



### Mass Times & Masses for the dead as follows:

Sat 7th Dec 8.00pm The Kenny, Gallagher & Moughty Families.  
Sun 8th Dec 10.30am Frank Nolan, Portanure.  
Mon 9th Dec 8.00pm Feast of The Immaculate Conception - Special Intention.  
When the 8th December is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Solemnity is transferred to Monday 9th December, but is then no longer a Holyday of Obligation as in 2013 and again in 2021.  
Tues 10th Dec 8.00pm Special Intention.  
Wed 11th Dec No Mass.  
Thurs 12th Dec 9.30am Michael & Kitty Farrell, Longford.  
Fri 13th Dec 8.00pm J.P. Casey, Drumcree. (Month's Mind).  
Sat 14th Dec 8.00pm Joe Mulvihill, Cross. (Month's Mind).  
Sun 15th Dec 10.30am Nellie Browne, Streamstown. (3rd Anniv).  
*Rosary continues on Saturday before Mass at 7.40pm.*

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

**Baptism** We welcome baby Billy Lennon who was baptised recently into our Christian community. Congratulations to his parents Kevin & Emma.

### Eucharistic Ministers:

8.00pm Sat 14th Dec Mary Casey & Thomas Demigan.  
10.30am Sun 15th Dec Yvonne Kenny & Elizabeth Whitton.

### Readers:

8.00pm Sat 14th Dec Emma Casey.  
10.30am Sun 15th Dec Yvonne Kenny.

**St. Mary's N.S. Clothing Recycling** Friday 13th December 2019. Bags of unwanted clothes, footwear etc (dry and clean) can be left in staff car park or P.E. shed before 9.30 a.m. This is a valuable fundraiser and we appreciate your continued support.

**Newtowncashel themed Christmas Cards** now on sale. Proceeds go to charity.

Contact Declan Gilmore.

**Santa 5K Fun Run** - St. Mary's National School Parent's Association are holding a Santa 5K Fun Run on Sunday the 8th of December. Registration from 2 to 2.30 pm

Race starts at 2.30 pm. Adults €10; Children €5; Family €20. Route from Village to Claras Crossroads and back to the Village.

**"This is Me"**, a celebration of life concert in aid of Barretstown Children's Camps, presented by Newtowncashel, Scranogue and Tang choirs, will be held in Newtowncashel Church on Sunday 15th December at 7pm and in Tang Church on Saturday 14th December at 7pm. All welcome. Donations on the door. Your support will be appreciated.

**Advent Safeguarding Message 2019.** Arising from the preparations for our Diocesan Assembly 2020 it is very clear that 'family' is a central concern for people. Advent is a time of preparation to celebrate the beginnings of a special family, 'the Holy Family' of Mary and Joseph and Jesus. Special, as it is the place where the Son of God came among us. Special also, because it is like any other family with its mixtures of joys and sorrows, happiness and burdens. As a local Church we work towards having safe environments for children in our activities. Places where parents can be reassured their children will be safe, treated with respect and valued. Many are involved at parish and diocesan level to maintain

these standards. 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).

### Reflection

There's a story of a preacher who went into his church to pray. While praying, he asked God, "How long is *10 million years* to you?" God replied, "*One second*." The next day, the pastor asked God, "How much is *10 million dollars* to you?" And God replied, "*A penny*." Then finally, the next day, the pastor asked: "God, can I have *one of your pennies*?" And God replied, "*Just wait a second*." The easy way out seldom works with God. As today's Gospel is telling us ... we must work hard at producing the *appropriate fruit* to receive God's reward in the next life.

### God make me a TV or an iPhone

Students at an elementary school were asked to write an essay about what they would like God to do for them. At the end of the day, while grading the essays, a teacher read one that made her very emotional.

Her husband, who had just walked in, saw her crying and asked her "What happened?" She answered "Read this! It is one of my school students' essays." "Dear God ... tonight I ask of you something very special. Make me into a *TV set*. I want to take its place and live like the *TV* in my house - have my own special place ... and have my family around me ... to be taken seriously when I talk; for a *little while* - to be the centre of attention and be heard without interruptions or questions.

I want to receive the same special care as the *TV* receives even when it is not working ... to have the company of my dad when he arrives home from work, even when he is tired. And I want my mom to want me when she is sad and upset, so *I* can comfort her instead. And I want my brothers to fight *to be with me*.

I want to feel that the family leaves everything aside, just every now and then, to spend some time with me. And last but not least, ensure that I can make them all *happy* and *entertain* them. Lord I hope I'm not asking for much. I just want to live like a *TV*."

At that moment the husband exclaimed, "*The poor kid! What horrible parents!*"

The wife looked up at him and said "That's *our son's* essay!"

**Moral:** ... sometimes we are like the husband ... we see the failings of others but not our own ... To *produce the appropriate fruit* ... we need to clear the threshing floor and burn the chaff from our lives ... Advent is precisely about that ... We could easily put the Lord Himself in the place of the teacher's son. ... What is your and my obsession? The *TV* stands for it ... There's a chance to *burn the chaff* in our Reconciliation Service for Christmas so that Jesus can truly come to us on 25th of December.