



Church of St Mary Magdalene, Monaleen Road, Castletroy, V94 E3C8

'We seek to create an inclusive community, where all are welcome'

Parish Office: +353 61 338340 (Tue, Wed & Thu 7.45am -12.45pm)
E-mail: info@monaleenparish.ie Website: www.monaleenparish.ie



03 December 2023

GOSPEL REFLECTION

'Stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming'. Mk 13:33-37

Staying awake is not easy; it is really quite hard. This First Sunday of Advent invites me to reflect on my daily life - for what do I ask forgiveness? For what do I give thanks? We also look forward to a new beginning and a chance to start again on the way of discipleship. Both thanksgiving and renewal are to be found in today's readings. The Gospel is an invitation to wake up, to keep watch, to live fully the present moment under God, in whom we live and move and have our being.

Because Christians have always recognised the importance of waiting and preparation, they intentionally built periods of waiting into the Christian calendar. This is a way of making room for this important piece of life that the world is so eager to get rid of. It slows us down, reorients us around God and gives us time to reflect, to prepare, to rest.

Advent is one of those seasons of waiting. When we come to Advent we remember the promise that Christ has come and will come again, but we also remember that we are not ready to jump headlong into celebration. First we must prepare. Waiting is a gift. Let us be ready for the sweetness that has come and is coming again.

CONFESSION - NEW TIME

Saturday, 6 - 6.45pm

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 02 Dec - Sun 10 Dec '23

This Weekend

Sat	19.00	Pat Molan (Months Mind) DM of Swann & Larkin Families
Sun	10.00	Noel Moynihan Darren Egan
	11.30	Clement & Nan O' Regan DM of Frost & Swords Families Joe Scanlon

Weekdays

Tue	09.45	Mairead Greene Mary Barrett
Wed	09.45	Liam Slattery
Thu	09.45	

Holy Day - Immaculate Conception

Thu	19.00	Fr Tadhg Furlong
Fri	10.00	Special Intention

Next Weekend

Sat	19.00	
Sun	10.00	Sean Murphy
	11.30	John Sheehan Jim Corless Teresa Taylor Ted O' Connor

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Community News

Blood Donation Clinic
Castletroy Park Hotel

Monday 4th Dec, 16:20 - 19.40
Tuesday 5th Dec, 16:20 - 19:40
Please call 1800 222 111 for appointment.



Faith Community News

Fáilte/Welcome

This weekend we celebrate the baptism of **Tom Oliceira Kerin**. We welcome Tom into the Christian family & congratulate his family on this special occasion.

Planned Giving Envelopes '24

Planned giving envelopes for 2024, are now available from the Parish Office on Tue, Wed or Thu morning. It would be helpful if you could recall your registered number when collecting your box. Boxes will be available after all Masses next weekend. Again, having your number will speed up the process of distribution. For those not registered, registration cards are now available in the Church.

NEW CHURCH ORGANIST

Once again we are exploring options for a new Organist for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays of the month for the 11.30am Mass. If you or someone you know may be interested, please let us know.

Cathedral Unit News

*Monaleen, Milford, St. Brigid's, St. Patrick's,
St. Michael's and St. John's*

Preparing for Christmas in the Shopping Centres

In an effort to invite people to celebrate Christmas in our Churches, members of our Pastoral Unit will be present at the Castletroy & Parkway Shopping Centres on Saturday 9th and 16th December from 11am to 4pm. This initiative hopes to reach out beyond the Church building and let all know they are welcome.

An information leaflet will be distributed with the Christmas Mass times for all six churches in our Unit. A Birthday Card for Jesus, will be offered to children which they can take home, fill-in and colour. Cards may be returned to a special Post Box near each Crib in our Unit Churches. Come and say hello!

Advent Stations - St John's

Four Wednesdays of Advent in our Cathedral at 6.15pm, after the 5.45pm Mass. All Welcome.

For your Diary



Annacotty Carol Singing for the Needy

In the village this Sunday 3rd Dec at 6pm. Bring a toy or donate!

Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas Appeal

Collection is **THIS** weekend. Your support would be appreciated.

Sick & Retired Priests Collection

A special 'red bag' collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend after Holy Communion. This collection supports the sick and retired priests of our Diocese.

Prayer for Priests

The Marian movement for Priests will meet for prayer after our 9.45am Mass on Wed 6th Dec. All Welcome.

Fuel for the Poor

Church gate collection for 'Fuel for the Poor of Limerick' next weekend.

Monthly Diocesan Needs

Next weekend - 10/11 December. Supporting the administrative and pastoral work of our diocese.

Reconciliation Service

Our Cathedral Unit Christmas Reconciliation Service will take place in Milford Church on Tue 19th December at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Music & Christmas Cheer

Castletroy College will host an evening of Music with Christmas Carols and Cheer in our Church on Wednesday 20th December at 7pm. This is a community event, open to all and admission is free.

PARISH OFFICE

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday,
7.45am -12.45pm
Parish Secretary, Mrs Brid Hession
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