

Burrishoole Parish
28th / 29nd November 2020
Fr Tod Nolan P.P. 098 42665
Parish Office 098 41123

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

Christmas Family Mass

It must have been a cause of grave concern for Mary and Joseph knowing that there was a good possibility that they would have their baby away from the support of family and friends. As they prepared for the birth of their child they were also preparing to make the 300km round trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem. We can only imagine the anxiety they must have felt. The journey to Bethlehem would take them over a week travelling by donkey. They would have to travel light and yet they couldn't be sure of food or lodging along the way. Should they bring 'baby things' just in case. What kind of a place was Bethlehem? What if there was a problem with the birth, or the donkey fell lame, or they got lost or... The only thing that they could be sure of was that when the baby was ready it would be born.

If the first 'Advent' was clouded in uncertainty the same can certainly be said about Advent 2020. As we prepare for Christmas it's still very unclear how we will be able to celebrate as a parish community. At best, numbers allowed to be physically present to participate at Mass will be severely limited. Although please God, Masses will be celebrated in each of our Churches it will not be possible for everyone to attend.

As Parish we will designate 7pm Mass on Christmas Eve as our Parish Family Mass. Families and households of the parish are invited to gather in their homes around their kitchen table and to participate in Mass through radio or Facebook. As a sign of solidarity and a symbol of our unity we invite every family to light a candle and place it in the porch or on a windowsill of their home for the duration of the Mass. The Parish will prepare a pack for each household which will include among other things a candle, some straw from the crib, a prayer card, something for the children and a little Christmas memento. Packs will be distributed through the schools and made available in the Churches. At the end of Mass each family will be invited to say a family prayer together uniting the whole parish in one voice. Mass will finish with the

ringing of the church bells and households are encouraged to go to their door to ring a bell, announcing to each other and to the world the birth of Jesus.

Christmas Mass is a very much part of our Christmas tradition. But for the safety of each other and as a sign of our unity as a community, parishioners are encouraged to gather at home this year for Mass. Our home was our first church, it is where we first experienced God's love for us, it's where we came to know God and where God came to know us, our home is where the seeds of our faith were first planted.

As Mary and Joseph were preparing to make that journey to Bethlehem there was only one thing for certain – the baby would be born. That is still true for us.

When Jesus was born in the stable over 2000 years ago it wasn't I'm sure as Joseph and Mary might have dreamed it to be. It was far from perfect but rather than lament what they hadn't they celebrated what they had – the birth of the Christ child. Yes we would like Christmas to be as it always was but for many reasons that will not be the case. Rather than lament what might have been let us celebrate what is – Jesus is born among us

God Bless, Fr Tod

Pastoral Letter

Archbishop Neary has published a Pastoral Letter entitled: *Covid-19 Challenge to Faith and Opportunity to Faith*. Copies of the Pastoral Letter are available in each of the parish churches.

Re-emerging from Level 5

It seems that by Friday evening an announcement will be made that we are leaving Level 5. In the event that Masses with a congregation are permitted from Wednesday Dec 2nd, we as a parish will return to our weekly schedule of public Masses from Thursday 3rd onwards. Mass will also continue to be broadcast on Parish Radio and via Facebook Please note that it is expected that numbers will again be severely restricted.

Weekday Masses at 10am each day: Mon – Tiernaur, Tues and Thurs – Newport, Friday - Mulranny

Weekend Masses: 7pm Sat – Tiernaur, 10am Sun – Newport, 11.30am Sunday - Mulranny

New Reader/Eucharistic Minister Rotas

Thank you to all who resubmitted their names. In anticipation of churches reopening for Masses new Rotas are available for Tiernaur and Newport and can be picked up in the churches from this weekend

Bealach Nua

Are a recovery oriented family peer support service which offers families/friends of people with mental health challenges an opportunity to engage with family peer supporters through individual, group work, wellness days and info evenings. For further information or to access the service please call 094 9049392 or Fran 086 0450835 / Noel 087 9749288

St Vincent de Paul

Covid 19 has had a huge effect on our community. It has infiltrated every aspect of our lives; physical, emotional and economic. Many families are finding it difficult to make ends meet. The local society of St Vincent de Paul, St Bridgets are in a position to help. If you need help please feel free to contact our local society on 086 4181000.

Our local society always welcomes donations both big and small. This year they were unable to have a church gate collection. Should you be in a position to give please do so by contacting 0818 176 176 or at www.svp.ie/stbridgetsnewportappeal

First Communion/Confirmation

Covid 19 has made it difficult if not impossible to make definitive plans for the future. It is very hard to say what restrictions might be in place next week never mind next Spring. It is important however to set targets and to have something to look forward to.

First Communion will take place in Mulranny on the weekend of April 17th/18th and in Newport on the weekend of May 15th/16th.

Confirmation will take place on Saturday May 22nd in Newport Church.

We keep all our children who are preparing for the Sacraments in our prayers.

Envelope Collection

Thank you for your ongoing support of your parish. These are challenging times for many people. With Masses currently suspended envelopes can be dropped in the letterbox of the Parish house in Newport or in the box at the rear of the church in Mulranny. Your generosity is deeply appreciated. If it is more convenient to hold on to the envelopes for a number of weeks, please do so. Thank you

Burrishoole Graveyard Collection

A GoFundMe site has been set up to help raise badly needed funds toward the costs of maintaining the graveyard. To make a donation search; [gofundme - Burrishoole Graveyard](https://www.gofundme.com/Burrishoole-Graveyard). All support much appreciated.

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration is currently suspended. Our churches remain open and you are invited to drop in at any time.

Death Notice

We pray for the souls of Nancy Mulhern, Newport, Gabriel Derrig, Tourmakeady, sister of Tony Gibbons Newport and Tony McClintock, England brother of Frank McClintock, Newfield.

We extend sympathy to the family and friends of the deceased. May their souls rest in peace.

Mass Schedule

All Masses available on Facebook and on Parish Radio

Weekday 10am Mass Intentions:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 10am:
Sean Mulchrone, Mulranny Road, Newport;
Deceased members of the Bryce Chambers families Furnace. Myles Higginbotham, Galway and Newport (1st Ann)

Weekend Mass Intentions

Saturday November 28th at 7pm:

Mary Hanley, Knockbreaga; Johnny & Mary Bridget McNulty, Carheenbrack & all deceased family members.

Sunday November 29th at 10am:

Michael & Mary Keane & deceased members of the Philbin & Keane families, Derrykill; Kate & John Murray, Skirdagh & all deceased members of the Murray family; Sean Meenahan & deceased members of the Meenahan & Moran families; Michael O'Reilly, Rossclave; Harry & Teresa Jordan, Acres.

Saturday December 5th (Tiernaur) at 7pm:

Hughie Cannon, Roskeen.

Sunday December 6th (Newport) at 10am:

Tommie Kilcoyne, Rosturk (1st Anv); Myles Higginbotham, Galway & Newport (1st Anv); Frank Chambers, The Chalets, Newport; Martin Sweeney, Harrow, England; Katie & Peter Mulchrone, Buckagh; Ann & Pat O'Donnell, Derryhillagh, their daughter Maureen & her husband Mickey Kilroy, Furnace; Martin & Annie Walsh, Derryloughan; Noreen & Willie Moran, Derradda.