

THE PARISH OF LEITRIM, BALLYDUGAN/KILMEEN (Loughrea Faith Community Area)

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(Newsletter available at www.clonfertdiocese.ie)

Third Week of Advent – Year A

Masses:

Saturday 13th 6.30pm: Mary Jo and Martin Costello. Tess and John Joe O'Malley

Sunday 14th 11am: James O' Grady

Monday 15th 8am: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Private Intention.

Tuesday 16th 7.50am: Private Intention.

Wednesday 17th 8am: Private Intention.

Thursday 18th 7.50am: Private Intention.

Saturday 20th 6.30pm: Martin, Maura and Eileen O'Shaughnessy.

Sunday 21st 11am: Jane Dobson.

Confession is available before weekend Masses or by appointment.

Note: Morning Mass for the school year will be at **7.50am** on **Tuesday and Thursday**.

Collections: 6/7th €760.99. St. Vincent de Paul €832.00. The second envelope and collection this weekend (13th/14th) is the Priests Christmas Collection. Thank you for your generous donations.

Readers: 20th: Lauren Boyle. 21st: Sarah Whelan.

Eucharistic Ministers: 20th: Mary Barrett. 21st: Gerry Hernon.

Counters, December: Tom and Gavin Treacy.

Pope's Intention for December: That Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

Readings this Weekend: Gaudete Sunday. The joy of the kingdom is anticipated. The signs of the kingdom already come are given to the messengers of John the Baptist, and they are familiar with the prophecy of Isaiah. Patient waiting for the fulfilment is our Christian duty. There should be no complaining, no giving up or losing heart. Joy, prayer and thanksgiving should characterise the Christian community.

Reflection: Advent calls us to stop and think. But for nearly everyone the season of Advent is also the busiest time of the year...We can benefit from moments each day, that we set aside just to keep ourselves grounded in faith. – **Sr Wendy Beckett.**

A thought: God himself is coming to save us.

Notices: Kilnadeema/Leitrim GAA Club: Results to Follow

Forth Coming Events: Thurs 18th December, International Migrants Day. Christmas Mass Times: Christmas Eve 7pm St Andrew Church. Midnight Mass St Jarlath Church. Christmas Day Mass St Jarlath Church 11am.

Collection Box 2026: A member of the Parish Pastoral Council will have delivered a box to your door recently. We encourage you to use the envelope system as it makes for easy accountability and counting. Thank you.

Leitrim/Ballydugan Community Centre Bake and Gift Sale, Sunday 21st at 5.30pm. Santa arrives at 6pm. Donations of baking and gifts gratefully accepted on Sat 20th from 6-8pm or on the day. Please support.

Family Carers Ireland have launched their Christmas Raffle and you could win €1,000 cash, €500 select hotels voucher or a hotel voucher. Please support family carers in your community by purchasing a ticket at www.familycarers.ie/christmas - thank you! **"Have you ever thought about fostering?** Change a child's life by becoming a Tusla Foster Carer. Talk to Tusla Fostering today by freephone 1800 226 771 or visit www.fostering.ie to learn more." **If you are 65 or older** and would like to apply for a personal alarm, under the Seniors Alert Scheme Grant, for your safety and peace of mind, please call Galway Contact at 091 867892 or email galwaycontact@gmail.com **The Alzheimer Society of Ireland** runs a Social Club in Clarinbridge, If you are interested in attending, Clarinbridge Social Club, Scul Sanctuary, Bungalow 9, Kilcornan, Clarinbridge H91 RHH4. Contact Teresa on 087 188 8177, On every Monday 2pm-4pm. **Men's Development Network** – Male Advice Line Domestic abuse doesn't discriminate. If you're a man facing abuse, you're not alone. We're here to help. Call our Male Advice Line: 1800 816 588 Visit: <https://mensnetwork.ie/> Our confidential service provides support, advice, and a listening ear to male victims of domestic abuse. Seeking help is a sign of strength, and we're here to guide you every step of the way. **ACCORD Ballinasloe** are committed to providing a professional counselling service for individuals and couples who are experiencing difficulties in their marriage and relationships. This confidential service is available and affordable. CONTACT 090 9643573 for appointment or E-mail accordballinasloe@gmail.com

Blessing of a Christmas Tree. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

