

Burrishoole Parish

November 13th/14th 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

The Eyes Have It

It wasn't until my new lenses arrived that I realised how much my eyesight had deteriorated. For months I had struggled with blurry vision but because it seemed to get worse at night, I convinced myself that it was simply a case of tired eyes. But in recent weeks as I began to have difficulty in focusing on the books at Mass and, in fact found it almost impossible to distinguish between individuals in the congregation, I grew more than a little worried. Was my failing eyesight a sign that I was losing my sight or was it a symptom of a more sinister health condition. In the end it turned out to be nothing more than old age and a simple change of prescription has me sorted.

Its amazing what a small change in lens strength can mean in terms of what I can now see. I hadn't realised for example that I was unable to see the little score box in the corner of the TV screen during a live game (- that being said I didn't want to see the score box during the Liverpool game last Sunday!) or that I was incapable of reading the number plate on the car driving in front of me. My new lenses also allow me to wonder at the progress made on the new road on the way up to Westport. Isn't it simply incredible to see how modern engineering is cutting through a hillside while at the same time building a road across sodden bogland?

As precious as one's eyesight is, no change of lenses can give the ability to imagine and plan such a major project. To have the vision and skill to design and develop such an undertaking is truly a gift. Even as I sit at the lights and wonder at it, I still find it difficult to imagine what the final road will look like.

As we look towards the future, it's hard to imagine how our church will look in 5 years' time never mind 25 years' time. Although change has been on the cards for some time it seems that the church in our diocese, if not in Ireland has suddenly reached a tipping point – the ongoing decline in religious practice, an aging clergy, the

fall out from Covid and a dearth of religious vocations have all brought us to a point of dramatic change.

Our new Archbishop, Bishop Francis Duffy - appointed just as I write this piece, will find a diocese where there simply aren't enough priests to maintain the current parish structures. He will preside over a diocese where the lay faithful will have responsibility for the day to day running of parishes, where faith, if it is to flourish will be cultivated and nurtured in the home and where the celebration of Mass and the Sacraments will be occasional cherished moments of devotion and joy for the people of God.

The gift of new lens has allowed me to see and appreciate again the simple beauty of our world. As we look towards the future of our church we do so through the lens of faith. It will be a different Church. Faith may not give absolute clarity, but it fills us with courage and hope. Guided by the Holy Spirit we can confidently face the future together. As we boldly head into uncharted waters, we do so secure in the knowledge that we are not alone, God is with us.

God Bless

Fr Tod

November Graveyard Rosaries

Weather permitting, it is hoped to recite a public Rosary at each of the Parish Cemeteries over the next two Sundays;

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------|-------------|
| Sunday 21 st | 12.30pm | Burrishoole |
| | 1pm | Kilbride |
| Sunday 28 th | 12.30pm | Murrivagh |
| | 1pm | Killeen |

Pope John Paul II Awards

Transition year students who intend to participate in the Pope John Paul II Award are – subject to new Covid restrictions, invited to a short meeting in the Oratory, Newport at 7pm on Tuesday, November 23rd. You are asked to observe social distancing and to wear a mask.

First Communion/ Confirmation

Due to ever rising Covid numbers it is not advisable to meet with parents at the present time. It is hoped that our Parish Sacramental preparation programmes might begin after Christmas.

Subject to the now all-too-familiar Covid caveats it is provisionally proposed to hold First Communion in Mulranny on the weekend of April 2nd/3rd and in Newport on the weekend of May 14th/15th.

The provisional date for our Parish Confirmation on Saturday March 12th.

St Vincent de Paul

The local branch of St. Vincent De Paul continue to provide support to people within our community during the Covid 19 pandemic. They help families with basics such as food, utilities, fuel and help with education costs. St Vincent De Paul rely very much on local support. Please give what you can to the SVP volunteers during our annual Church Gate collection next weekend Nov 20th/21st. All funds raised are spent in the parish. If you would prefer, you can donate online to the following account; BIC AIBKIE2D IBAN IE56AIBK93708835168044. The local helpline number 0864181000.

Returning to Mass

With the lifting of restrictions Churches no longer are required to limit their capacity. We are however asked to maintain all other protective practices:

- The wearing of facemasks
- Sanitising of hands
- Respecting social distance.

The ribbons have been removed. You are asked however to be aware of the need to give ample space between you and the person next to you and if possible, avoid sitting directly behind someone.

Mulranny Active Retirement

Mulranny Active Retirement are holding a social evening with dinner in Nevins, Tiernaur. The meal will commence at 6pm on Friday, December 3 and the event is open to all in the parish. If you would like to attend, please book your place by contacting Mary at 0861683894

Mayo Cancer Support.

Mayo Cancer Support Achill Outreach service will reopen, by appointment only, on Thursday 18th November, in the Health Centre, Achill Sound. Contact Jean on 087 2804164.

Glenhest 25 Card Games

Glenhest Community Centre has resumed its Sunday evening 25 card games. The games will regularly take place at 6pm on a Sunday evening for the winter months. All welcome

Community Choir

The Community Choir continues to rehearse on Tuesday evenings in Tiernaur Church. This week they meet from 8-9pm. All are welcome. For more information contact Joanne at 087 6755543

Westdoc

From November 1st the new Westdoc phone number will be 0818 360 000. Please save the new number to your mobile phone or keep it near your landline. Please remember when phoning Westdoc to have your Eircode close to hand and your Medical Card Number if applicable.

Christmas Craft Shop

The Gift of Hands Christmas shop will be set up on the weekend of 13th/14th November. If you have any items you have made, which you would like to sell (on a sale or return basis) we will be happy to offer them in the Christmas shop which will be open until mid-December. You can either call to shop between the hours of 11 am til 5 pm that weekend or contact Helen on 086 827 0123 for further information. The Christmas Shop will open from Monday, 16th November for business.

Mass Schedule

10am Weekday Mass Intentions:

No Weekday Masses this Week

Weekend Masses

Saturday November 13th Tiernaur at 7pm:

Bridget McLoughlin, Sandhill. Jim and Teresa Cooney, Kilmeena

Sunday November 14th Newport at 10am:

Mass of Remembrance.

Sunday November 14th Mulranny at 11.30am:

The People of the Parish

Saturday November 20th Tiernaur at 7pm:

Mike Moran, Roskeen. Ettie Mc Clintock, Newfield and deceased members of the McClintock family. Jim and Katherine O'Donnell, Rosgalive

Sunday November 21st Newport at 10am:

Peter and Celine Chambers, Kilbride, their daughter Anne Duff and son in law Michael Higgins. Martin Nevin, Mulranny Rd., James Gibbons, Assbridge. Michael O'Reilly, Rosclave. Robert Lally, Belmullet, Sarah Lally Manchester and deceased family members.

Sunday November 21st Mulranny at 11.30am:

Paddy and Mary Callaghan and deceased members of the Cleary and Callaghan families