



PARISH OF CASHEL NEWSLETTER
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
FR MERLYN KENNY-0860503433



Mass Times & Masses for the dead as follows :

Sat 28th Dec 8.00pm Mary Quigley, (née Moughty), Dermacar.
Sun 29th Dec 10.30am Pat & Joe Lane, Derraham.
Mon 30th Dec No Mass - Hols.
Tues 31st Dec No Mass - Hols.
Wed 1st Jan 8.00pm Solemnity of The Mother of God..
Thurs 2nd Jan 8.00pm Rosie (2nd Anniv) & Mike Healy, Claraune.
Fri 3rd Jan 8.00pm Peter & Mary Kate Clyne & Tom Boyce, Caltraheg.
Sat 4th Jan 8.00pm Bridge Mubihill, Loughfarrm.
Sun 5th Jan 10.30am John, Tom & Patricia Smyth, Curroole.

Rosary continues on Saturday before Mass at 7.40pm.

Eucharistic Adoration will recommence on Wednesday 8th January.

Eucharistic Ministers:

8.00pm Sat 5th Jan Ann Kelly & Laura Hanley.
10.30am Sun 6th Jan Helen Hassett & Elizabeth Chyne.

Readers:

8.00pm Sat 5th Jan Barbara Martin.
10.30am Sun 6th Jan Margaret Boyce.

& A Very Special Thank You To:

You - most **loyal** and **generous** Parishioners for your faithful dedication to Church and your financial and personal support in so many ways;

Pastoral Council, Senior and Junior Choirs and Directors, the Flower arranging and Artistic Displays, Servers and Servers' Organiser, Readers, Eucharistic ministers, Collectors, the arrangers of the beautiful Crib & Star & Lights;

To the: Adoration and Rosary Participants and Committee, Safeguarding Representative, People who do the Church laundry, Cleaning and Polishing of the Church, the Toilets and Parochial House, Gardening and cutting of the grass, Building and Maintenance, Accounts, Secretarial Assistance, Those who arrange rotas, Cemetery Committee; The Hill Committee and Caretaker;

School Chairperson, Principal, BOM, Teachers/Secretary/Parents/Parents' Association/ Caretakers and Cleaner/Children/Do This In Memory Programme assistants, All who support and work behind the scenes ensuring everything runs smoothly and especially to Tom, Maureen, Siobhan, Yvonne, Kathleen, Oliver and my sister Marie.

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year.

In 1994, two Americans answered an invitation from the Russian Department of Education to teach morals and ethics in the public schools. They were invited to teach at prisons, businesses, the fire and police departments and a large orphanage. About 100 boys and girls who had been abandoned, and left in the care of a government-run program were in the orphanage. They relate the following story in their own words:

It was nearing December 1994, time for our orphans to hear, for the first time, the traditional story of Christmas. We told them about Mary and Joseph arriving in Bethlehem. Finding no room in the inn, they went to a stable, where the baby Jesus was born and placed in a manger. Throughout the story, the children and orphanage staff sat in amazement as they listened. Some sat on the edges of their stools, trying to grasp every word. Completing the story, we gave the children many things to build their own manger. The orphans were busy assembling their manger as I walked among them to see if they needed any help. All went well until I got to one table where little Misha sat. He looked to be about 6 years old and had finished his project. As I looked at the little boy's manger, I was startled to see not one, but **two babies** in the manger. Quickly, I called for the translator to ask the lad why there were two babies in the manger. Crossing his arms in front of him and looking at this completed manger scene, the child began to repeat the story very seriously. For such a young boy, who had only heard the Christmas story once, he related the happenings accurately - until he came to the part where Mary put the baby Jesus in the manger. Then Misha started to ad-lib. He made up his own ending to the story as he said,

And when Mary laid the baby in the manger, Jesus looked at me and asked me if I had a place to stay. I told him I have no mamma and I have no papa, so I don't have any place to stay. Then Jesus told me I could stay with him. But I told him I couldn't, because I didn't have a gift to give him like everybody else did. But I wanted to stay with Jesus so much, so I thought about what I had that maybe I could use for a gift. I thought maybe **if I kept him warm**, that would be a good gift. So I asked Jesus, 'If I keep you warm, will that be a good enough gift?' And Jesus told me, 'If you keep me warm, that will be the best gift anybody ever gave me.' So I got into the manger, and then Jesus looked at me and he told me I could stay with him ... for always.

As little Misha finished his story, his eyes brimmed full of tears that rolled down his little cheeks. Putting his hand over his face, his head dropped to the table and his shoulders shook as he sobbed and sobbed. The little orphan had found someone who would never abandon him, someone who would stay with him - ALWAYS.

Moral: A saying from Mother Teresa: "Loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the greatest of all poverty. I thought my people on the streets of Calcutta were poor until I visited England - yes they were better-off on the outside but on the inside ... such loneliness I have never witnessed. We will never be alone if we take the infant in the Manger into our hearts like little Misha in the story."