

# Parish of Cashel

CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN, NEWTOWNCASHEL

Fr. Gerard Brady P.P.

Tel. 043 332 5112, 087 231 2353

E-mail: bvmnewtowncashel@eircom.net

## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### GAUDETE SUNDAY

13th/14th December, 2014

*To seek to re-define the nature of marriage would be to undermine it as the fundamental building block of our society.* The Irish Bishops.

- ✠ **Mass** on Saturday (Vigil), 8.00 p.m.; Sunday, 12.00 noon, Funeral Mass; Monday and Friday, 8.00 p.m.; Tuesday, and Thursday, 9.30 a.m.
- ✠ **Mass** for the **Intentions of the People of the Parish**, *Missa pro Populo*, on Tuesday 16th, at 9.30 a.m.
- ✠ Sunday 14th is the Feast of St. John of the Cross, Carmelite, 1542-1591, at the request of St. Teresa of Avila he undertook the reform of the Carmelite order, which cost him much hard work and many trials.  
Tuesday 16th, St. Charles de Foucauld, 1858-1916, French hermit and priest who preached the Gospel in the Algerian desert until he was murdered by Muslims.  
Thursday 18th, St. Flannan, son of the King of Thomond, first bishop of Killaloe and patron of the diocese, died c 750.  
Friday 19th, St. Anastasius I, Pope from 399 to 401.  
Saturday 20th, St. Fachanan, patron diocese of Kilfenora, Co. Clare. Kilfenora is in the ecclesiastical province of Cashel but the Bishop of Galway and Kilmacduagh is its apostolic administrator.
- ✠ **Confessions**, in preparation for Christmas, on Tuesday week, 23rd, at 8.00 p.m. Visiting confessors will attend. Those who wish to go to Confession for Christmas are urged to avail of this opportunity.
- ✠ **Confessions** in St. Mary's Church, Lanesboro, on Monday week, 22nd, at 7.00 p.m. A further opportunity to avail of the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas.
- ✠ **"Do This in Memory"**. The First Communion children and their parents participate in the liturgy on Sunday next, 21st, the Fourth Sunday of Advent.
- ✠ **Junior Choir**. A rehearsal for Christmas Day will be held on Sunday, 21st, after Mass till 12.30 p.m. All who are to participate on Christmas Day are asked to attend the rehearsals.
- ✠ **Senior Choir**. The next practice for Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, is on Saturday 20th, at 6.00 p.m. All members are asked to attend.
- ✠ **The Meaning of Marriage** is a Pastoral Statement of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference in anticipation of a same-sex marriage referendum indicated for spring 2015. A limited number of copies are available in the porches. The statement is also available in pdf or 'Word' format on the Irish Catholic Bishops' website at <http://www.catholicbishops.ie/2014/12/03/meaning-marriage/>

- ✠ **School Concert**. The staff and pupils of St. Mary's N.S. present their biennial Christmas Concert in "The Hill" on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th. The concert consists of three performances presented by the junior, middle and senior pupils. Doors open 6.30. Curtain 7.00 p.m., sharp.
- ✠ The restored **St. Mel's Cathedral** re-opens on Saturday 20th at 10.30 a.m. 'Midnight' Mass on Christmas Eve at 11.00 p.m., and Mass at 10.00 a.m. on Christmas Day will be televised by R.T.E. To coincide with the re-opening of the Cathedral the erection of a limestone column in the church grounds, has been completed. The accompanying bronze plaque reads as follows:

*The nave of St. Mel's Cathedral, Longford, was flanked by 28 limestone columns quarried at Ballyrevagh, Newtowncashel, in the early 1840s. This base and Ionic capital were salvaged following a fire which destroyed the interior and roof of the building on Christmas Day, 2009.*

The column will serve as a reminder of the historic link with the Cathedral. It will also recall the patient skill, craftsmanship and expertise of the stone masons who carved the columns by hand.

- ✠ The **Newsletter** will not be published on 27th/28th December. Items relating to the fortnight, 22nd December to 4th January, 2015, should be submitted by Thursday 18th, for inclusion in next weekend's issue.
- ✠ A **Blood Donor Clinic** will be held at The Longford Arms Hotel on Tuesday 16th, Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th, 4.30 to 8.00 p.m. "Give Blood - you get more than you give!"
- ✠ The **A.G.M. of Cashel G.A.A. Club**, deferred as a mark of respect to the late Kieran Eustace, will be held in the Clubhouse on Friday 19th, at 8.00 p.m., sharp. Members are requested to attend the A.G.M. to review the activities of 2014, elect an executive and plan for 2015.
- ✠ **Abbeyshrule Christmas Craft Fair** takes place this Sunday 14th from 12.00 noon to 6.00 p.m., at the Rustic Inn. Art, craft and food stalls; Santa and Mrs. Claus at 4.00 p.m.
- ✠ **The coming weekend is the last opportunity for handing in this year's collection envelopes**. When contributing kindly write the amount in the space provided on each envelope. This helps ensure accurate recording.
- ✠ Recent collection totals:  
Sunday last..... €580.00.  
Feast of the Immaculate Conception ..... €305.00. Thank you very much.
- ✠ **Masses for the Dead:-**  
Saturday 13th, 8.00 p.m., John Casey, Derrydarragh.  
Sunday 14th, 12.00 noon, Kieran Eustace, New Row.  
Monday 15th, 8.00 p.m., Brian Smyth, London and Tipper,  
and deceased members of the Smyth Family, Tipper.  
Friday 19th, 8.00 p.m., James & Elizabeth Casey, Cornadough,  
and Elizabeth Casey, Carrowstrawley.  
Saturday 20th, 8.00 p.m., Thomas Fayne and deceased members of  
the Fayne family, Caltramore.  
Sunday 21st, 10.30 a.m., Richard and Annie Farrell, Cross.  
Please pray for Kieran Eustace, New Row, who died on Thursday 11th. Funeral Mass this Sunday, 14th, at 12.00 noon. Burial afterwards in Cashel Cemetery. The Funeral Mass replaces the scheduled 10.30 Mass.