

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 Baruch 5:1-9

A reading from the prophet Baruch.
Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.
Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.
Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory.

For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God;

for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 125

R. What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **[R]**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. **[R]**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. **[R]**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. **[R]**

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-6.8-11

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

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

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 Luke 3:1-6

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee,

his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:
A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

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.

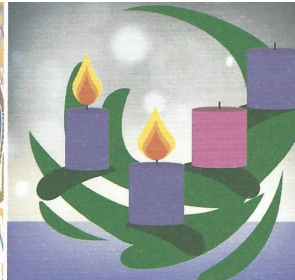
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

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.



focus on sunday



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 and our fellow sisters and brothers.

Lene Nanthabwe's community in Machinga, Malawi have been provided with ten treadle pumps which are irrigating five hectares of land for forty four households. Photo: Alan Whelan/Trocaire.



Trocaire

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.
When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, 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.
May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**
Go in peace. **Thanks be to God.**



We continue our Advent preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Today's gospel tells us of John the Baptist preparing for the coming of Christ as he is beginning his public life of preaching and teaching. It describes John as a voice crying in the wilderness asking his listeners to prepare the way for the Lord.

Are there any voices today asking you and I to listen and prepare the way for the Lord? I suggest that there are millions of such voices crying in the wilderness of poverty asking us to listen to their voices.

Trocaire was set up in the early 1970's by the Irish Church to listen to those voices crying in the wilderness of poverty. It continues to respond to those voices by offering immediate relief, by education and human development. What better way could we prepare for this Christmas than to listen to those voices crying in the wilderness of poverty than to gift to Trocaire or other such charities.

John the Baptist was a voice crying in the wilderness preparing for the coming of Christ.

The same Christ is present today in and through those voices crying in the wilderness of poverty. As Christians we are challenged to listen to their cries.

Willie Walsh
Bishop Emeritus Killaloe

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



Today we light two of the four candles on the Advent wreath as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. In our first reading Baruch, the prophet, tells us to be joyful, 'put on the beauty of the glory of God'. We do this by being a good friend at school, washing the dishes after dinner and by remembering to say a prayer of thanks to Jesus as we go to bed.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, BALLYHAUNIS

PARISH NEWSLETTER 5th DECEMBER 2021

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 6th - 12th DECEMBER 2021

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

Maisie Sweeney, Drimbane

Michael & Mary Sloyan & decd. Forthill

Barry Butler, Doctor's Road

Delia & John Culliney, Johnstown & Philadelphia, USA

Michael & Kathleen McNamara, Upper Main St. & Tullaghaune

Patrick & Mary Buckley, Mill St., Co. Cork

Mary Fahey, Lecarrow, & decd. of the Armstrong & Fahey families

Delia & James Freeley & decd. Gurteen

Anne McHugh, Devlis

Mary Moran & decd. Clagnagh

Jim & Delia Cruise, Johnstown, & decd. of the Cruise, Murray & O'Malley families

Joe Glynn & decd. Bushisland

Mona Molloy, Gurrane

Peter & Imelda Murphy (née Sloyan), Brackloon & Cork

Decd. members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society

Decd. of the Dooley family, Arigna, Co. Roscommon

Sunday 10.00 Month's Mind: Mary Reynolds, Clare Court

6th - 12th Dec.	READERS	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST
Monday	Martin Fitzmaurice	Daniela Balbino Romao, Anne Carney
Tuesday	Tommy Caulfield	Margaret Tarpey, Helen Freeley
Wednesday 10.00	Mary Donnelly	Margie Gallagher, Margaret Byrne
Wednesday 7.30	Stella O'Neill	Willie Broderick, Eileen Lynch
Friday	Christina Concannon	Mary Freeley, Kay Curley
Saturday 7.30pm.	Norrie Dillon	Paul Sykes, Joe Byrne, Fionnuala Nolan
Sunday 10.00am.	Anne Durkan	Marie Brennan, Miriam Judge, Breege Halpin
Sunday 12.00	Jarlath Fahey	Patricia Plunkett, Mary T. Griffin, Eileen Jordan

Recently Deceased

We remember in our prayers

Anne Lynch, Holywell

Katie Webb, Brickens & Tooraree

Tommy Forde, Galway & formerly Knox St.

Austin Waldron, Manchester & formerly

Derrymore

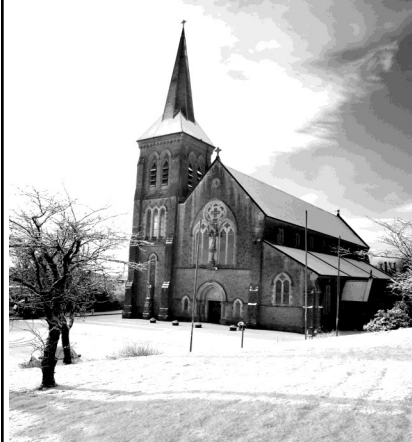
Offertory Collection

28th November 2021

€1,790

WEEKLY ENVELOPES: Sincere thanks to all who are returning their weekly contributions either by envelope or by direct debit. Envelopes can be returned at any of the daily Masses or otherwise can be dropped in the letter box of the Parochial House. If you wish

to set up a direct debit, the account details are as follows: Ballyhaunis Parish Church. BIC: ULSB IE 2D IBAN: IE69 ULSB 9852 7005 5200 31



MASSES:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am.

Saturday Evening Vigil: 7.30pm

Sunday: 10.00am. 12.00 noon

CONFESSIONS:

Before Saturday Vigil Mass

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday: 10.30am. - 1.00pm.

BAPTISMS

Saturdays & Sundays 11.00am.

Minimum of two weeks' notice required. Contact the parish office, 094-9630006, for updates due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions.



PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDELINES FOR ATTENDING MASS:

With the easing of restrictions we are continuing with the present arrangements where every second pew can be occupied. However, we are still obliged to wear some form of face covering while in church and sanitise our hands- even if we have received the vaccine.

Please use the lighters for lighting candles as the hand sanitiser is highly flammable.

While the church building and ancillary buildings (toilets and sacristy) are sanitised before and after each Mass or ceremony, we want to stress that if you manifest any of the symptoms of Covid-19, if you have any underlying health issues, or feel that you might be endangering your health by entering a church building, then we encourage you to continue to join us on parish radio 105.2FM or on the parish webcam: www.ballyhaunisparish.ie/webcam

Our Gospel tells us that John the Baptist heard God's call – "The word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness." Do you think God might be inviting you to hear and share his word, perhaps as a priest, a deacon or in consecrated life? Contact your Diocesan Vocations Director, or contact the National Vocations Office – email: info@vocations.ie

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION ENVELOPES & WEEKLY BOXES FOR 2022

are available in the sacristy this weekend. We would be very grateful if the distributors of envelopes would collect them after any of the Masses.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - Wednesday next, 8th December. Masses will be celebrated at 10.00am. & 7.30pm.

CHRISTMAS 2021 AT BALLYHAUNIS ST. VINCENT DE-PAUL:

Our usual methods of fundraising are not available to us due to Covid-19 restrictions, while needs are in fact greater than ever, so donations will be very welcome.

If you are in a position to donate, please find donation envelopes at the porch of the Parish Church and in various shops in town during the coming week.

Donation envelopes may be placed in the church collection box at Masses during the coming weeks or dropped in at the Parish Office / Parish House. SVP Volunteers will also gratefully accept donations or you may donate on-line to:

Account No: 55 855348 BIC: BOFIE2D

IBAN: IE96 BOFI 9037 2855 8553 48

If you are in need of our help please write to us outlining your specific needs at this time. While funds are limited we do have a plentiful supply of food, which can be collected by appointment. Your correspondence should be addressed to **Ballyhaunis SVP, The Friary House, Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo F35 PF66**

Copies of the Irish Catholic newspaper are available at the back of the church. Cost €2.50, please place the money in the coinbox of the nearby candelabra.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS are available in the sacristy this weekend, €6 for a pack of 10.

'WALK WITH ME' Advent booklets containing daily prayers and reflections for Advent are available in the church porch. Cost €2 - can be placed in the coinbox of the candelabra.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets every Wednesday at 11.00am. at the Family Centre, Knock. All are welcome. Further information from Monica Morley on 094-9375320.

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

ALL-NIGHT VIGIL AT KNOCK SHRINE Tuesday 7th December: To celebrate and honour the feast of the Immaculate conception, the traditional All-Night Vigil will take place at Knock Basilica, beginning at midnight on Tuesday 7th and concluding with Mass at 4.00am. on Wednesday 8th December, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The theme for this year's Vigil is 'Into the Light'. Confessions will be available from 10.00pm. in the Chapel of Reconciliation.

Those who are unable to be present in person are invited to join online on www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live or on the Facebook page. See the programme in full on the Knock Shrine website: www.knockshrine.ie

BALLYHAUNIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL: The monthly meeting of Ballyhaunis Community Council will be held on Wednesday 8th December at 8.00pm. in the Friary House. A submission to Connecting Ireland Rural Travel Plan will be discussed as well as updates on the Community Hall Renovation Project and LEADER funding applications. New members welcome. Contact 087-9777899 or email: ballyhauniscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

BALLYHAUNIS GAA CLUB: Club members will be available outside Super Valu on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th December for anyone wishing to subscribe to the club draw for a Seat Tarraco SUV or €50,000 cash for just €25 per ticket. Log onto www.winansuv.ie for full details of our grounds development fundraiser. Tickets are also available from club members. Ballyhaunis GAA Club thanks you for your continued support.

KNOCK MARKET @ THE PLAZA takes place on Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th December, 11.00am to 4.00pm. Contact Leonie at email: leoniekilroy@gmail.com or 086-8486924.

CASTLEBAR ROTARY CLUB Christmas Tree of Remembrance will run online again this year throughout the month of December in partnership with Western Care Association. You can access the Tree of Remembrance at <https://visufund.com/2021-mayo-tree-of-remembrance>

CONNECTING IRELAND - enhanced rural travel plan: You are invited to have your say on the development of Ireland's rural mobility plan and the enhancement of public transport. The plan includes a proposal to extend to an hourly basis a bus service connecting Ballyhaunis to Galway and Sligo. Further information on Connecting Ireland can be accessed via <https://www.nationaltransport.ie/connecting-ireland/> Submissions are invited by **Friday, December 10th 2021.**

Submissions options are as follows:-

By completing the survey on the above website

By email to: connectingireland@nationaltransport.ie

By post to: Connecting Ireland, P.O. Box 436, City North Business Park, Tuam Road, Co Galway. Dedicated phone no. 0818 300121.

MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE PILGRIMAGES: April to October 2022 - 7 Nights Apartment B&B and return airport transfer from Dubrovnik or Split from €315 per person sharing. Contact 01 4434 510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com for details.