

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

GREETING

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
The Lord be with you. *And with your spirit.*

PENITENTIAL ACT

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
You bring pardon and peace to the sinner:
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
You bring light to those in darkness:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
May almighty God have mercy on us....
Amen.

(The Gloria is omitted awaiting its Christmas Proclamation.)

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Who lives and reigns.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 11: 1 - 10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.
His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless; his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 71:1-2.7-8.12-13.17

R. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.

- O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. [R]
- In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. [R]
- For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. [R]
- May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. [R]

SECOND READING Romans 15:4-9

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing to your name.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 3: 1 - 12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'. This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

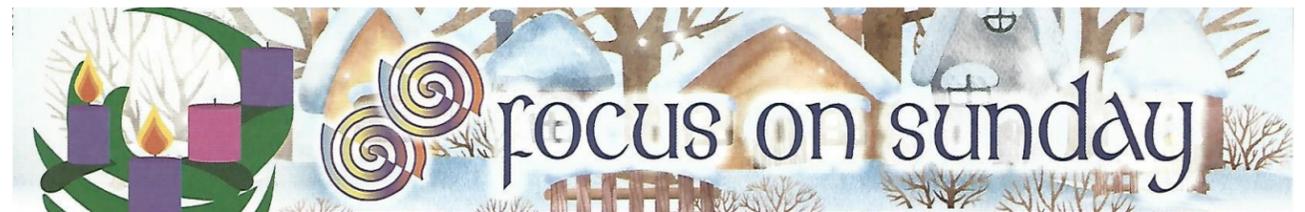
The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines:

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



The message of repentance during this season of Advent is a call to each one of us to look deeply into our lives, to renew and deepen our relationship with God.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters,.....

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings, and, since we have no merits to plead our cause, come, we pray, to our rescue with the protection of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, through our partaking in this mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth and hold firm to the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.
Go in peace. Thanks be to God.



John the Baptist preached repentance. "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is close at hand." (Matt 3 v2). Today, "to repent" generally means "to be sorry for our sins." Most of us can identify with that and examine our lives to see what adjustments (usually minor!) which we need to make. But "to repent" as attributed in the Gospel to John, was far more radical than that. It meant to turn your life completely around, to do a U-turn, to turn away from where you are going and turn back to God.

Today, as we accelerate towards climate catastrophe, John's radical message is more apt than ever, particularly to those of us who live in the economically developed world. Our pursuit of continuous - but ultimately unsustainable - economic growth, as we seek to maintain, or even expand, our comfort zones, through our attachment to ever increasing consumer goods, and our need to obtain the money to pay for them, is destroying God's creation. We are called today to "turn around." to turn away from seeking more and more, to live much simpler lives, and to find our rest, not in or possessions, but in God.

Fr. Peter McVerry SJ

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



John the Baptist came to tell people about Jesus, who was the Face of God's Love. He gathered people around a river and blessed them. We can always pray wherever we are. At Mass we are always reminded of ways God is present for us everyday, everywhere.

Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali. †Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin Other texts: cum permissu. †Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal. © 2010, International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Darton, Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & or Geoffrey Chapman Ltd. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballybogdan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK38 Phone (01 830 6751).

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, BALLYHAUNIS

PARISH NEWSLETTER 4th DECEMBER 2022

Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Farragher, 094-9630006 / 087-9210305

Email: ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com Parish Office: 094-9630006

PARISH WEBSITE: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie>

PARISH RADIO: 105.2FM Newsletter on line: Parish website & www.mcnmedia.tv

Web-cam: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie> or www.mcnmedia.tv

Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) Jacinta Flynn, (contact the parish office)

Emergency numbers:

Knock: 094-9388100

Fr. Feeney, Ballinlough: 094-9640155

Fr. McGuinness, Bekan: 094-9313937

ANNIVERSARY MASSES 5-11TH DECEMBER 2022

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am. Saturday 7.30pm.

Delia & John Culliney, Johnstown & Philadelphia
Denise & Michael Nolan & decd. of the Nolan and Burton families
Mike, Mary & Peter Sloyan & decd. of the Sloyan family, Forthill
Kate Hopkins, Carrick, Ballinlough & formerly Island
Vinnie Healy & decd. of the Healy family, Ballindrehid
Joe & Julia Eagney and decd. of the Eagney family, Curries & Myles Leonard
Johnny & Maureen McGuire, their granddaughter Laura & Mary Perry, Ballindrehid
Luke McGuire & decd. Of the McGuire family, Gurrane
Barry Butler, Doctors' Road
Maisie Sweeney, Drimbane
Paddy & Mary Freeley, Main St. & Abbeyquarter
Geraldine Hunt & Joe Fahey, Lecarrow
Ann McHugh, Devlis
Padraic & Agnes Heaney, Bargarriff & Angela Kilraine
Michael & Mary Plunkett
Peter, Delia & Kay Costello, Corofin
Pat & Teresa Lyons, Skeghard, their son John &
decd. of the Lyons & Waldron families
Joe Glynn & decd. Bushisland
Decd. members of Ballyhaunis St. Vincent de Paul Society

Sunday 11th December - First Anniversary

Tony Mulligan, Hazelhill

5th-11th Dec.	READERS	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST
Monday	Jarlath Fahey	Marion Regan, Joe Byrne
Tuesday	Tommy Caulfield	Helen Freeley, Frances Mulhern
Wednesday	Mary Donnelly	Marie Brennan, Margie Gallagher
Thursday 8th	Paula Donnellan	Margaret Tarpey, Mary Freeley, Irene Healy, Breege Halpin
Friday	Christina Concannon	Willie Broderick, Eileen Jordan
Saturday 7.30pm	Kevin Henry	Anne Carney, Margaret Byrne, Eavan Caulfield, Helene McCafferty
Sunday 10.00am	Orlaith Coffey	Dympna Grealley, Helena Byrne, Deirdre Browne, Gilmar Neves

COLLECTORS FOR DECEMBER

Sat 7.30pm	Ann Curley, Pat Devine, John Jordan, Gideone Alves da Silva
Sun 10am	Martin Finan, Gabriel Smith, Anthony Plunkett, Seamus Coffey

Recently Deceased—

We remember in our prayers
Fintan Lynch, Ennis, Co Clare & formerly Main St.
Martha Culliney (née Forde) late of Lassiney & Knox St.
Austin Whyte, New York & formerly Dunmore—brother of Bridie Lyons, Spaddagh



MASSES:

Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, Friday 10.00am.

Saturday Evening Vigil:
7.30pm

Sunday: 10.00am.

CONFESSIONS:

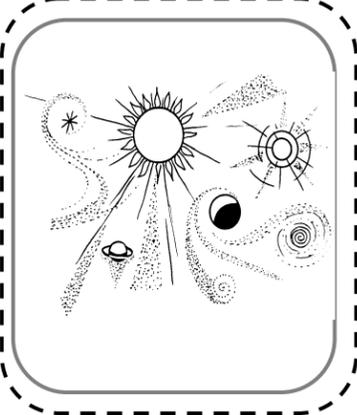
Before Saturday Vigil Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday: 10.30am. - 7.00pm.

BAPTISMS

First Saturday & third Sunday
of the month at 11.00am.
Minimum of four weeks'
notice required. Contact the
parish office, 094-9630006.



All weekday and weekend Masses, and the daily Rosary at 9.00pm continue to be broadcast on parish radio 105.2FM and streamed on the parish webcam: <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-patricks-church-ballyhaunis> or on the website: www.ballyhaunisparish.ie.

Sunday Mass will be broadcast live on Midwest Radio on 4th, 11th & 18th December and on Christmas Day at 10am.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION is next Thursday 8th December. Mass will be celebrated at 10am, with the pupils & staff of Scoil Íosa attending the Mass, and the children's choir will sing.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION ENVELOPES & WEEKLY BOXES FOR 2023 are available in the sacristy this weekend. We would be very grateful if the distributors of envelopes would collect them after Mass.

GROW IN LOVE: First Holy Communion preparation programme continues at 7.30 Mass next Saturday evening 10th December. Our focus this month is on helping the children, who will celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion next year, learn how to prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day. May we all try our best to keep our focus on Jesus as the "reason for the season" this Advent.

Offertory Collection

27th November 2022
€1,605

Recently Baptised

We welcome into the Faith
Community
Ella Sheila Waldron,
Upper Main St.

ADVENT: "Walk With Me" Advent booklets containing daily prayers & reflections are available in the Church porch at a cost of €2. Please place money in candelabra coinbox.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS SERIES: Advent is a time of preparation and waiting for the birth of the Christ child. At Knock Shrine, Advent Reflections will continue during 7.30 pm Mass on Friday 9th & 16th December in the Parish Church. Friday 9th Dec – Trish O'Brien—'Advent, Waiting in Hope' Friday 16th Dec – Fr Vincent Sherlock -'Responding to the Christmas Invitation'. All welcome.

ALL NIGHT VIGIL at Knock Shrine begins with Confessions from 10pm until midnight on Wed. 7th December. The vigil will continue in the Basilica from midnight, with Rosary, Holy Hour, reflections & private prayer, and concluding with Mass at 4am on 8th Dec. All welcome.

FESTIVE FAVOURITES AT THE FRIARY: A Christmas Carol service will take place in the historic Friary on Sunday 18th Dec. at 6.30pm, featuring The Abbey Male Choir, Parish Choir, Scoil Íosa Children's Choir and the Ballyhaunis Folk Group. Donations on the evening to the local St Vincent de Paul.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: A Church gate collection will be taken up at Masses this weekend, while collection envelopes for the local branch of St. Vincent de Paul are available in the Church porch and in local outlets. Donations may also be made on-line to: Account No: 5585 5348 BIC:BOFIE2D IBAN: IE96 BOFI 903728 5585 5348 If you are in need of help from St Vincent de Paul this Christmas, please outline your specific needs in writing and send to Ballyhaunis SVP, The Friary House, Ballyhaunis.

MASS SERVERS FOR DECEMBER: Team A will serve at 7.30pm Mass on Saturday evenings for the month of December (Cathal, Katie & Niamh Conlon, Cara Walsh) with Team B serving at 10am Mass on Sundays (Evan & Olivia Feeney, Tomas Picarra, Darren Nkongho).

BALLYHAUNIS CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL: A full day of events is planned for this Sunday, 4th December, with an arts & crafts street market on Clare St from 11am, while Mayo SPCA will hold their annual craft fair in the Community Hall from 10am to 5pm, with a variety of stalls, tombola and raffles. Tea, cake & refreshments available. A Christmas-themed Food & Wine Exhibition will be held in the Friary Church from 12 noon until 3pm. The switch-on of the Christmas Lights will take place at 5pm in The Square with carol singing and a special guest from the North Pole in attendance. More information can be found on Ballyhaunis Events/Festival Page on Facebook and Instagram. Donations towards the cost of Christmas Lights can be made through the GoFundMe page "Light Ballyhaunis Up for Christmas". The Ballyhaunis Chamber of Commerce wishes to thank the Christmas Committee, sponsors and contributors ahead of what promises to be a very festive day for the town.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO EMIGRANTS: As in previous years, we will shortly be sending Christmas cards to our emigrants overseas. If you have family members abroad who you feel would appreciate a Christmas card from the parish, please email the names & addresses to ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com or hand them into the parish office as soon as possible. Also, please let us know of any change of address for those to whom we sent cards last year.

BALLYHAUNIS GAA: The GAA Club AGM will take place on Saturday next 10th Dec. at 8pm in the Community Hall. All club members are invited to attend, and new members and volunteers are welcome to help with the running of the club and coaching our players. Thanks to all who supported the club in 2022, and we look forward to your continued support next year.

BANK ACCOUNT CHANGES: As Ulster Bank is currently withdrawing from Ireland, the Church & parish bank accounts have been moved to AIB. Anyone making online contributions will need to switch to the new account:

Ballyhaunis Parish Church BIC: AIBKIE 2D

IBAN: IE30 AIBK 9374 4421 3420 08

For those wishing to make a donation to the Priests' Account, the IBAN is IE97 AIBK 9374 4421 3423 54. Your ongoing support is much appreciated.

BALLYHAUNIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL monthly meeting takes place on Wed. 7th Dec. at 8pm in the Community Hall. All welcome.

ANNAGH MAGAZINE 2022 is now on sale in the usual outlets. This is the 45th annual issue, and is one of the biggest in recent years, with a mix of articles, reports and photos. The Annagh Magazine Society thanks all contributors, patrons and supporters.

CHRISTMAS MARKETS @THE PLAZA IN KNOCK: A two day Christmas Market will take place on Sat. 10th & Sunday 11th December from 10am to 4pm. Kick off your Christmas shopping with a wide range of handmade gifts from local crafters, and Santa Claus will make a special visit at 2pm on Sunday 11th.