

SACRED HEART CHURCH ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER

13th DECEMBER 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Kevin Fallon P.P.	66 26298
Fr. Joe Fitzgerald C.C.	087 2903310
Fr. Douglas Zaggi	66 26189
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Website: www.sacredheartroscommon.com

Church Radio: = 105.9 fm

Facebook Page : <https://www.facebook.com/roscommonandkilteevanparish/>

Webcam: churchtv.ie/roscommon

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2020

In an effort to give as much an opportunity as possible for parishioners to attend Mass at Christmas, as well as trying to adhere to Government Covid protocols, the Parish Pastoral Council have decided the following:

The Christmas Mass schedule will be as follows:

Christmas Eve: 4.00pm, 6.30pm, 9.00pm & 11.30pm

Christmas Day: 8.00am, 10.00am & 12.30pm

Admission to Christmas Masses will be by ticket only.

Booking for tickets can be done from Monday 14th December to Friday 18th December from 6.00pm to 8.00pm by phoning **083 1100717**.

***Ticket booking will not be possible outside of these times.**

Thank you for your support and cooperation as we prepare to celebrate the Lord's birth in our parish this Christmas.

Mass Intentions for the coming week:

MONDAY	11 am	Gary & Bride Lindwurm (47th Wedding Anniversary) Mammy & Daddy (Deceased)
TUESDAY	8 am	P. J. Flynn
	11 am	Maurice & Annie Naughton
WEDNESDAY	8 am	Patrick Gillooly
	11 am	Special Intention
THURSDAY	8 am	Christy & Philomena Tully
	11 am	Padre Pio Mass for Peace
FRIDAY	11 am	Deceased of the Stoker & Kilmartin families Pat Raftery
SATURDAY	11 am	Doreen Conlon
	7 pm	Eithne Doran (1st Anniversary)
SUNDAY	9 am 11:30 am	Morning Mass Morning Mass

Christmas Communion Calls

Calls to the sick and housebound will take place as follows:

Fr. Douglas' area (formerly Fr. Pravin's) - Friday 18th December

Fr. Kevin's area - Monday 21st December

Fr. Joe's area - Friday 18th December



AREA DISTRIBUTORS: *Please Note - Christmas Envelopes are available for collection in the Sacristy before and after all Masses this week-end. They will also be available in the Parish Office during the week. If possible please ensure they are collected by Monday 21st December at the latest. Many thanks once again for all your help during the year.*

“ REJOICE ALWAYS, PRAY WITHOUT CEASING, AND BE ALWAYS THANKFUL”

St. Paul in the second reading gives three standing orders: “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and be always thankful.” This is what we may call the “principles of inner life”. Indeed it was R.H Benson who once wrote: “There two kinds of happiness for mortal men, there is that which is carnal and imperfect, and hangs on circumstances, and the health of the body and suchlike things; and there is that which is spiritually perfect, which hangs on nothing else than doing the will of God Almighty.” St. Paul’s standing orders are in line with the spiritually perfect happiness as expressed by Benson. Paul was aware that life is full of vicissitudes; we may be surrounded by friends or by foes, we may see our choices and decisions falling into place so easily, or find our inclinations frustrated at every stage, and to be victorious one needs to be equipped with these principles of inner life. He epitomizes this; once free and now in prison and yet demands that the Thessalonians should rejoice always, pray without ceasing and be thankful always. This may seem not practicable all the time but looking at Paul’s own life you will agree with me that it is indeed attainable. For the Christian message is not an austere message but a cheerful, joyous and charming one. It is true that it is not easy to rejoice always but “a spirit-prompted attitude of rejoicing unlocks the whole of a believer’s nature, it influences his outward conduct and stimulates his affections and desires”. St. Paul’s second exhortation “Pray without ceasing” gives us the key to rejoicing at all times regardless of the situation. Here, Paul does not mean we simply have to be on our knees all the time, but prayer can be the atmosphere which you exist. You can bring the lord to bear on every aspect of your life which is an expression of your total dependence on God. Sadly, we are too busy to pray, hence very little power in us and too much worry. The words of Rick Warren resonate: “The more you pray the less you’ll panic. The more you worship, the less you worry. You will feel more patient and less pressured.” Prayer therefore, does not fit us for the greater work but it is indeed the greater work(Oswald Chambers). Paul in his third exhortation says “always be thankful”. Regardless of how our situations are we still can find reasons to be grateful. We can be thankful for all things work for the good of those who love him Romans 8:28. We may not thank God for the illness we are beset with, but we can be thankful for the doctors and nurses, for the availability of medicines and for state of the act machines for diagnoses. We may not be thankful for covid-19 but we can be thankful now for the vaccine. We may not be thankful that we do not have a house of my own but we will be thankful that we are not on the streets either. There is more to be thankful of than complain. Again I say, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing and always be thankful.”

FR. DOUGLAS JOHN ZAGGI

Weekend Masses for the 19th / 20th December arranged for parishioners on a station area basis are as follows:

- 7 pm Castle Street, Castle Park, Celtic Ave & Cherry Drive.
9 am Church Street, Cloonbrackna Ave & court, Convent Court & Convent Road.
11.30 am Crubhill, Galway Road & Glenview

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

We are trying at present to facilitate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for parishioners. Due to Covid restrictions it will be done by appointment only.

If you want to book a slot, please phone the Parish office on 090 6626298.

N.B. In the interests of privacy for penitents, it is only necessary to give a phone no when making a booking.

ALTAR SOCIETY: Group ii is scheduled for the coming week.



The Altar Society would welcome any donations/poinsettia to beautify the altar and surrounds for Christmas. Thanks in advance.

ADVENT WREATH: The Advent Wreath Is made from evergreen leaves that are woven around a circle of wire. A purple ribbon is then wound around the leaves. Three purple candles and one pink candle are placed on the Wreath. The circle of evergreen leaves represents God who is without beginning or end. The purple candles stand for penance and sorrow for sin. The pink candle stands for the joy of living in God's way of love. Today is the 3rd Sunday of Advent



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

St Vincent de Paul Roscommon Town Conference very much regret that due to Covid restrictions it will not be possible to provide food hampers/toys this Christmas. As we will not be having our usual means of raising funds we would appreciate any financial assistance that you can give to us at the address below - thank you. Any families that are having financial difficulties due to job loss or any other reason please contact us in strict confidence and we will do our best to help as much as possible.

Address: 15 Castle View, Castle Street, Roscommon, F42 K446. **Tel:** 0860741352

MASS BOOKINGS:

We are currently taking 11 am Mass bookings for 2021. Bookings can only be made by phone 090 6626298 or email: roscommonparish3@gmail.com . Please note all 11 am Masses next year will be shared intention Masses if the need is required. Funeral Masses will also still be celebrated at the 11 am Masses should they occur with any booked intentions prayed for at that Mass. A private Mass will then be celebrated for the given intention at a later time.

Sunday's Offertory Collection: €2,390.00

Thank You