

**Our Lady of the Rosary Parish  
Limerick**



**Parish Newsletter  
24/31 December 2023  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



***Nollaig Naofa, Beannachtaí Íosa, Nollaig chroíúil, is bliain nua mhaith.***

*From*

***Fr. Des, Fr. Tom, Margaret & the Parish Council***

A big thank you to all those who volunteer with the distribution of the envelopes

**THE CRIB:** In 1223 when most ordinary people could not read, St. Francis decided he would demonstrate the Christmas story in a way everyone could understand. He set up a stable scene in a cave not far from his home in Assisi, with real people and animals. As people gathered around to see what he was doing, he told them how Jesus had been born in a simple stable and how angels had appeared to shepherds telling them to go and find for themselves the Messiah who had been born. Now 800 years on from the first Christmas crib scene in history the tradition is passed on in homes and communities across the world bringing with it a message of hope and peace which never fades away.

#### **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

Advent and Christmas are about time. Time is about gift. Gift is about God. We are the people to whom God has given the precious but fleeting gift of time.

We are given a beginning at birth and an end in death, all that falls in between is our life, our work in progress. The scriptures for Advent have already offered the invitation: 'prepare the way of the Lord.' The liturgy encourages us to remember that 'even now he has come among us in every age, indeed in every person, that we might welcome him in faith and bear witness in love to the blessed hope of his Kingdom'.

Every year at Christmas, we are so conscious of departed family members and dear friends. This year is no exception we mourn the passing of sixty parishioners.

Christmas above all, gives us the opportunity to embrace the wisdom contained in these words: 'The problem is not that God doesn't visit us, the problem is that we are not at home' From Fr. Tom and myself, it is our hope that Christmas will be a homecoming for all of us and that we will prepare well to open the door of our hearts to receive the gift of the love born in the fulness of time.

**CHRISTMAS DUES:** The Christmas dues envelopes for the Parish Clergy and the Sacristan have been distributed to houses during the week. If you are contributing by cheque, please make the cheques payable to 'Our Lady of the Rosary Parish' and in relation to the Sacristan to 'Margaret Clifford'.

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Sat 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	18:00	Gerry McKeon (A) Marian Meehan (1 <sup>st</sup> A)
<b>Sun 24<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 11:30 16:00 18:00	John O'Connor (A) <b>Christmas Eve - Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 11:30	<b>Christmas Day</b>
<b>Tues 26<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00	<b>Mass each day at 10:00, Tues, Wed, Thurs and Friday</b>
<b>Sat 30<sup>th</sup></b>	18:00	Ita Duffy (A) Eamon Beston (A)
<b>Sun 31<sup>st</sup></b>	10:00 11:30	<b>Feast of the Holy Family</b> Lilly O'Brien (A)
<b>Mon 1<sup>st</sup></b>	10:00	<b>World Day of Peace</b>
<b>Tues 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	10:00	<b>Mass each day at 10:00 Tues, Wed, Thurs.</b>
<b>Fri 5<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 18:00	<b>Feast of the Epiphany</b>
<b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 11:30 18:00	<b>Feast of the Epiphany</b>  Laurence & Joan Cullinan (A)
<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 11:30	Anne Bowes (1 <sup>st</sup> A) Liam O'Shanahan (A) Marie Heenan (A)

#### **Mass Times:**

Daily Mass – Mon to Fri – 10:00  
Sat Vigil & Eve of Holy Day – 18:00  
Sunday & Holy Day – 10:00 & 11:30

#### **Baptisms:**

Sat 17:00 & Sun 12:15 by appointment

**Marriages:** by appointment

#### **Priests:**

Fr. Des McAuliffe P.P. tel - 061 324825

Fr. Tom Ryan C.C. tel - 087 2997733

**Adoration:** First Friday 10:30 to 11:30  
except when there is a funeral

#### **Parish Website:**

[www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie](http://www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie)

#### **Parish Clerk:**

Margaret Clifford at Church Sacristy  
tel - 061 325 288

**Office Hours:** Mon - Fri 09:00 to 09:45  
& Sunday from 09:00 to 12:30

#### **Church Open for Private Prayer:**

Mon – Sat from 09:30 to 15:00