10. Congratulations to all involved.

Liturgy Teams for December

Minister of the Word. Seamus O'Neill.

Special Ministers of the Eucharist.

Kathleen McDaid, Bernie Finan.

Church Collectors

Front Eamon Daly.

Back Patrick McKenna .

Altar Society.

Kathleen McDaid, Eileen Gunn, Bernie Finan.

Important Future Dates for the Rock.

First Holy Communion Sat April 21st at 11am.

Confirmation Sunday Bundoran April 29th. at 2pm.

Envelopes for the Annual Collection for the Conference of St. Columba (Vincent De Paul) are available on the newsletter table in the Church.

At their recent meeting the Rock Pastoral Committee very kindly agreed to put into place Church preparations for Christmas. The difficulties which have arisen due to the ongoing lack of clergy in Clogher parishes was discussed and it's reality understood.

We remember all those who have died recently. Angela Camrie (Nee Flanagan) Glasgow, Gretta Freeburn, (Belleek) Patricia Page (Bundoran), Mary White, Joe Sheerin (Ballyshannon) and Joseph Quinn (Laghey).

**Church of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Finances.
November 16/17th Offertory Collection.**

Total €1587 .

**€725 from 108 Envelopes returned from 207 allocated.
Loose collection €862 .**

Extra in standing orders €105.

**On-going Church Loan approx €1.3 million.
Monthly Bank repayment €10,692.**

All donations to this fund are greatly appreciated.

**St Joseph's Church Finances.
November 17th, 2017 Offertory Collection.**

Total €417

**€293 from 59 Envelopes returned from 150 allocated.
Loose Collection €124 .**

Development Fund Collection €200 .

Please leave a note in the sacristy if you would like to receive a set of Parish Envelopes to support the work of the Rock. Envelopes are presently being delivered to those using them in the past three years.