

Burrishoole Parish
December 11th/12th 2021
Fr Tod Nolan P.P. 098 42665
Parish Office 098 41123

**Office hours Tue - Thu 11am-3pm,
To book Masses, Baptisms & Marriages, get
certs & Mass cards please contact office by
phone or Email: burrishooleparish@gmail.com
Facebook/YouTube: Burrishoole Parish**

A Time to Rejoice!

The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday. Coming from the latin verb ‘gaudere’ which means *to rejoice*, on this weekend we are invited to rejoice as we wait in happy expectation to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

And yet somehow, this year in particular, it is difficult to rejoice.

For me and I am sure for most, the persistence of the pandemic and the arrival of the Omicron variant has managed to cast a damper on my festive cheer. We had hoped that this Christmas would be free from all restrictions, but we find ourselves once again under a cloud of uncertainty. Hospitality, travel, social gatherings have all been affected and it is still unsure what, if any, further restrictions might be introduced. It’s tough to get into the festive spirit when such uncertainty abounds.

Last week Pope Francis visited the island of Lesbos for the second time in five years. On his first visit, at the height of the European immigration crisis, he visited the Moria refugee camp where thousands of undocumented refugees were being held in appalling conditions. Five years on, the Moria camp has been replaced by a new camp but the refugees and the refugee crisis remains.

Although Covid has managed to distract world attention, an ongoing humanitarian crisis continues at the very centre of Europe. While we are consumed by our restrictions people are suffering appalling hardship.

Speaking directly to an audience of refugees but with a message for Europe’s wider political leadership, Pope Francis reminded us that if this pandemic has taught us anything it has taught us that we are all in the same boat. Citing Holocaust survivor, Elli Wiesel, he said that ‘when human lives are in peril, when human dignity is in danger, national borders become irrelevant’.

In his powerful address Francis condemned nations and ideologies that seek to ‘stir up public opinion by instilling fear in others’ and which seek to build walls to hide our shared problems and to protect us from our common shame. “Why do we fail to speak

with the same vehemence about the exploitation of the poor, of the forgotten wars, often lavishly funded; of the economic accords made on the backs of the people, and the covert deals to traffic arms and increase their trade. Why is this not spoken about? The underlying causes should be confronted, not the poor people who suffer the consequences, and are then used for political propaganda,” he added.

Pope Francis finished with a powerful image. “If we want to start again, we must look at the faces of children. We find the courage to be ashamed in front of them, who are innocent, and who are the future,” Francis said. “They ask our consciences: what kind of world do you want to give us?”

This is ‘Gaudete Sunday and we have so much to rejoice about. As we prepare for what might well seem like a restricted Christmas let us rejoice in the freedoms we do enjoy, in the security we experience, in the community which envelopes us, in our families which love us. And in our rejoicing let us remember the countless Marys and Josephs who continue to be locked out of our world of plenty. Let us look at the faces of the petrified children of Lesbos and see in them the face of Jesus.

God Bless, Fr Tod

Christmas Mass Schedule

In celebrating Christmas as a parish this year the health and safety of everyone, particularly the most vulnerable, will be paramount. It is our hope to provide a full schedule of Masses. However in order to maintain social distancing numbers allowed to attend will be limited to approximately half (every second pew) and the ribbons will be reintroduced in all churches

<u>Christmas Eve:</u>	7pm	Tiernaur
	9pm	Newport
<u>Christmas Day:</u>	8.30am	Shramore
	10am	Newport
	11.30am	Mulranny

<u>St Stephen’s Day:</u>	11am	Newport
	12.30pm	Mulranny

All Masses will be available on our parish Facebook and Youtube pages and like everything else in these Covid times are subject to change.

Christmas Service of Reconciliation

A ceremony of reconciliation will be held via the internet on Wednesday, December 22nd. You are invited to join us as we reflect on where we are in need of forgiveness in our lives and as we as a community open ourselves to accept God’s mercy.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation – individual Confessions, will be available in our Churches on Christmas Eve. Mulranny 12-12.30pm, Tiernaur 12.45-1.15pm, Newport 1.30-2pm.

Baby Jesus Sunday

This Sunday, we will bless the Baby Jesus' of our Parish. Since numbers which attend Mass are restricted and families are unable to come to church you are invited to bring your Baby Jesus to the Church during the week and to leave in on the Sanctuary. The baby Jesus will be blessed at Masses next weekend and can be collected afterwards.

Decorating our Churches

Thank you to all who were able to help us over the past week. Many hands made light work.

Mulranny Christmas Lights

The 2021 Christmas lights and Crib were lit on December 4, in conjunction with the arrival of Santa to Costcutters Mulranny and the lighting of their Christmas tree. A special thank you is given to Rhona and Martin for hosting the event and to the Mulranny Mens Shed group who decorated the trees and ensured the lighting was safely in place for the switch on. The Christmas lights are funded annually by the Mulranny Tidy Towns group.

Mavo Roscommon Hospice

Hospice Christmas Cards can be purchased from Newport Post Office and Shine a Light Cards are available from Newport Pharmacy. All funds go to the Mayo Roscommon Hospice, please support.

Burrishoole Community Partnership

The BCP is delighted to now be in a position to offer their 50/50 Lottoraiser in the shops and businesses of Newport and surrounding areas. Due to covid restrictions, this is the only way BCP can collect new funds so all support is greatly appreciated. Any businesses who are willing to accommodate a box of tickets are asked to please contact Mary at 087 6636839.

BCP thank all who have kept up their standing orders, they are extremely grateful for the continued commitment to the project.

Community Choir

The Community Choir continues to rehearse on Tuesday evenings in Tiernaur Church. For more information contact Joanne at 087 6755543

Refugee Aid

Parishioner Jennifer Morice (Acres) will be volunteering for the month of January with the refugees caught up in Calais. She intends to drive over and hopes to bring a car full of essential items. A list of much needed items is available on her Facebook page and if you would like to make a monetary donation you can drop it off at the Parish office or contact her on jennifer_morice@hotmail.com.

Mass Schedule

10am Weekday Mass Intentions:

Mon-Tiernaur, Tues/Thurs-Newport, Fri-Mulranny
Paddy Smith (Cavan), his wife Mary Armagh and their children Peggy, Moira, Eric and Francis.

Weekend Masses

Saturday December 11th Tiernaur at 7pm:

John and Mary Gallagher, their son Thomas and daughter Bernie, Crossmolina. Paddy and Bridie Cronin, John Syron and deceased members of the Gallagher and Syron families

Sunday December 12th Newport at 10am:

Dan Hoban, Georges Street (Months Mind). Annie Horan, Doogary. Mick and Katie Calvey, Shramore. Mary and Packkie Hynes, Lecanvey

Sunday December 12th Mulranny at 11.30am:

Denis and Annie Gallagher, Achill and Michael and Matilda Cafferkey, Ballycroy. Felix Murray, Mulranny and Ballycroy. Eddie Corrigan, Golders Green, London and Ballycroy.

Saturday December 18th Tiernaur at 7pm:

Frank and Annie Mc Nea and deceased family members. Ciss O Boyle and deceased family members. Delia and Martin Hanley, Mulranny

Sunday December 19th Newport at 10am:

Mick Chambers, Shramore (Mts Mind), Vera O Brien, Ballintubber, daughter in law Martina, Kilglass, Co Roscommon deceased members of the O Brien and Egan families. Michael Chambers, Trienbeg.

Sunday December 19th Mulranny at 11.30am:

Zoe English, Carrowsallagh. Micheal Mc Nea, Tonragee. Judge Patrick Moran Mulranny (at request of Mulranny Tidy towns