

Parish Newsletter

19th November 2023

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

No: 1923



Mt 25:14-30



Confirmation Retreats

We have over 400 young people in the parishes of Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House preparing for Confirmation in February/March 2024. All of them are working at home, in school and in the parish towards this milestone in their lives.



In the months of October and November, those schools who were able to brought the Confirmation Candidates to Solas Bhride in Kildare town to participate in a Confirmation Retreat as part of their parish preparation.

The retreats were facilitated by members of the parish youth ministry team, who brought their experience in teaching and youth ministry to the various groups.

The students looked at the idea of making a choice to participate in parish life, and identified and discussed the symbols of the Holy Spirit. They considered the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and how they will need them in their lives. The weather allowed all of the groups to enjoy a walk to St Brigid's Well as part of the day. Each group finished their retreat with Mass celebrated with their school chaplain or a prayer service focused on the work of the day.

All of the groups have been a credit to their school, participating fully in the activities.

Thank you to Caroline, Pat, Rionagh and Simone for their time and to the Brigidine sisters for their hospitality. We are looking forward to meeting these young people in the coming weeks as they continue their Confirmation journey.



HOLY MASS, COME AND FIND OUT MORE

We continue the journey this Tuesday...



**Miracles of the Exodus -
the Bread from Heaven
COME AND LET'S DISCOVER
MASS TOGETHER!**

**Tuesday 21st November,
Ballycane Church at 7.15pm**

**St. Peter's Church TMH: There will be NO
morning Mass on the 20th and 21st November.**

Recent Baptisms

**Finn Fitzgibbon, Kilcullen
Gearóid Horan, Oak Park Glen
Maisie Pyne, The Orchard
Liam Pender, Castlefarm
Chloe Connors, Cois na Feadain**

Sallins Lourdes Committee Fundraiser Raffle

For the 2024 Pilgrimage to Lourdes . Tickets €2 each **available** outside **Sallins Church** after Masses on **Saturdays and Sundays** until 3rd Dec. (Tickets will also be available outside **SuperValu, Sallins** on these days). **The Draw** will be held in the Community Centre after 11.30am Mass on Sunday December 3rd.
Your support would be greatly appreciated.



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



**John Moloney, Woodside Park
Angela Leavy, Cleevaun
Eileen Clarke, Ballymore Eustace
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**

Notes on the 2022 Accounts

Income: As parish life recovered in 2022 from the restrictions imposed by the Covid 19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, it was encouraging to see overall income return to levels last seen pre-pandemic. Income from the **basket** and **envelope** collections, and from **shrine** donations has been particularly strong and for this we express our sincere thanks. It should be noted that Income from **Online** Collections and the **Tap & Go** Terminals is allocated between the Development Fund and Basket Collections.

The **Fundraising** figure of €23,738 in 2022 is mostly a surplus of funds raised for NaasPoint, the Parish sponsored organisation working with the homeless and those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged in the community. An accounting change in 2022 sees this fundraising income reported for the first time. The Parish Lotto continues to generate strong income, but is subject to the number of large prize wins within a particular year.

The **Parish Shop** goes from strength to strength with net income up almost 20% on 2021. A huge thank you (again!) to the Team working so diligently in the Parish Shop & Office making it such a success and many thanks to all the parishioners who support the shop.

Expenditure: The combined figure for wages / salaries and Employers PRSI / Revenue has returned to pre-pandemic levels as the Employment Wage Support Scheme has now ceased.

As parish activity has resumed, expenses on pastoral programmes, music, youth and community expenses have returned to normal levels.

Expenditure on Repairs and Maintenance had been kept to essential work only during the pandemic. In addition to the usual upkeep of Parish property, new tiling was installed in the lobby area of the Church of the Irish Martyrs, and a new heating system was installed in the Upper Room at the back of the Church of Our Lady & St. David.

The Diocesan Levy has now returned to the full rate, for the full year in 2022. This payment had been levied at 50% of the normal rate throughout the pandemic.

Light and heating costs increased substantially towards the end of 2022 and are expected to increase even further in 2023 as energy costs have risen sharply in the intervening period.

The Weekly Collections: The First Collection (the Envelope Collection) every week and monthly standing orders received from parishioners support the Parish Development Fund. Income from this fund is directed to major maintenance and renovation works on both parish churches, the parochial houses and the parish centre. The second collection (the Offertory Collection) supports the day-to-day running costs of the parish, e.g. wages and salaries, insurance and utilities and the running of the parish offices on the Sallins Road and Ballycane.

Payments to Priests: The priests of the parish do not receive any payment from the Development Fund or Offertory collections. Salaries are paid from seven specific collections including Christmas and Easter. As priests we express our sincere thanks for your wonderful generosity and support. As per Diocesan regulations, Parish Priests are paid €25,200 and Curates, €24,000 pa.

The Parish Lotto: The Parish Lotto continues to make a significant contribution to the finances of the parish. We thank all who regularly support the Lotto and, in particular, our promoters. Please consider supporting the Lotto, possibly through a yearly subscription, monthly standing order or weekly €2 ticket, you can also buy tickets online on the parish website or from the parish. Our grateful thanks to the Lotto Committee.

Tax Refund on your Donations to Naas Parish: The parish qualifies for this scheme and is entitled to reclaim an additional 45% of your annual donation where your donation is more than €250 per year. We receive very good support from our parishioners, many of whom contribute more than €250 each year to the parish and to take advantage of this scheme, we must be able to record donations. We would encourage you to donate in a way in which this can be achieved. A good way is through the **weekly envelope boxes**. If you write your name and address on the first few envelopes that you use, we can calculate your annual contribution. Alternatively, we can record donations made through the online donations module or by cheque or standing order. Priests Collections also qualify. In recent years, under this scheme, we have received over €110,000 in refunds for the sole benefit of the parish.

Thank You: As in previous years, the continued healthy state of the Naas Parish finances is down to the generosity of so many of our parishioners, thank you for your continued support.

November 2023

Trevor Macnamara (Chairperson)

Current Finance Committee: Trevor Macnamara (chairperson), Alex Keane (secretary), Ciaran Murray, Ann McManus, Gerry Martin, Renu Thomas and Fr Liam Morgan

Summary of Naas Parish Accounts for 2022 and 2021

Accounts for Naas Parish have been submitted to and examined by the Diocesan Accountant and audited by the Diocesan external auditors.

They form part of the Diocesan consolidated accounts submitted to the Charities Regulator.

They have been approved by the Parish Finance Committee for publication in this format.

Income Received

	2022	2021
Development Fund Collection	€186,432	€137,712
Basket Collection	€157,390	€108,630
Income from Shrines	€56,914	€57,264
Rental Income	€61,517	€50,532
Fundraising	€23,738	€0
Donations & Bequests	€20,129	€12,697
Tax Refund	€32,569	€27,608
Church Bookings	€5,800	€1,800
Deposit Interest Received	€52	€46
Parish Shop	€78,903	€66,633
Lotto Income	€32,631	€48,819
Other Income	€39,749	€24,901
	€695,823	€536,642

Expenditure Incurred

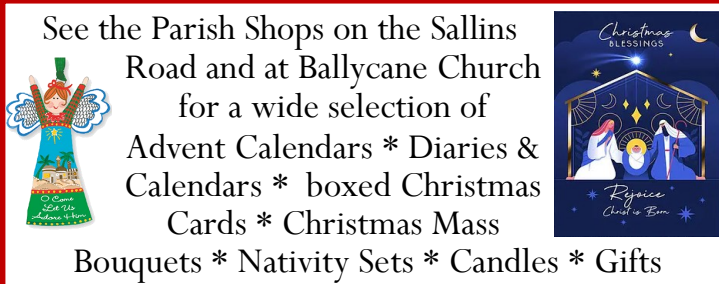
	2022	2021
Wages and salaries	€136,812	€160,950
Employers PRSI / Revenue Commissioners	€40,404	(€71,378)
Pastoral Programme Expenses	€4,325	(€3,825)
Insurance	€19,104	€18,340
Security	€9,634	€4,559
Light and heat	€47,537	€35,380
Cleaning	€7,064	€6,836
Rates, Water, LPT & Waste Collection	€3,911	€4,562
Repairs and Maintenance	€81,291	€49,823
Diocesan Levy	€72,602	€45,377
Diocesan Retirement Fund	€4,000	€4,000
Printing, Stationery and Office	€16,656	€11,179
Altar & Shrine Requisites	€18,478	€14,840
Telephone, Broadband and Internet-related Expenses	€6,556	€6,670
Computer Software, Hardware and Servicing Costs	€12,716	€9,151
Hire of Equipment	€0	€1,234
Music Ministry	€9,412	€6,073
Accountancy Fees	€1,534	€537
Youth & Community Expenses	€5,197	€9,095
Bank Charges	€4,012	€4,101
Donations	€109	€0
General Expenses	€3,535	€3,594
	€504,887	€321,096

Surplus of Income over Expenditure

	€190,937	€215,546
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Please note that the Accounts for Sallins and Two Mile House Parishes will be published in the newsletter next weekend.

See the Parish Shops on the Sallins Road and at Ballycane Church for a wide selection of Advent Calendars * Diaries & Calendars * boxed Christmas Cards * Christmas Mass Bouquets * Nativity Sets * Candles * Gifts

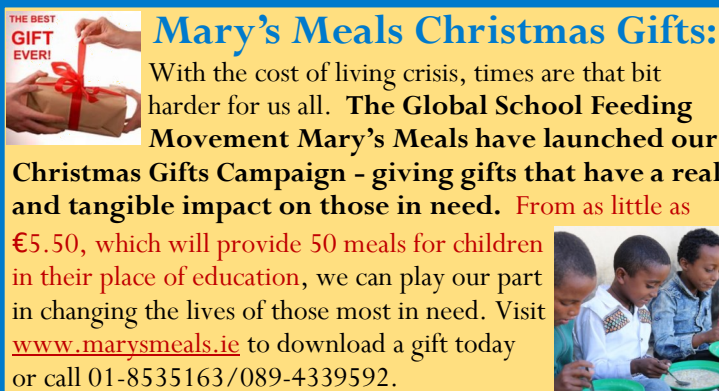


Christmas Parish Raffle:
Tickets now on sale for this beautiful Christmas Hamper, full of festive treats. Tickets are €2 each or 3 for €5, available from the Parish Shops. The draw will take place 2.30pm 21st December in the Parish Shop.



PARISH FINANCES
Naas: Development Fund: €3,655 Offertory: €3,180
Online donations (9th - 15th Nov): €278
Tap & Go (9th - 15th Nov): €600
Sallins: Envelopes: €340 Baskets: €780
TMH: €530

Mary's Meals Christmas Gifts:
With the cost of living crisis, times are that bit harder for us all. The Global School Feeding Movement Mary's Meals have launched our Christmas Gifts Campaign - giving gifts that have a real and tangible impact on those in need. From as little as €5.50, which will provide 50 meals for children in their place of education, we can play our part in changing the lives of those most in need. Visit www.marysmeals.ie to download a gift today or call 01-8535163/089-4339592.



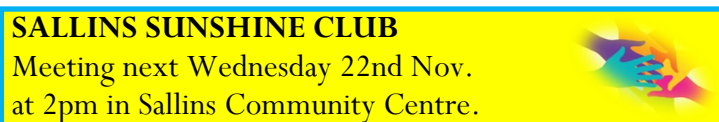
PRIEST ON DUTY: 085 708 8407
PARISH WEBSITE: www.naasparish.ie
NAAS PARISH OFFICE: Tel.: 045 879 730
Email: office@naasparish.net
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 20015848

Books of Christmas Stamps are available in both the Parish Shops



*Special offer of 4 free stamps and stickers when you buy a book of stamps.

SALLINS SUNSHINE CLUB
Meeting next Wednesday 22nd Nov. at 2pm in Sallins Community Centre.



Join us to hear what happened at the **Kandle.ie**
Synod
With synod delegate, Bishop Brendan Leahy



All Welcome
Kildare & Leighlin Diocese:
Synod Briefing
Mount St Anne's Killenard, Co. Laois
Saturday Morning
25 November 2023
11 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Naas Flower and Garden Club
Christmas Gala Evening
In St. Mary's College, Sallins Road, Naas on Thursday 30th November 7.45pm **supporting The Jack and Jill Foundation.**
Demonstration by: Sharon O'Sullivan AOIFA.
Title: "A Beautiful Sight We're Happy Tonight".
Visitors and Friends all welcome.
Admission €15.
Refreshments served.



Naas Parish Weekly Lotto Draw
There was **no winner** of the €7,750 Jackpot on 15th Nov.
Numbers Drawn were: 27-15-18-3
Congratulations to the Lucky Dip Winners:
M. & M. Perse, E. Corr, J. Lackey, Anon.
You could win the Jackpot of €8,000 on Wednesday, 22nd November.
Tickets are €2 each.
Thank you for your continued support.

