

ATTYMASS PARISH

CHRISTMAS 2023



We wish all our parishioners and those who have come to visit a Holy and Happy Christmas and A Happy New Year!

Nollaig Shona daoibh go leir agus guímid athbhliain faoi mhaise do mhuintir ár pharóiste go léir!

Joyeux Noel et Bonne Année !

Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia!

Szczesliego Nowego Roku!

Attymass Parish Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

7.30pm

Christmas Day

10.00am

Weekday Masses

St. Stephan's Day 12.00pm

Wednesday 27th –Friday 29th 10.00am

New Year's Day 12.00pm

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2023

We celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve on the same day this year, which happens about once every seven years.

The season of Advent has gone very fast and feels very short because of Christmas Eve being a Sunday.

The time has come for us to celebrate the birth of a tiny child in a stable in Bethlehem, who came to bring us peace upon earth, as the angels announced that first Christmas night to the shepherds attending their flocks in the hills around Bethlehem.

It is a different Christmas in Bethlehem this year due to the war between Israel and Gaza: there are no decorations or tree in manger square, sadly no visitors either.

The war between Russia and the Ukraine still goes on even though it may not now make the news headlines either on the TV or papers, as it did this time last year.

The world we live in is a troubled place, with wars, shootings and civil unrest in many countries throughout the world including our own and also natural disasters.

Life seems to be no longer seen as gift. Life is taken from so many people in the blink of an eye.

As human beings have we lost the value that life is a precious gift from God?

That first Christmas night God gave us a very precious gift - his son Jesus, a little child who changed the world by his birth, death and resurrection.

God wanted to be with us on our life journey. We are his children.

We cannot forget that Jesus, Mary and Joseph had the same struggles as we have in December 2023. They were refugees.

They lived a simple life in Nazareth, where Jesus learnt the trade of Joseph but also learnt the values of his parents.

The English poet Alfred Tennyson wrote the poem "Ring Out, Wild Bells."

I would like to quote three stanzas of this poem as it sums up our world at this present time.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease,
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land;
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

So this Christmas let us not take the simple things in life for granted: family, friends and of course the freedom to live our lives and celebrate our faith.

Sadly in the 21st century this freedom is not present in every part of the world.

The main message of Christmas is that the infant Jesus, born in the stable in Bethlehem, came to bring peace to the World as our Saviour.

I would like to take this opportunity also to say a sincere word of thanks to you the People of Attymass Parish.

We remember in a very special way all those in the parish who have passed away and those who have lost a loved one; we keep them and you in our prayers.

I want to say thanks to all who assist in the day to day life of the parish - Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Council, Parish Stewards, Fr. Steve, Fr. Valerian, sacristan, Readers, Ministers of Holy Communion, Choirs, Musicians, Collectors, Counters, Flower Arrangers, the staff of Attymass N.S., the Staff of the Fr. Peyton Centre and Members of the Community Schemes and the Attymass Community Stewards. Thank you to the Committee Members of the three Cemetery Care Committees in the parish and the countless volunteers who help in so many ways.

Thank you to you the people of the parish for your constant support of this parish which allows so much to happen in our Church.

The Christmas Masses in the parish are celebrated for you the people of the parish, as a Christmas present from the priest to his people

May God bless each and every one of you and the Holy Family of Nazareth protect you and your family in the year ahead.

God Bless.
Fr. John

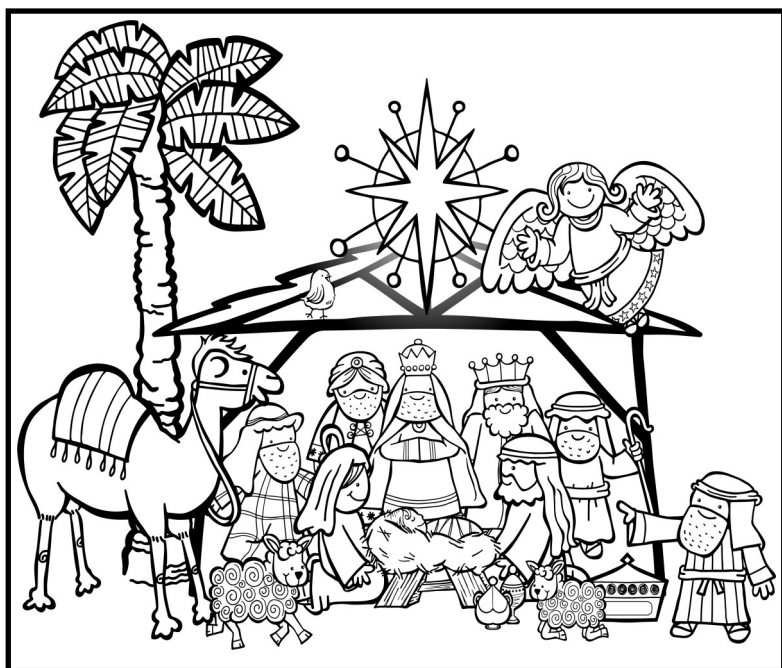
COLOURING TIME

An invitation to some of our younger Parishioners to spend a bit of time and make use of the colours and crayons you might have received for Christmas. Bring the Christmas Scene to life through colour. We will award a prize in the following age groups: Junior Infants and Senior Infants, First Class and Second Class, Third Class and Fourth Class, and Fifth and Sixth Class for the picture that is considered most imaginative and colourful!. Cut out the picture and name details and return to the church by **Sunday 7th January 2024**. We will give **€15.00 each** to the four winners. Winners announced in Bulletin of **January 14th 2024**.

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME!

Name: _____

Class _____



PLEASE PRAY FOR

We remember in our prayers **Tom Howe**, Cullane and all those whose who have passed away in our Parish since last Christmas and all whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The collection for the support of the priest of the parish will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The **Brown Envelope** is found in your box of offertory envelopes. If you don't have a box of envelopes, you can use a regular envelope, but please mark it "Priests' Collection" Thank you for your support and kindness. It is deeply appreciated. Please make cheques to "Attymass Priests Revenue Account".

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS

New Years Day Mass will be celebrated at 12.00pm for Peace in the World for the year ahead.

NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the Newsletter of the **Thursday 4th January 2024 at 8pm** for the Newsletter Sunday 7th January

CHURCH SAFETY MEASURES

1. Please sanitise your hands as you enter the church.
2. Newsletters are single use items. If you take one upon entering the Church, please bring it home – do not discard it.
3. **There is no room in the sacristy to accommodate people due to Covid-19 regulations. Please wait in your seat if you wish to see Fr. John**

FR. PEYTON CENTRE

Fr Peyton Centre Christmas holiday arrangements: Closed at **2pm Friday 22nd December 2023**. Re-opening on **Tuesday 2nd January 2024 at 9.30am** The management and staff would like to wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas and best wishes for the New Year. Thank you for your continued support throughout the year

ATTYMASS N.S.

Congratulations to the Pupils and Staff of Attymass N.S. for wonderful Nativity play which took place in the Fr. Peyton Centre on Wednesday 20th December 2023. We wish the pupils, staff, Board of Management and parents a very Blessed Christmas and peaceful New Year.

EPIPHANY ANNOUNCEMENT

Each year after the Gospel on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, the important dates of the liturgical year are announced. The following are the dates for 2024:

Ash Wednesday
14th February,
Easter Sunday
31st March,
The Ascension of the Lord
12th May,
Pentecost Sunday
19th May,
Corpus Christi
2nd June,
First Sunday of Advent
1st December.

PIONEERS

If anyone in the parish would like to receive their Silver or Gold Pioneer pin or become a member of the Achonry Pioneer Association, please email achonrypioneers@gmail.com or contact Thomas at 087-2344338 before 31st December 2023

Pioneers around the world are being invited to attend Mass next Wednesday 27 December and to prayerfully mark the 125th anniversary of the foundation of the Association in 1898. Mass and prayers will be live-streamed on that day at 10am (Irish time) around the world via www.pioneerassociation.org

6TH JANUARY

The 6th January, is celebrated on Saturday in 2024. Mass will be offered at 7.30pm on Friday 5th January 2024 The Feast of Epiphany in Ireland is known as Little Christmas Nollaig na mBan.

BONNICONLON GAA

Bonniconlon GAA are holding their annual charity 5k walk and football match on St Stephens day starting at 12pm. Proceeds this year will go to Mayo Cancer Support/Rock Rose House. Refreshments will be served and all support welcome.

MAYO COLLEGE COURSE

Upskill yourself with free certified online courses in Mayo College of Further Education and Training in 2024. We have courses in conjunction with Mayo GAA in Mentorship, Sustainability in the Workplace, Project Management and Leading Through Change commencing in January. Apply Online at mayocollege.ie to improve your CV and employment options.

MOY DAVITTS

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Thank you for all your support this year and we look forward to working with you in 2024 as we celebrate our 50th anniversary. Congratulations to Imelda Turnbull, Foxford who won a jackpot of €375 in the Moy Davitts 50/50 draw last Saturday. A huge thank you to everyone who supported last week's draw, it is greatly appreciated. Tickets are available in the usual retail outlets and by clicking <https://smartlotto.ie/Bohola-moy-davitts>.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

The Light of the Christmas Star to You.
The warmth of home and hearth to You.
The cheer and good will of friends to You.
The Love of the son and God's peace to You.

PARISH MINISTRIES

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

7.30PM

Readers: Tony Gallagher

Mary Lavelle

Eucharist: Martina Mulherin

Christine Tolan

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00AM

Reader: Pat Boyle

Ann Timlin

Eucharist: Evelyn Moughty

Monica Ferguson

Saturday 30th Dec 2023

Reader: Christine Tolan

Eucharist: Patsy Garrett

Sunday 31st Dec 2023

Reader: Noreen Quinn

Eucharist: John Joe Gallagher

BEATIFICATION PRAYER

Dear Jesus, the Venerable Patrick Peyton devoted his priestly life to strengthening the families of the world by calling them to pray together everyday, especially the Rosary. His message is as important for us now as it was during his life on earth. We beg you, therefore, to hasten the day of his beatification, so that your faithful people everywhere will remember his message that *the family that prays together stays together*, will imitate him in his devotion to your Mother and ours, and will be inspired by his holy life to draw ever closer to you with childlike confidence and love. Amen.



Parish Mission Statement

“Inspired by the Life and Work of the Venerable Patrick Peyton CSC, we the people of Attymass Parish strive to build a Community that is rooted in Gospel Values and is deeply committed to the Mission of Jesus.”

NEWSLETTER

MONTH OF DECEMBER / JANUARY CHURCH DIARY

VENUE	DATE	TIME	CELEBRATIONS AND INTENTIONS
Parish Church	Saturday 23rd	7.30pm	The Vigil for the Fourth Sunday of Advent Patrick O'Brien (Facebook Live)
Parish Church	Christmas Eve	7.30pm	Christmas Mass for the People of the Parish
Parish Church	Christmas Day	10.00am	Christmas Mass for the People of the Parish (Facebook Live)
Parish Church	Tuesday 26th	12.00pm	The Feast of St. Stephen, First Martyr
Parish Church	Wednesday 27th	10.00am	The Feast of St. John, Apostle & Evangelist
Parish Church	Thursday 28th	10.00am	James Mulherin, Kilgellia & Manchester
Parish Church	Thursday 28th	11.30am	Funeral Mass for the late Tom Howe, Cullane
Parish Church	Friday 29th	————	NO MORNING MASS
Parish Church	Saturday 30th	7.30pm	The Vigil for the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Deceased of the O'Brien & Fitzgerald Families Katie Strogen, Cartron (Facebook Live)
Parish Church	Sunday 31st	10.30am	Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: The People of the Parish
Parish Church	Monday 1st	12.00pm	The Solemnity of the Mary, The Holy Mother of God Mass for Peace (Facebook Live)
Parish Church	Tuesday 2nd	10.00am	Special Intention
Parish Church	Wednesday 3rd	10.00am	Michael, Lizzie, Paddy, Joe, Mary, Loretta Garrett, Ardrass
Parish Church	Thursday 4th	————	NO MORNING MASS
Parish Church	Friday 5th	7.30pm	The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord
Parish Church	Saturday 6th	11.00am	Padraic Moran, Currower, Month's Mind (Facebook Live)
Parish Church	Saturday 6th	7.30pm	The Vigil of the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Patrick & Kathleen Gallagher & Madeline Niland, Currower Tony Conlon, Cullane (Facebook Live)
Parish Church	Sunday 7th	10.30am	The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord: The People of the Parish

NEWSLETTER ITEMS: Under GDPR, the protection of your personal data is important to us. We are happy to include your notice in our Parish Bulletin, but please ensure that you have received the consent of any persons referenced before submitting a notice to us. Some items may have to be edited for space purposes. Please submit items by **Thursday 4th January at 8pm for the Newsletter of Sunday 7th January 2024** via email

Fr. John Maloney
Parochial Administrator
 Parish House and Office: **096-29990**
 Parish Mobile: **085-2552984**
attymassparish@achonrydiocese.org
 Twitter: **@AttymassParish**

Fr. Peyton Memorial Centre
Closing at 2pm Friday 23rd December
2022 Re-opening on Tuesday 2nd
January 2024 9.30am.

PARISH AND DIOCESAN
SAFE GUARDING
www.achonrydiocese.org/diocesan-policy
PARISH REPRESENTATIVES
 Veronica Peyton and Hugh McHugh