

# Parish Newsletter

Third Sunday of Advent

13th December 2015

Luke 3:10-18

No 1525



## ***Is there anything I can do?***

You hear it from well-mannered guests, "Is there anything I can do?" It is the polite question to ask the hostess. She gets up to make the final preparations for the meal, leaves the living room. You say, "Is there anything I can do?" Usually the answer is, "No. Just sit there, be comfortable, everything is taken care of."

That question is asked more rarely after the meal. It's 11pm, people still sitting there in the living room, talking. It is not often then that a guest will ask, "Is there anything I can do?" More often they will say, "Well, I guess it is time to go home now." If anyone were to ask me as a host, at that hour, "Is there anything I can do?" I would say, "Yes. You can do the dishes. Then put the light out when you leave."

Is there anything I can do?... Today's gospel paints a wonderful picture of social life in the first century in Palestine. There were the poor, and there were the rich. The rich, in order to get ready for the Messiah, were to have compassion for the poor, to feed them and to clothe them. The powerful were to stop using their power for personal gain. A common practice among tax collectors, since their fee was taken right off the top of the taxes they collected, was to tax as high as they could and as often as they could, in order to get more money. And soldiers, carrying arms, all they had to do was walk into your house, and there was the implied threat if you did not do what they said.

Sound familiar? Lack of compassion for the poor. Misuse of power for personal gain. "Is there anything we can do to prepare for the Messiah?" "Yes. You can stop doing those things."

We live in an age in which just about everything is permissible, everything is tolerated, all in the name of freedom. Oh don't worry about it, it's all right... Anyway, it doesn't matter because that is the way it is going to be... We live in a modern Ireland.... Freedom of speech and freedom of most behaviours are accepted. But because everything is tolerated doesn't mean that everything is of equal value or right. So what is needed in an age in which everything is permitted is discernment.

John the Baptist challenged those around him to think, to reflect, to make choices and change their ways... Advent challenges us to do the same. Is there anything you can do?

## ***Farewell to Fr Kevin***

During the 6.30pm Mass in Sallins, last Saturday evening, Fr Kevin (Walsh) informed parishioners, gathered, of his decision to take time out of active ministry in the priesthood. Kevin will now return to the family farm where he will work alongside his brother. In the two years that Kevin ministered among us he made a significant contribution, in particular to the life of Sallins Parish.

Kevin expressed his thanks to the parishioners of all three parishes; for their kindness, support and encouragement. He also asked those gathered to remember him in their prayers.

Kevin will be long remembered for the re-ordering of Sallins Church, a project when completed was met with universal approval. Also the wonderful connection he made with so many young people through the John Paul 11 Award.

Kevin, as parishioners and colleagues we pray that God will guide and bless you in the weeks and months ahead. Take care of yourself and thank you!

## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

**PRIEST ON DUTY: 085 708 8407**

**PARISH WEBSITE:** [www.naasparish.ie](http://www.naasparish.ie)

**NAAS AND SALLINS PARISH OFFICE** Tel 879730 Fax 894287

**Opening Hours:** Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm

**Naas eMail** [naasparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:naasparishoffice@gmail.com)

**Sallins eMail** [sallinsparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sallinsparishoffice@gmail.com)

**SACRISTY OUR LADY AND ST DAVID:** Tel 856925

**BALLYCANE OFFICE AND SACRISTY :** Tel 895629

**Opening Hours:** Monday to Friday 10am to 1pm

### PARISH TEAM

**FR. JOHN BRICKLEY** Parochial House 897703

**FR. LIAM MORGAN** Curates House 949576

**FR. JOE O'NEILL** Sundays well 898866

**FR. KEVIN WALSH** Sallins 879730

**DN. FERGAL O'NEILL** Parish Deacon 086 3816133

**MS. MAIREAD D'ARCY** Pastoral Assistant 897134

### SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

**Naas:** Andrew Fagan and Geraldine Faherty

**Two Mile House:** Anita Comer Julian **Sallins:** Ann Moran.  
They can be contacted through the Parish Office, Sallins Road, Naas. Phone 045 879730

### FEAST AND MEMORIAL DAYS FOR THE COMING WEEK:

Monday 14th: St John of the Cross,

Friday 18th: St Flannan, bishop

**THOSE WHO DIE IN GRACE GO BUT TO GOD  
AND GOD IS VERY NEAR"**

### Naas:

Mary Cash, Tipper Road

### Sallins:

Shane McCormack, Sallins Bridge

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**

### RECENT BAPTISMS

#### Naas:

Neil Barry Paul Thomason, Meadow Court

Suzy Kate Maher, Zetland, NSW

Ciaran Lucas Brady, Sallins

Annalishia Marie Long O'Leary, Crookstown

For those requesting the Sacrament of Baptism two weeks notice is required. For further details of Baptisms in Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House Parish website at [www.naasparish.ie/sacraments/baptism](http://www.naasparish.ie/sacraments/baptism)



## MASS TIMES

### CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. DAVID , SALLINS ROAD

**WEEKDAYS:** Mon-Fri 7.30am and 10am , Sat 10am

**SUNDAYS:** Sat Vigil 6pm Sun 9am, 11am and 6pm

### CHURCH OF THE IRISH MARTYRS, BALLYCANE

**WEEKDAYS:** Mon, Wed and Fri 7.30pm

**SUNDAYS:** Sat Vigil 7.30pm Sun 10.30am, 12noon

### CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND THE GUARDIAN ANGELS, SALLINS

**WEEKDAYS:** Tues and Fri 10am

**SUNDAYS:** Sat Vigil 6.30pm Sun 10am and 12noon

### CHURCH OF ST. PETER, TWO MILE HOUSE

**WEEKDAYS:** Friday 7pm

**SUNDAYS:** 11am

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

### CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. DAVID , SALLINS ROAD

Every First Friday before and after the 10am Mass

Every Saturday after the 10am Mass

## NAAS PARISH NEWS

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT** - *'The Catholic Parish of Naas, in Communion with Christ and with one another and guided by the teaching of the Second Vatican Council, endeavours to welcome, serve and nourish the whole community.'*

**Advent Preparation for Christmas**, reflecting on the Advent Sunday readings, continues on Tuesday coming 15th December in the Parish Meeting Rooms, Sallins Road, (behind Veritas shop) after 10am Mass. All are most welcome.

**Naas Parish Development Envelope Boxes** for coming year are now available for collection from the Church Porches. Your support for this collection is and as always very much appreciated. It would greatly facilitate accurate record-keeping for tax relief purposes if you could please write your name and address on the first few envelopes you return.  
**Thank You, Naas Parish Pastoral Council**

**St Joseph's Young Priest Society** next meeting takes place tomorrow, Monday 14th December at 8pm in the Parish Centre at the Church of the Irish Martyrs, Ballycane. Adoration from 8pm-9.30pm.

**St Pio Prayer Group** next meeting on Wednesday coming, 16th December at 7.10pm at the Church of the Irish Martyrs, Ballycane.. All most welcome.

**Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards:** The Parish Office will be open from 10am to 4pm on Saturday coming, 19th December to facilitate for Mass Cards, only.

**Christmas Flowers/Plants for Christmas:** We would be most grateful for the donations of flowers (Red) and Poinsettias for the decoration of Our Lady and St David's Church for Christmas. They can be left at the Sanctuary area of the Church up to and including Monday 21st December.

### **SALLINS NOTICE**

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on** Tuesday coming 15th December from 10.30am —11am.

**Sallins Church Choir** will sing Christmas Carols before Masses next weekend, 19th/20th December in support of Focus Ireland supporting the homeless.

### **TWO MILE HOUSE**

**St Peter's Church Two Mile House 225th Anniversary Book** will be launched today, Sunday 13th December after the 11am Mass. Copies will be on sale at €10 each in the school where tea and biscuits will be served by members of the I.C.A.

**Church 'Clean Up'** for Christmas will take place on Saturday 19th December at 10am.

**Any Young Person interested in becoming Readers at Mass?** Please leave your name/contact details in the Sacristy...training will be given, if required.

### **GENERAL NOTICE**

**The St Vincent de Paul Society's Annual Collection takes place at all Masses this weekend, 12th/13th December in all our churches. Donations can also be sent to St Vincent de Paul, P.O. Box1, Naas. All donations will be greatly appreciated.**

**A sincere Thank You for your continued support.**

#### **Parish Finances:**

Sallins: Baskets: € 701      Envelopes    € 300  
Naas: Offertory: €3,374    Development €3,563  
Two Mile House:    € 782

#### **Sports Lottery Results**

Naas: 3/12 (10-21-26-27) No winner, Jackpot €5,350  
Sallins: 7/12 (8-18-29) No winner, Jackpot €2,200  
Splotto: 7/12 (2-5-10-26) No winner Jackpot €3,000

**What an Ideal Christmas Gift:**  
**Tickets for the Christmas Concert with Celine Byrne and Guests on Saturday coming, 19th December at 8pm.**



Limited Tickets available from Parish Office Sallins Road, phone 879730 and Ballycane Office, phone 895629, Veritas and Barker & Jones. Fantastic seasonal music, songs and entertainment. Proceeds to Naas Parish Church Restoration Fund. (Also supporting Naas Care of the Aged).

### **Naas Parish Lotto Draw**

Naas Parish Lotto is celebrating its 3rd Birthday and on Wednesday coming 16<sup>th</sup> December, when the Jackpot will be €2,000, we are giving out loads of extra cash prizes, vouchers and surprises.

**Numbers Drawn on 9th December were 3-5-7-11**

The last two years have been a great success in raising over €230,000, due mainly to the unselfish and trojan work carried out by our Ticket Sellers and also the generosity of those who have supported us during the last two years. The funds raised have had an important and significant impact on our Parish finances and we look forward to your continued and invaluable support in 2016.

If you could possibly sell a few tickets to your family, neighbours or in your work place, we would love to hear from you. Tickets cost €2 each. You can also join by completing a Standing Order Form for €8 per month, or pay a Yearly Subscription of €90.

If you would like to join the Parish Lotto Draw or renew your Annual Subscription please contact the Parish Office, Sallins Road (045 879730) or Church of the Irish Martyrs Ballycane (045 895629). Further information can also be obtained from the Draw Secretary at 086 1635994. If you're not in you can't win!!!

**Trocaire Christmas Gifts** are now on sale at Veritas Shop. Help make a life-changing difference to families in some of our poorest countries.

**Goal Mile** from 11am to 12noon on Christmas Morning at Naas G.A.A., Sallins Road. Bring families, friends and others to run, walk, crawl the mile. Sponsor Cards available, if required. Phone 086 8448530 or 087 6305515 or see Goal website.

**Naas St Vincent de Paul helpline 045 897306.**

**Sallins St Vincent de Paul helpline 085 7052294.**

## Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House Christmas 2015

### Penance Service

**Naas/Sallins/Two Mile House:**

**Irish Martyrs, Ballycane 8pm: Monday 21st December**

### Confessions .....Christmas Eve

**Naas: Our Lady and St David's Church: 10.30am—1pm.**

### Masses Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

**Our Lady and St David's Church:**

Christmas Eve	5pm	7pm	9pm	12 Midnight
Christmas Day	8am	9.30am	11am	12.30pm

**Irish Martyrs Church:**

Christmas Eve	4pm	6pm	8pm
Christmas Day	10.30am	12 noon	

**Our Lady and Guardian Angels Church, Sallins:**

Christmas Eve	5pm	6.30pm	9pm
Christmas Day	10am	12 noon	

**St Peter's Church, Two Mile House:**

Christmas Eve	9pm
Christmas Day	11am

### Weekday Masses:

**From Monday 28th December to Saturday 2nd January (inclusive):**

10am Mass only in Our Lady and St David's Church.

No other weekday Masses in Ballycane or Sallins.

***(Normal Mass schedule resumes on Monday 4th January)***

**Parish Website: [www.naasparish.ie](http://www.naasparish.ie)**

**Christmas with Friends 2015** Would you like a Christmas with difference? We are delighted to announce that once again we will host our annual Adult Christmas Day dinner on December 25th in the FAS Youth Training and Development Centre Newbridge. To book a place or to arrange transport or if you can assist on the day with transport or cleaning up please phone Anne @ 086 8042724, Damian @ 087 2450881 or Willie @ 087 6929212. **This is a free event, kindly supported by the Lions Club.**

**Youth 2000 invites all Young Adults** between ages of 16-35 to a weekend retreat taking place at Newbridge College, from 18th-20<sup>th</sup> December.....

**What to expect?** Good fun, excellent speakers, inspiring talks and workshops, prayer, fantastic live music, group activities, Youth Masses, Adoration, a Healing Service, games, lots of time to chill out and meet new people. Parental consent is essential for all those under 18. All meals are provided for and accommodation is on site! **Don't let money be an obstacle;** just bring a donation and a sleeping bag. **Newcomers very welcome!** There will be **free buses** picking up from various areas throughout the country. **Booking is essential.** For more information on the event or to book your place, see **[www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie)**, **Youth 2000 Ireland Facebook page** or phone **01 6753690**