

Parish Newsletter



The Baptism of the Lord.

No 1582

8th January 2017. Mark: 3: 13 – 17

I baptise you with water...

He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit

Luke 3:16



Marked by the Cross

There was a priest who went out for a walk one day. As he was walking through the woods, he came around a bend and found himself face to face with a bear. He took off running as fast as he could, but he slipped and slid down a slope. The priest was lying there, helpless and defenceless, aware that the bear was getting ever closer, so he turned to prayer: "Lord, I repent of all my sins" Lord please make this bear Christian"! As soon as he uttered these words the bear stopped in his tracks, made the sign of the cross and said "Bless us O Lord and these thy gifts which we are about to receive"

Sometimes we make the sign of the cross with about as much meaning as the bear, but it serves us well to remember that one of the first things that happened to us **during our baptism** was the **signing of the cross on our foreheads** by the Celebrant, our Parents and our Godparents. This initial action is done in silence but speaks volumes - the person presented for baptism is claimed in the name of Christ, is loved by Christ and belongs to Christ. Later in the Ceremony, **the sign of the cross is placed**

over the heart so that the Holy Spirit may dwell there by faith, **over the ears** so that they may hear the voice of the lord and finally **over the mouth** so that they proclaim the praise of God.

If we were to repeat **these crosses over ourselves each morning**, that would be an excellent morning offering. To consecrate ourselves to the Lord for that day would challenge us to walk in the way of the Lord and carry out our baptismal duty to make Christ known in all we do. Simply crossing ourselves, even in silence, is not only a powerful witness to others, it is a powerful reminder to ourselves that we are claimed by Christ and that we are to bear our cross with him each and every day.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR.

God, thank you for a new year. May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.

*"God chose us before the world began to be holy".
God has chosen each person in Christ for a particular
vocation. If He may be calling you to be holy through a
vocation to the priesthood contact: Fr. Ruairi O' Domhnaill.
Email vocations@kandle.ie: www.kandlepriest.com*

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

Naas:

Jimmy Curran, Punchestown.

Sallins:

Bridget (Bridie) Brien, Prospect, Sallins.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE



RECENT BAPTISMS

Naas:

Lily Grace Fogarty, Aylmer Park

Lara Willow Gleeson, Wentworth Place

Maja Elzbieta Czapska, Millbank Square

Nicola Grace Crudden, England

For those requesting the Sacrament of Baptism two weeks notice is required. Further details of Baptisms in Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House Parish at www.naasparish.ie/sacraments/baptism.



NAAS PARISH NEWS

St Joseph's Young Priests Society next meeting takes place tomorrow, Monday 9th January at 8pm in the Parish Centre at the Church of the Irish Martyrs, Ballycane. Adoration from 8pm to 9.30pm.

Ballycane Church Choir sing at the 10.30am Mass in Ballycane, on Sundays. Choir practice resumes tomorrow Monday 9th January at 8pm in Ballycane Church. If you would you like to join us, just turn up for the practice or call 087 235 2545 for more details. (Practice nights and methods vary to accommodate busy people!)

Naas Parish Church Choir sing at the 11am Sunday Mass in the Parish Church. Would you like to join the Choir? Just come along to our practice on Wednesday coming 11th at 8pm in Ballycane Church, or contact 087 235 2545. You are very welcome.

Naas Parish Lotto: Next draw takes place on Wednesday coming 11th January at 7pm in Ballycane.

Plainspeakers Toastmasters next meeting takes place, tomorrow Monday 9th at 8pm in Naas Town Hall. Guests are always welcome to come along and find out what Toastmasters is about. Visit our website on www.plainspeakers.com

Naas Toastmasters Club next meeting takes place on Wednesday coming 11th January at 8pm in the Town House Hotel, Newbridge Road. Guests and new members are always welcome. Light refreshments served.

Naas Access Group next meeting takes place on Friday coming 13th January at 10am in McAuley Place. We work with elderly people with disabilities and serious illness, trying to make our town a safer place to get about in.

SALLINS PARISH NEWS

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will resume on Tuesday 10th January from 10.30 to 11am.

"The Siege of Jadotville" Join Declan Power as he talks on his book "Siege of Jadotville", a captivating military account of Irish Troop heroism against-all-odds in the Congo. The talk takes place tomorrow Monday 9th at 8.30pm in the Community Centre. All welcome.

The Tuesday Club resumes on Tuesday coming 10th at 2pm in the Community Hall. We would like to welcome new members. This is a social afternoon with activities including Cards, Bingo and a Chat. Afternoon tea will be served up to around 4pm. All welcome.

Sallins Parish Development Envelope Boxes for 2017 are now available for collection in the Church Porch. If you wish to become a new contributor please take a box of envelopes from the 'New Contributor Box' and write your name/address on the first few envelopes you return. It would greatly facilitate accurate record keeping, for tax relief **A sincere thank you to all who contribute to our collections.**

GENERAL NOTICES

Parish Finances:

Sallins: Baskets:	€535	Envelopes:	€ 305
Naas: Offertory:	€3,380	Dev Fund:	€5,455
Two Mile House:	€495		

Naas Parish Bingo resumes on Tuesday coming 10th January at 8.30pm sharp in the Care of the Aged Centre, Newbridge Road, and continues every Tuesday night with **BIGGER** Prizes and Jackpot. We would welcome your support.

