



PARISH OF CASHEL MELLER
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
2ND DECEMBER 2018
FR. MERLYN KENNY-043 3325112



Mass Times & Masses for the dead as follows:

Sat 1st Dec	7.00pm	GAA Mass: No 8.00pm Mass.
Sun 2nd Dec	10.30am	Pat & Josephine Lane, Derrahau.
Mon 3rd Dec	8.00pm	Mass for the people of the parish.
Tues 4th Dec	8.00pm	Special Intention.
Wed 5th Dec	No Mass	Adoration from 3pm to 9pm.
Thur 6th Dec	9.30am	Michael & Kathleen Farrell, Longford.
Fri 7th Dec	8.00pm	Vigil Mass for Holy Day.
Sat 8th Dec	10.30am	The Immaculate Conception: Mass for James Healy, Pollagh.
Sat 8th Dec	8.00pm	
Sun 9th Dec	10.30am	Paddy Farrell. (Month's Mind.)

Pray for the happy repose of the soul of Bridget McNamee (nee Smyth), sister of Carmel Donlon, Derrahau who died recently.

Eucharistic Adoration: continues on Wednesday 3pm-9pm and Friday 8.30pm-9pm.

Eucharistic Roster:	8.00pm	Sat 8th Dec	Nora Nolan & Mary Casey.
	10.30am	Sun 9th Dec	Helen Hassett & Elizabeth Clyne.
Readers' Roster:	8.00pm	Sat 8th Dec	Luke Mulvihill.
	10.30am	Sun 9th Dec	David Hanley.

GAA Jubilee Celebrations: On Saturday 1st December, Cashel GAA Club is celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the Intermediate, Minor and Juvenile winning teams. The evening will begin with a Special Mass in the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary at 7pm. Afterwards, there will be presentations to the winning teams, with Master of Ceremonies for the night, Ciaran Mullooly in the Pier Lin, Lisnacusha. A great night of memories, music and merriment is guaranteed and the club would like to extend invitations to club supporters to join in the celebrations.

Concern: Annual Fast and Church Gate Collection takes place on December 8th & 9th. Your support would be appreciated.

Newtowncashel ICA monthly meeting takes place on Monday 3rd December at 7.30pm in 'The Hill'.

New members always welcome.

Children's Choir: There will be a rehearsal this Sunday morning, 1st of December after Mass in preparation for Christmas.

Safeguarding Message for Advent 2018 from Bishop Francis

When he visited us Pope Francis spoke very movingly about the suffering and pain of those who were abused in our Church. "None of us can fail to be moved by the stories of young people who suffered abuse, were robbed of their innocence, were separated from their mothers, and were left scarred by painful memories. This open wound challenges us to be firm and decisive in the pursuit of truth and justice". He complimented the work of our Parish and Diocesan Safeguarding Representatives and our priests and religious who "with the help of the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Church in Ireland, ... have set in place a stringent set of norms aimed at ensuring the safety of young persons". I thank all who keep these standards to the forefront of our Church activities. I thank you for your vigilance and your commitment to making our Church as safe as possible for children. I encourage anyone with concerns regarding the safety of children or anyone who suffered in the past to contact our Designated Liaison Person, Sean Leydon (087-7431649) or our Deputy Designated Liaison Person, Róisín O'Doherty (087-7057516).

St. Mary's National School Parent's Association hold a Santa 5k Fun Run/Walk on Sunday the 9th of December starting from The Hill at 2pm. The route is down the Village past the GAA pitch, quarry and down to Claris crossroads and back. Entry fees €20 per family, €10 Euro per adult and €5 per individual child. All proceeds go towards the Parent's Association. Refreshments served on the day. Then afterwards, Santa arrives to The Local approx 3.30pm, where great fun will be had. Then finally the Village Christmas Tree and Lights will be turned on heralding a real Christmas feel to our Parish for the Holiday season.

Reflection - Team Spirit: A concert was organised in a famous old church. A renowned and self-regarding organist was invited to perform. He enthralled the audience with his exquisite and soul-lifting musicianship. At the intermission, he walked around to the back of the imperious organ for a breath of fresh air. There he was greeted by an oldish gentleman who was smoking a pipe as he rested from the task of pumping air into the organ.

The man seemed very pleased with himself as he said to the musician:

"What a superb concert we are giving our audience tonight?"

The acclaimed organist was thrown off balance. "How do you mean we, old fellow? *I'm* the one who is giving the concert," he stated emphatically, rebuking the wind-blower. Quite miffed, the arrogant artist returned to his lofty perch to continue with the concert.

When the audience had settled and a great silence hung over the church, the *Great One* struck his customary pose with hands raised ... then let them descend for the next piece he was going to play. *No sound emerged.* Panic-stricken, he rushed to the back of the organ. The old man was still sitting relaxed and smiling with his pipe in his mouth. Something clicked in the musician's head. With a knowing smile he admitted, "*You were right ... we are giving them a superb concert tonight.*" Then he returned to the organ; and when he struck the keys this time ... lo and behold ... they came to life!

Moral: Like the organist ... I must remember always - it is not *I* ... it's *We* - "*we*" meaning - the *Good Lord in the first place - and my fellow human beings in the second.* Every breath we breathe ... we depend on the Lord for it ... and to quite an extent on our fellow kind too.

Similarly ... it's not mine but ours. It's not my marriage ... it's ours; it's not my agenda ... it's ours; it's not your fault only - it's ours; it's not my life ... it's ours; And it's not my planet ... it's ours - very relevant in this time of Climate Change. This whole theme is brilliantly summed up in the metaphor of the team - all for one and one for all. Many would say that the present Dublin team are the greatest proof of this team mentality. No doubt, the great Cashel teams of 1968 were exemplars of this spirit ... or they certainly would not have been so victorious and most certainly not against my native town Drumlish as in the Juvenile Final!

And the second moral from the above story is that ... we cannot *all* play the same instrument but we can *all be in the same key* - not like the P.P. who was an avid golfer.

Every chance he could get, he would be on the golf course swinging away. It was an obsession. One particular Sunday morning was picture-perfect for golfing. The sun was out, no clouds in the sky, and the temperature was just right.

The pastor was in a quandary as to what to do, but as always, the urge to play golf overcame him. He called the assistant pastor who was off-duty to tell him that he was sick and could not do church, packed the car up, and drove three hours to a golf course where no one would recognize him. Happily, he began to play the course.

An angel up above was watching the whole charade and was quite perturbed. He went to God and said, "Look at that so called shepherd of souls. He should be punished for what he is doing."

God nodded in agreement. The P.P. teed up on the first hole. He swung at the ball, and it sailed effortlessly through the air and landed right in the cup 250 yards away - *a picture-perfect hole-in-one.* He was amazed and excited.

The angel was a little shocked. He turned to God and said, "I beg your pardon, but I thought you were going to punish him."

God smiled. "Think about it! *Who can he tell?*"

Moral: The contribution of the members and players of the Cashel GAA Club comes right out of the Gospel - Your Club has taught generations of young people on the playing field ... and the not so young and agile who run the club behind the scenes ... that it is not about *I* but *We*; it is not about being *Selfish* but being *Generous*; and finally, that I might be better than you at one particular skill, and you might be better than me at another, but if we play *as a team* ... we have a chance of winning ... but *none* if we do not. *This in essence is the message of the Gospel itself.*