

ST. MARY'S, WESTPORT & DRUMMIN, ST. PATRICK'S LECANVEY

TELEPHONE NO. 098 28871

• E-mail: office@westportparish.ie • Parish Website: www.westportparish.ie

PRIEST ON DUTY THIS WEEK **FR. JOHN KENNY 098 28871**

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS, READERS

Assisting in the Liturgy on 9th & 10th December 2023 Team A

6.30p.m. Saturday	Ann Marie Campion	Gertie Foley
11.00a.m Sunday	Josephine McGreal	Patrick Durcan

READER DRUMMIN:

Sun.3 rd Dec.	Stella Garrivan	9.30 a.m.
Sun.10 th Dec.	Joanne Gibbons	9.30 a.m.

Weekday Reader 10.00 a.m. 4th December Sheila

Confessions on Saturday from 12.30pm

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Details of the readings for Mass during the Liturgical Year are available on Catholicireland.net

Please remember in your prayers:

Maureen Lavelle, Croy

Tony Feehan, Rossow, Newport, brother of Seamus Feehan, Pearse Terrace & Hugh Feehan, Rossow.

Eddie Dichburn, Swinford, brother-in-law of Mary Cosgrave, Rosmalley.

May they Rest in Peace

DRUMMIN CHURCH MASSES:

Sunday 3rd Dec 9.30a.m.	1. Michael & Bridget Friel, Letterbrock
Sunday 10th Dec. 9.30am	Months Mind: Margaret Madden, Limerick & late of Drummin & husband John Margaret & Patrick Hastings, Drummin East Nora Murphy, Drummin West & DFM.
8th Dec. 9.30a.m.	The Immaculate Conception
LECANVEY CHURCH MASSES:	
Sat. 2nd Dec. 8.00pm	1. Mary Joyce, Bouris 2. Hugh & Kathleen O'Malley 3. George Gill & Eamon Gill 4. Séan Baynes, Parents Eddie & Molly & DFM.
Thrs 7th Dec. 8.00p.m.	The Immaculate Conception

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Should anyone need the assistance of SVP

Please contact SVP in Westport on 087 9334960

info.west@svp.ie or visit our website at www.svp.ie

CAROL SERVICE:

Practice for the children of the Parish takes place in Carrowbeg House from 5.00pm – 6.00pm on December 1st, 8th & 15th

PARISH CHOIR: Practice will take place in the church on 1st, 8th & 15th Dec. from 7.00pm-8.00pm. If anyone would like to join the Parish Choir for Carol Service.

Practice will take place in the church on the 1st, 8th & 15th of December, from 7.00p.m. – 8.00pm, if anyone would like to join the parish choir for Carol Service.

ALL NIGHT VIGIL KNOCK 7th DECEMBER:

Bus will leave the Quay (Centra) at 9.15p.m. The Mall 9.30p.m. Please contact Margaret at 098-27109 before the 6th December.

BANK DETAILS:

The main Parish Account is now with PTSB due to the closure of

Ulster Bank.

The details are as follows:

Account Name: Westport Parish

BIC: IPBSIE2D

IBAN: IE83IPBS99072933204684

MASSES WESTPORT CHURCH

Saturday 2nd December 2023

Mass 6.30. p.m.	Months Minds: 1. Paddy Curry, St. Patrick's Terrace. 2. Liz Friel, Bohea. 1 st Anniversary: Bridie Ring, Altamont St.
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Sunday 3rd December 2023

11.00am Mass	1 st Anniv: Jeoffrey Bourke, Belclare & remembering brother-in-law Peter McAleer.
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Monday 4th December 2023

10.00am Mass	1. Cyril Gallagher, grandparents Edward & Mary Dolan
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Tuesday 5th December 2023

10.00am Mass	1. D. M. of Westport Textiles & D. M. of Residence of Castlebar St. 2. Mc Caffrey, Fitzpatrick & Butler Families. 3. Eoin O'Shea.
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Wednesday 6th December 2023

10.00am Mass	1. John Joe Ryder, High St & DFM. 2. Bridie Walsh. 3. Paddy & Marie Hastings, Leenane.
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Thursday 7th December 2023

10.00a.m.	1. Michael Greene, St. Mary's Crescent 2. Dominic & Annie Mulchrone & son Pdraig. 3. Ronan Hastings, Derrygorman. 4. Shane Bourke, Knockranny & Harry Doyle, Pearse Terrace.
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Friday 8th December 2023

11.00am	1. Tom & Bridget Agnes Kelly & DFM. 2. John & Mary McNamara, Dooagh Achill.
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Saturday 9th December 2023

10.00a.m.	1. Michael & Joe Mc Gréal, Glynsk 2. Pdraic Cox, Owenwee 3. Margaret & Jim Meaney & Son John
6.30p.m.	1 st Anniversary: Bridie Kilgallon, Tonranny

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

10:00AM – 5:30PM MONDAY & THURSDAY
10:00AM - 3:00PM TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
TELEPHONE NO. 098 28871

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CHRISTMAS 2023 MARKS 800 YEARS AFTER THE FIRST NATIVITY SCENE:

Was set up by St Francis of Assisi in Greccio, Italy in 1223
“I would like to represent the Baby born in Bethlehem, and somehow let people see him with their own eyes ... how he was laid down in a feeding trough and how he lay there on the straw between the ox and the ass.” This is how Franciscan sources – the so-called *Fonti Francescane* – describe the desire of St Francis in the weeks leading up to Christmas 1223. He wanted to represent the Nativity in a way that everyone could experience and take in with a glance the concrete reality of God made man. 2023 is the year that marks the eighth centenary of that first representation of the Nativity scene which Saint Francis set up in Greccio, a little village close to the Italian city of Rieti. In 1223 the future patron saint of Italy stopped off in the valley outside Rieti, the grottos which occur naturally in the area around Greccio reminded him of those he had seen in the Holy Land and especially recalled the panorama of Bethlehem. Two weeks before Christmas, Francis called on a man known only as John, and asked him to help him build his crib. So it was, that on 25 December that year, in the presence of many Friars who had made their way to Greccio, St Francis, when he saw the crib with the straw, the ox and the ass, was filled with joy.

“In that moving scene shines forth the simplicity of the Gospel: poverty is praised and humility presented to us in a positive way. Greccio has become like a new Bethlehem,” said the saint. Now, 800 years on from that first Christmas crib scene in history being set up, 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.

ADVENT PRAYER BY HENRI NOUWEN

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people, walking in darkness,
yet seeking the light. To you we say, “Come Lord Jesus!”

LIVING WELL:

Is a free HSE programme which helps people living with a long-term health condition to manage their condition and improve their overall wellbeing. Anyone with any chronic illness such as diabetes, arthritis, COPD, cardiac illness, anxiety, etc. can benefit from these workshops.
The next programme in Tuma commences on Wednesday 17th of January (OR the next online programme will commence on 30th January 2024)
The programme is delivered over six weekly workshops (2.5 hrs x 6) by trained leaders. Advance registration is required. To find out more, please contact Liam Gildea on 086 014 2675 or by email at lgildea@southmayo.com

WESTPORT ECO CONGREGATION:

Following on from last week's piece on how to Green your Christmas – Westport Eco Congregation encourages us to give our PRESENCE rather than presents. Visiting a person or bringing someone out for a coffee can be a beautiful gift. The offer of cooking and sharing a meal during the winter could be a great gift for a friend or family member who lives alone. Spending time, chatting and listening to a family member or friend is very worthwhile and can be immensely rewarding both for the recipient and the donor. Other ways of giving our PRESENCE could include an offer to babysit, or taking someone to the cinema or simply going for a walk followed by lunch or coffee. By giving our PRESENCE or gifting homemade items we are supporting the circular economy where the model of production and consumption, involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products for as long as possible.

WESTPORT COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS:

Westport Community First Responders train monthly, and our next training session is on Monday the 4th of December in the Walnut Suite at the Westport Plaza Hotel from 8pm. All welcome to attend to meet our responders or perhaps you would like to get involved.

NIGHTFEVER:

Westport Deanery invites you to join with us at St. Marys Parish Church Westport on Saturday 16th December for an evening of special encounter with Jesus the living God. This event, known as “Night fever”, is essentially an invitation to all, to come and experience the truth, love, goodness and beauty of God in an atmosphere of prayerful reverence, Christian music and beautiful candlelight. The evening will begin with Vigil Mass at 6.30 pm and will continue until approximately 10.30 pm. There will be ample opportunity for adoration, prayer, confessions etc.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

The Night fever evening is aimed at giving young adults an opportunity to pass on the love of God they have experienced themselves to others. They do this primarily by going out in pairs or small groups around the town and inviting passers-by into the church to light a candle. Once there, they gather around the altar and pray before Jesus' present in the Blessed Sacrament. The results can be life changing. If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity no matter what age you are please contact Martin on 085-8727732. Thank you.

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Bus will leave the Quay (Centra) at 9.15p.m. Mall 9.30p.m.
Contact Margaret at 098-27109 before the 6th December.

THE JESSE TREE:

A Jesse Tree is a decorative Avent/Christmas Tree. It is adorned with symbols representing Biblical events and characters. It is a kind of Family Tree that leads up to the Birth of Jesus. It serves as a visual reminder, much like an Advent Calendar, highlighting the lineage or 'Root' of Jesus and the importance of the Advent and Christmas.
'Come Lord Jesus'

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