



PARISH OF CASHEL NEWSPAPER  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
9TH DECEMBER 2018



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

Sat	8th	Dec	10.30am	The Immaculate Conception: Mass for James Healy, Pollagh.
Sat	8th	Dec	8.00pm	Special Intention.
Sun	9th	Dec	10.30am	Paddy Farrell. (Month's Mind.)
Mon	10th	Dec	8.00pm	James & Elizabeth Casey, Cornadough.

Also Elizabeth Casey, Carrowstrawley, & D.F.M.  
Mass for the people of the parish.  
Wed 12th Dec *No Mass* Adoration from 3pm to 9pm.

Thu	13th	Dec	9.30am	Special Intention.
Fri	14th	Dec	8.00pm	Special Intention.
Sat	15th	Dec	8.00pm	John Casey, Derrydarragh. (10th Anniv.)
Sun	16th	Dec	10.30am	Nellie Browne, Calurmore. (2nd Anniv.)

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

<b>Eucharistic Adoration:</b>	8.00pm	Sat	15th	Dec	Ann Kelly & Laura Hanley.
	10.30am	Sun	16th	Dec	Brendan Bannon & Margaret Boyce.
	8.00pm	Sat	15th	Dec	Ladrian Farrell.
<b>Readers' Roster</b>	10.30am	Sun	16th	Dec	Yvonne Kenny.

#### 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 3k Fun Run/Walk on Sunday the 9th of December starting from The Hill at 2 pm. 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.

**Christmas Cards** designed by Declan Gilmore—now on sale in "The Local", and also in "The Hill" on Monday evening from 8.30pm to 9.30pm. Scene: Sunset at Barley Harbour with a Christmas theme. Proceeds will go to Church Funds.

**Reflection:** A couple were dining out together celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary. After the meal, the husband presented his wife romantically with a beautiful very old gold antique locket on a chain.

Amazingly when his wife opened the locket, a tiny genie appeared. Addressing the astonished couple, the genie said, "Your forty years of devotion to each other has released me from this locket, and in return I can now grant you both one wish each - anything you want." Without hesitating, the wife asked, "Please, can I travel to the four corners of the world with my husband, as happy and in love as we've always been?" The genie waved her wand with a flourish, and magically there on the table were two first-class tickets for a round-the-world holiday.

Staggered, the couple looked at each other, unable to believe their luck. "Your turn," said the genie and the wife to the husband. The husband thought for a few seconds, and then said, with a little guilt in his voice, "Forgive me, but to really enjoy that holiday of a lifetime - I yearn for a younger woman - so I wish that my wife could be thirty years younger than me." Shocked, the genie glanced at the wife, and with a knowing look in his eye, waved his wand ... and the husband became ninety-three.

**Moral:** Advent challenges us to overcome the selfishness of this husband. The following story gives us the true Christian perspective. Among the most famous and well known of all medals in Catholicism is the Miraculous Medal.

This medal was given to us by the Blessed Mother through her chosen daughter, Catherine Labouré.

Catherine was born on May 2, 1806, in the Burgundy region of France. Her parents were Pierre and Madeleine Labouré and Catherine was their ninth of 11 children. In 1815, when Catherine was nine years old, her mom died. After the funeral, when Catherine was home, she picked up a statue of the Blessed Virgin and, holding it close to her face, said, "Now you will be my mother."

Catherine's dad, within a year, gave Catherine the responsibility of caring for the household. Catherine dutifully and lovingly did as she was asked. She was all of 10 years old.

Soon after, Catherine had a dream in which an old priest motioned her to a room filled with sick people. He told her, "It is a good deed to look after the sick. God has designs on you. Do not forget it."

Some years later, upon visiting a hospital of the Daughters of Charity, she saw a picture of the same priest on the wall. She asked who that might be and she was told that it was their founder, St. Vincent de Paul. She immediately knew she must become a member of St. Vincent's order.

In January of 1830, Catherine Labouré entered the novitiate of the Daughters of Charity. Three months later she left for Paris and entered the Mother House of the order. After hearing a homily about St. Vincent de Paul, she prayed to him to ask Our Lady if she might see her. That very night a bright light woke her and the voice of a child told her to go to the chapel as the Blessed Mother was waiting for her. The date was July 19, 1830.

As Catherine neared the chapel door it swung open and the inside was awash in brilliant light. Catherine went up and knelt at the communion rail. Then she heard the rustle of a silk dress. She turned and the Our Lady was sitting in the celebrant's chair. The angel said, "The Blessed Mother wishes to speak to you."

Catherine slowly approached the Blessed Mother and knelt beside her. She folded her hands and placed them in Our Lady's lap. The Blessed Virgin told her that she was being given a mission and that she would have all the graces necessary to complete it. Our Lady said, "... You will have the protection of God and St. Vincent. I always will have my eyes upon you. There will be much persecution. The cross will be treated with contempt. It will be hurled to the ground and blood will flow." Then the vision faded away.

Four months later, as Catherine and the other sisters headed to the chapel for evening prayers, Catherine heard the "swishing" sound and immediately recognized it as a signal from the Blessed Mother.

Catherine looked to the main altar and saw Our Lady standing on a globe inside an oval frame. Around the margin of the frame appeared the words "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."

She told Catherine: "Have a medal struck after this model. All who wear it will receive great graces; they should wear it around the neck." She also told Catherine to bring her instructions to Father Jean Marie Aladel, telling her, "He is my servant."

Catherine did as instructed and brought her message to the priest. At first he did not believe her. Finally, after two years, he brought her story to the Archbishop. The Archbishop ordered 2,000 medals to be struck. A share of these was given to Catherine, who said, "Now it must be propagated."

Catherine Labouré sought no attention and for the next 40 years simply went about the business of caring for the elderly, infirm and disabled. That is why she is known as a patron of elderly people.

On New Year's Eve, 1876, Sister Catherine passed to her heavenly reward. Only a few people knew that she had been the one who had received the Miraculous Medal from the Blessed Virgin Mary. After her passing, word of who she was got out and spread like wildfire.

Catherine Labouré's body was exhumed in 1933. It was miraculously as fresh as the day she was buried.

Catherine Labouré was canonized a saint by Pope Pius XII on July 27, 1947. She was, without doubt, a remarkable and humble woman. Her feast day is November 28. St. Catherine Labouré, pray for us.

*"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."*