

Parish Newsletter

12th December 2021

Third Sunday of Advent & Gaudete Sunday



No: 1825

Lk. 3:10-18.



Come, Lord Jesus

Lord of Joy

An Advent Bulletin for the Home

Week Three: 12th December 2021

Rejoice Sunday & Baminelli



The Third Sunday of Advent is traditionally referred to as Gaudete or Rejoice Sunday. The rose coloured candle we light this day represents this joy, which is echoed in the Entrance Antiphon of the Mass: 'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.'

St John Paul II, began a tradition in Rome that continues today. On this Sunday, children and their families from across Rome come to St Peter's Square, bringing with them the figure of the infant Jesus from their crib. After the Angelus, the children raise up the figures and the Pope blesses them.

The day is now also known affectionately as **Baminelli Sunday**, the Italian for babies. In many places the blessed figure is wrapped and placed under the family Christmas tree to be unwrapped and finally placed in the crib at Christmas – reminding us of the first and most important gift of Christmas!

In Advent 2019 Pope Francis once more encouraged families to have a nativity scene or crib in the home. He said that it '*... helps us to relive the history of what took place in Bethlehem. When, at Christmas, we place the statue of the Infant Jesus in the manger, the nativity scene suddenly comes alive. God appears as a child, for us to take into our arms. Beneath weakness and frailty, he conceals his power that creates and transforms all things.*'

An Advent Tradition

The Nativity Scene

In about 1223 AD St Francis wanted to celebrate the feast of

Christmas in a new way, helping people to recall the

humble surroundings in which Jesus was born (his nativity).

In the town of Greccio, near Assisi, with the help of a local landowner he set up a live crib with stable, hay and animals.

The local people came at night with torches and candles to celebrate Mass. On seeing the scene they were reminded of God's love for us in sending his only son to be born in the poverty of a manger. St. Francis' initiative at Greccio popularized the making of a Christmas crib in our homes, churches, hospitals, schools and other places.



A Blessing Prayer by the Family Crib

God of all people,
from the very beginning of creation
you have shown us your love:
when our need for a Saviour was great
you sent your Son
to be born of the Virgin Mary.
To our lives He brings joy and peace, justice,
mercy, and love.
Lord, bless our family and all who will look
upon this crib in the coming days;
may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,
and lift our thoughts to Him,
who is God-with-us, our Emmanuel and
the Saviour of all. Amen.

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

PRIEST ON DUTY: 085 708 8407

PARISH WEBSITE: www.naasparish.ie

NAAS PARISH OFFICE: Tel.: 045 879 730

E-mail: office@naasparish.net

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm

SACRISTY OUR LADY AND ST DAVID: 045 856 925

BALLYCANE OFFICE AND SACRISTY: 045 895 629

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 1pm

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

Joseph Michael (Michael) Rafferty, Gleann na Riogh

MAY HE REST IN PEACE



PARISH FINANCES

Naas: Offertory: €1475 Development Fund: €1475

Online donations (2nd - 8th Dec.): €755

Tap & Go (2nd - 8th Dec.): €700

Sallins: Envelopes: €150 Baskets: €400

TMH: €475

Parish Envelope Boxes, for Naas and Sallins, for the coming year are now available for collection from the Church Porches or the Parish Offices. To facilitate accurate record-keeping, for tax relief purposes, we ask that you please write your name and address on the first few envelopes that you return. *"A sincere thank you to all who contribute to our collections"*.

The Newbridge/Kildare Lions Club Christmas

with friends are, like last year, delivering dinner on Christmas day. The event is being sponsored by the beautiful venue Martinstown House and they are also cooking the food. If you know of anyone who might need this service or if you would like to book a dinner, please contact Anne at 086 804 2724 or Damian at 087 245 0881. We are also looking for a driver to deliver throughout the county. Thank you!

Christmas Flowers/Plants -

We would be most grateful for the donations of flowers (red) for the decoration of the Churches for Christmas (Naas & Ballycane). Poinsettias are very welcome. Thank you.



MASS TIMES - DECEMBER 2021

OUR LADY AND ST. DAVID, NAAS

WEEKDAYS: Mon. - Fri: 7.30am & 10am

Sat: 10am

Sat Vigil: 6pm

SUNDAYS: 9am, 11am & 6pm

CHURCH OF THE IRISH MARTYRS, BALLYCANE

WEDNESDAYS: 7pm

SATURDAYS: 7.30pm

SUNDAYS: 10.30am & 12noon

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Mon. - Fri, 10am - 6pm Ballycane Church

OUR LADY & THE GUARDIAN ANGELS, SALLINS

WEEKDAYS: Fri: 10am

(Tuesday morning Mass is postponed until further notice)

Sat Vigil: 6.30pm

SUNDAYS: 10am & 12noon

CHURCH OF ST PETER, TWO MILE HOUSE

WEEKDAYS: Mon. - Fri.: 9.30am

SUNDAYS: 11am

Confessions take place in Sallins Church on Thursdays 2pm - 4pm and in Our Lady & St David's Church on Saturdays after the 10am Mass.



Eucharistic Adoration in Ballycane Church:

will finish on Thursday 23rd December
and will resume on Friday 7th
January at 10am.

The Annual Goal Mile

will take place on
Christmas Day 11am -
12noon as usual. We are back to the Physical
Mile again! Meet at Naas GAA club on Sallins
Road or at Monread Road (Sallins Road end).
Give a little on Christmas Day. Thank you! For
more info., please call 086 844 8530
or 087 630 5515.



Signed Christmas Mass
Bouquets, Boxed Christmas
Cards & NaasPoint Christmas
Cards are available in the
Parish Shops. Crib,
calendars, diaries, candles &
a range of Christmas items
and gifts also in stock,
including lots of items for
children! *Why not call in to
take a look!*

In the run up to Christmas,
the Parish Shop (Sallins
Road) will open on Saturdays
from 9.30am-3.30pm.

ADVENT THOUGHTS ON...JOY

"Joy is not the same as happiness. We can be unhappy about many things, but joy can still be there because it comes from the knowledge of God's love for us... Joy is the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing — sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war or even death — can take that love away." Henri Nouwen

"The Christian identity card is joy, the Gospel's joy, the joy of having been chosen by Jesus, saved by Jesus, regenerated by Jesus; the joy of that hope that Jesus is waiting for us, the joy that - even with the crosses and sufferings we bear in this life - is expressed in another way, which is peace in the certainty that Jesus accompanies us, is with us." [Pope Francis]



**An Advent Family Prayer at
Bedtime for week 3**
*You might like to light three
candles on your Advent
wreath or Advent Candle to
begin your prayer.*

Loving God,

On this Advent night, we turn to you in prayer.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of your Son,
we ask your blessing on each of us.

Open our hearts to the good news that you bring to us
and help us to welcome your light into our lives,
a light that gives us the gift of joy in the Lord.

May we see that our deepest joy comes from knowing you.

May this joy fill our hearts, our minds and our home.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Together we pray: Come, Lord Jesus.



This Advent we ask you to pray that the Synod we are undertaking as a Church will be a means 'to move forward on the path towards being a more synodal Church in the long-term' - that is a Church that journeys together, that listens to one another and to the Holy Spirit, a Church in which we all have a part. Synodality is not about an event but a way of being Church together. In the coming months we will be asking you to share in the conversation on how we are doing on our journey together as Church.

Advent Suggestion for the Home...

Assemble a crib for your home with hay and the animal figures. As we get closer to Christmas, add the shepherds, Joseph and Mary, leaving the three Magi at a distance from the crib until January 6th. On Christmas Eve place the figure of Jesus into the crib and say a prayer together.

Look out for the diocesan prayer card for Christmas 2021, this and other prayers for the 12 days of Christmas are available on www.kandle.ie.

Naas Parish Weekly Lotto Draw!

You could win a jackpot of €7,500 on Wednesday 15th December!

There was **NO WINNER** of the €7,250 Jackpot on Wednesday last 8th Dec.

Numbers Drawn were:

8 - 5 - 15 - 26;

Winners of the Lucky Dip €100 prizes were:

J. Keogh, M. Roche, Anon & V. Burke



Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House

Christmas Timetable 2021

All Masses in OLSD, Sallins and TMH Churches are available via webcam on naasparish.ie and Naas Parish App. Also by radio, from OLSD, at 107.3FM.

CONFESSIONTIMES: Friday 24th December

Our Lady & St David's Church: 10:30am – 1pm

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSTIMES, Friday 24th December

Our Lady & St David's Church: 5pm, 7pm, 9pm and 12 midnight
 Church of the Irish Martyrs: 4pm, 6pm and 8pm
 Our Lady & the Guardian Angels, Sallins: 5pm, 6.30pm and 8pm
 St Peter's Church, Two Mile House: 9pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSTIMES, Saturday 25th December

Our Lady & St David's Church: 9am, 11am and 12.30pm
 Church of the Irish Martyrs: 10.30am and 12noon
 Our Lady & the Guardian Angels, Sallins: 10am and 12noon
 St Peter's Church, Two Mile House: 11am

SUNDAY 26th DECEMBER – WEDNESDAY 5th January

Weekdays: Our Lady & St David's Church: 10am

Weekends: Normal Mass Schedule

There will be NO 6pm Mass on Sunday 26th December in OLSD.

No other weekday Masses in Ballycane and Sallins.

Weekday Masses will continue as normal in TMH, any changes will be announced.

Normal Weekday Mass Schedule resumes from Friday 7th January

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY MASSTIMES, Thursday 6th January

Church of the Irish Martyrs: 7pm Vigil (Wednesday Evening)
 Our Lady & St David's Church: 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm
 Our Lady & the Guardian Angels, Sallins: 10am
 St Peter's Church, Two Mile House: 9.30am