

# Parish Newsletter

24th December 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Christmas Eve

No: 1928



Lk 1: 26-38

## Something to Ponder

No matter which church I may visit over the Christmas season, somehow I find myself drawn to their crib.

It continues to stir within me the memories of childhood wonder. As a child, it was the crib rather than the Mass that was special to me, these were no plaster figures but rather the real thing! Mary and Joseph, and the animals as they breathed warmth and protection upon the newborn King. The Christ Child with arms open wide to welcome us, to embrace our human nature, to remind us of how we are deeply loved.

The crib as we know was created by St. Francis of Assisi to help people come to know the wonder, the beauty, and the unexpected Revelation of God's kindness in giving to the world his only Son. This year marks a milestone, for it is believed that Francis created the first crib in 1223, so we are celebrating an anniversary.

In a world sadly riven by the heartache of war: Ukraine, Gaza, Israel, we are reminded of the brokenness and fragility of humanity. A world that still longs for peace and harmony. Perhaps this year as we gaze upon the crib may we know the promise of Jesus, for in our festive frenzy He is

coming.....coming as **Br. Richard Hendrick, ofmCap** reflects in his book, 'Still Points'.....

*Down the long ages of despair he comes as hope.*

*Down the Rough Road of doubt,  
he comes as faith.*

*Down the broken byways of the human heart  
he comes as love.*

*His arms open wide in love and welcome,  
he comes!*

As you come before his crib.

Will you prepare a place for Him?

Will you open your heart to Him?

Will you lay Him upon the rough straw of your life?

Will you wrap Him in the swaddling clothes of your silence?

Will you offer Him the gentle warmth of animal breath?

Will you offer Him your love?

For Jesus came to love and be loved.

As we ponder life in that first 'Real Crib' in Bethlehem, we ask God to bless each family this Christmastime and to walk with us into a New Year with hope in our hearts and the courage to face a new tomorrow.

*May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy, holy and peace-filled Christmas.*



## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

NAAS PARISH OFFICE: Tel.: 045 879 730

E-mail: [office@naasparish.net](mailto: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

SACRISTY TWO MILE HOUSE: 086 399 1706

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 20015848

FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/naasparish](https://facebook.com/naasparish)

TWITTER: @naasparish

PRIEST ON DUTY: **085 708 8407**

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

## PARISH TEAM

|                      |                         |              |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Fr. Liam Morgan      | Sallins Road            | 087 133 7879 |
| Fr. Alex Kochatt     | Lakelands               | 045 898 684  |
| Fr. Michael Flattery | Hazelmere               | 045 879 730  |
| Fr. Robert Petrisor  | Sallins Road            | 045 879 730  |
| Dn. Fergal O'Neill   | Parish Deacon           | 086 381 6133 |
| Ms. Trish O'Neill    | Youth/Pastoral Minister | 045 879 730  |
| Ms. Sarah Farmer     | Parish Manager          | 045 879 730  |

## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

**Naas:** Geraldine Faherty & Adrian King  
**Sallins:** Dermot McGilloway & Emer McCarthy  
**Two Mile House:** Paula Clancy & Suzanne Powell

**Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:** Ailish Higgins  
**Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person:** Michele Hughes,  
c/o Bishop's House, Carlow **Phone:** 085 802 1633

*Safeguarding Policy displayed in all Church Porches.*

## PARISH FINANCES

**Naas:** Development Fund: €4,450 Offertory: €2,765  
**Online donations** (14th - 20th Dec): €339  
**Tap & Go** (14th - 20th Dec): €440  
**Sallins:** Envelopes: €525 Baskets: €610  
**TMH:** €380

## Recent Baptisms

Sophia Phelan, Australia  
Cian Donnellan, Monread Crescent  
Tiernan Mitenko, Canada  
Erik Nikitinas, Bellingsfield



THE PARISH OFFICES AND SHOPS WILL  
REOPEN ON THURSDAY 4TH JANUARY.

## FOR MASS TIMES

PLEASE SEE THE PARISH WEBSITE  
OR THE PARISH APP.



**"THOSE WHO DIE IN GRACE GO BUT  
TO GOD AND GOD IS VERY NEAR"**  
Marion Mullins, Abbeyville  
**MAY SHE REST IN PEACE**

**ANNUAL CURRAGH DOG WALK:** Sun. 31st Dec.  
at 12noon on the racecourse. All welcome. Meet  
opposite racecourse entrance. **Proceeds to Kildare  
Animal Foundation. ALL dogs must be on leads.**

## HOLY MASS, COME AND FIND OUT MORE

We continue the journey after  
Christmas...



returning on  
**Tuesday 16th January,**  
**Ballycane Church at 7.15pm**

## *Word of Thanks!*

To the parishioners of Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House, I express to each of you my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for your kind support and encouragement.

This you express in your deep faith, your commitment to your parish and in your kind and generous support of Sunday collections, Parish Lotto and of those designated Sunday collections taken up in support of the priests of the parish throughout the year. Thank you!

My sincere thanks to so many parishioners who volunteer to fulfil the various ministries and tasks that are so central to the activity and mission of each parish. Your involvement is valued and not taken for granted. My grateful thanks to our shop and office staff on the Sallins Road and in Ballycane. To our Sacristans, Parish Schools and their Boards of Management, Parish Pastoral Councils and Finance Committees.

There is much to be grateful for as we now look forward to 2024!

Renewed thanks for your kind and encouraging support, Happy Christmas!

*Fr. Liam (on behalf of Alex, Eddie, Jackie, Michael, Robert and Willie)*





Benemerenti medal for Mary Humphries in Sallins.



Musical accompaniment to the Punchestown walk.



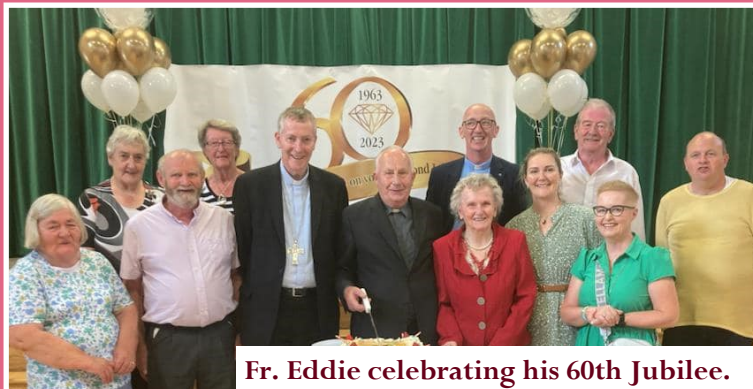
Two Mile House Parish visit to St. Patrick's Well on St. Patrick's Day.



First Holy Communion celebrated in May.



Our own Karl Lennon at Carlow Cathedral.



Fr. Eddie celebrating his 60th Jubilee.

*Some  
memories  
of 2023...*



Fr. Liam celebrating Mass outdoors in Kingsfurze.



Seán Murphy spoke about Vocations at the Triduum in Sallins.



Regina and Cormac went ploughing in September.





# Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House Christmas Timetable 2023

## CHRISTMAS EVE MASS TIMES, Sunday 24th December

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Our Lady & St. David's Church:           | 5pm, 7pm, 9pm and 11pm |
| Church of the Irish Martyrs:             | 4pm, 6pm and 8pm       |
| Our Lady & the Guardian Angels, Sallins: | 5.30pm and 7pm         |
| St. Peter's Church, Two Mile House:      | 7.30pm                 |

## CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES, Monday 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 11.30am      |
| St. Peter's Church, Two Mile House:      | 10am                  |

## TUESDAY 26th DECEMBER – FRIDAY 5th January

|                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Weekdays:</b> | Our Lady & St David's Church: 10am |
| <b>Weekends:</b> | Normal Mass Schedule               |

*No other weekday Masses in Ballycane and Sallins.*

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

Normal Mass Schedule resumes from Saturday 6th January

## FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY MASS TIMES, Saturday 6th January

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



## Eucharistic Adoration and Church Opening Times

- Eucharistic Adoration in Our Lady & St. David's will resume on 6th January.
- Eucharistic Adoration in Ballycane Church will resume at 10am on 4th January
- Our Lady & St. David's will be open for private prayer daily, closing at approx. 5pm



### Naas Goal Mile

Christmas Morning 11am - 12noon

at Naas GAA Club, Sallins Road.

*Please support: bring your family,  
bring a friend.*

*Donate what you can.*

*Queries to Morgan 086 8448530*

*Thank you.*



### Family Masses: January

*2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH - ALL ARE WELCOME*

**13th & 14th January**

**OLSD:** Sat. 6pm & Sun. 11am

**Ballycane:** Sunday 10.30am & 12.00

**Sallins:** Sat. 5pm

**TMH:** Sunday 10am

*All families are welcome to attend a family Mass in  
any of our churches which suits their schedule.*



**Two Mile House ICA wish to  
thank all those who  
contributed so generously to  
their collection at the Parish**

**Cuppa in November. The total raised  
was €1,258, which has been  
forwarded to the Laura Lynn Hospice.**



### McAuley Place

**Sustaining an Ageing Population at the Heart of  
a Vibrant Community.**

**New expansion at Beaufort,  
Sallins Road -**

**Please support us by scanning  
this code with your phone  
camera to donate.**

**We need your help!**

