Sunday 30th November 2025

Mass Intentions.

Tourlestrane church

Sunday 30th November: 10.30am: Mary Leonard, deceased of Family

Monday 1st December: No Mass

Tuesday 2nd December: 9.30am

Wednesday 3rd December; 9.30am

Thursday 4th December: No Mass

Friday 5th December : 7pm

Saturday 6th December: 10.30am Anna Owens

Sunday 7th December: 10.30am: Ann and Chris Surlis

Kilmactigue church

Saturday 29th November: 11am Seamus Gallagher

Saturday 29th November: 7pm Paddy & Bridie Howley, Kincullew, deceased of Howley & Kildunne families

Sunday 30th November: No Mass

Monday 1st December: 9.30am

Tuesday 2nd December: No Mass

Wednesday 3rd December: No Mass

Thursday 4th December: 9.30am

Friday 5th December: No Mass

Saturday 6th December: 7pm Deceased of Doherty family

Sunday 7th December: No Mass

Lough Talt church

Sunday 30th November: 9.20am For the Living

Sunday 7th December. 9.20am : Jo Haran

First reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

The Lord gathers all nations together into the eternal peace of God's kingdom

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord
shall tower above the mountains
and be lifted higher than the hills.
All the nations will stream to it,
peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.’

He will wield authority over the nations
and adjudicate between many peoples;
these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.
Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 121(122):1-2,4-5,6-9

I rejoiced when I heard them say: ‘Let us go to God’s house.’

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
‘Let us go to God’s house.’
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: ‘Let us go to God’s house.’

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel’s law it is,
there to praise the Lord’s name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: ‘Let us go to God’s house.’

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
'Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!'

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'

Second reading

Romans 13:11-14

Our salvation is near

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

Matthew 24:37-44

The Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Offertory Collection

The Offertory Collection for the weekend 23rd November was €999.07

Recent Death

Please pray for Josephine Higgins (nee Neary), claddagh and London, who died in England recently. She was sister of Frank Neary and Margaret O'Neill,Claddagh.

Visitation of the Sick and Housebound.

Fr John will the sick and housebound next Thursday and Friday 4th/5th December at around the usual times.

St Vincent De Paul

The phone number for the local conference is 087 3549586. The annual collection church gate collection will take place on the weekend of 13/14th December

Advent Special gathering

There will be a special Mass on Wednesday17th December in Tourlestrane church for all volunteers who take part in ministry in the parish.

Coffee Morning Thank you

The Coffee Morning in Ox Mountain Centre. Total collected was €560 for the NorthWest Hospice. Thanks to everyone who called and donated to it.

Mass preparation Rota

A rota is being formed in Kilmactigue church on a two weekly basis for those who will prepare the church for the celebration of Mass on weekends.

Advent Gospel Meetings

During this Advent season there will a meeting for anyone interested in exploring and praying the gospel in Fr John's house at 8pm.

Parish Safeguarding Handbook.

The Parish Safeguarding handbook is available on
http://achonrydiocese.org/safeguardinghandbook/

First Communion Meeting

There will be a meeting for parents of first Communion candidates in the Hilary Room on Wednesday 3rd December at 8pm.

BAMBINELLI Sunday

The blessing of figures for your crib at home will take place next Sunday during the family Mass.

Family Mass.

The family mass takes place next Sunday 7th December at 10.30am in Tourlestrane church

Christmas Flower Demonstrations

The ICA are holding their annual Christmas Flower Demo in the Kilmactigue Community Centre on Wednesday the 3rd of December at 8pm sharp.
Raffle and refreshments will be served. Admission €5.
Please use the back door.

Enrolment Now Open at Banada N.S.!

We are delighted to announce that enrolment is now open at **Banada National School** for the upcoming school year.

Parents of children attending Primary Schools

For Attention of Parents of children attending Primary Schools or have yet to start.

The Department of Education is currently conducting a Primary School Survey that will determine the future provision of Primary Schools and crucially could lead to lasting changes in **your** school. In simple, direct terms, you are being asked if you want your school to stay a Catholic school or if you want that to change. Don't leave it to others, have your say before 16 December 2025

See - https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey/

Drimina NS

Enrolments will close on January 16th 2026. Enrolment forms are available on request by emailing driminans3@gmail.com or by contacting the school 0719186046. A copy of the school's Admission Policy is available at: www.driminans.ie

Online Advent Retreat

The Priory Institute is delighted to offer a FREE OF CHARGE Advent retreat .Visit our website prioryinstitute.com or click on this link here to register/find out more.

Focus Ireland

This Advent and Christmas, Focus Ireland invites parishioners to host a carol service or festive singalong and help end child homelessness for good. There are currently over 5000 children and their families experiencing homelessness in Ireland. Whether it's a parish choir event, a school performance, or a community gathering, your carols can help bring hope and dignity to those in need.

Banada Abbey Bingo

Banada Abbey Bingo this Tuesday at 8.00pm. Play in the hall or on-line. New Jackpot GAME for €2,000 now on 50 calls or less.Game 5 Jackpot €1,000 in 40 calls or less. Prize Fund of €10,500 on offer. Lots of additional ways to win in the hall, including an extra Game. Don't miss out!!

25 Card Game Resumes

25 Card game resumes on Friday 7th Nov in the Hilary Room, Banada Abbey Hall and every Friday thereafter at 8.30pm

Community Christmas Fair

Community Christmas Fair in St Brigid's Hall, Sunday 30th November 2025 11 am - 5 pm. All proceeds to Sligo Cancer Support Centre, Tubbercurry & St Brigid's Hall. Over 24 Craft Stalls - Handmade gifts to suit all budgets, ages and

tastes; homemade cakes, jams and goodies; musical entertainment, raffle and lots more - and Santa and Mrs Claus will be there! Come along and meet your neighbours and friends, a lovely way to mark the beginning of Advent and the Christmas season.

Children's Burial Grounds

Dr. Marion Dowd, ATU Sligo, will give a talk entitled, 'Children's Burial Grounds: Archaeology, Folklore, Memory', in the Mill Café, Cloonacool, on Friday, Dec 5 at 7pm. Her research area is recording the location of Cillíní and the folklore surrounding them before it is lost. All are welcome.

Guided Prayer

Guided Prayer Afternoon on Thursday, December 11th from 2pm to 4.30pm.
The afternoon will include: rosary, meditation, silent time and Mass. For information contact: Fina 096 45374 / 087 681 6821

December

December @ Fr Peyton Centre, Attymass, Ballina Co. Mayo F26 X884
One Day retreat Saturday, December 6th
Advent -- Prepare the Way of the Lord --
Join us to explore the journey through Advent.
Beginning at 11am and concluding at 4.30pm, the day includes: spiritual talks, reflection, quiet time, rosary and Mass. The cost is €25, which includes tea, coffee on arrival & light lunch. Booking is essential. For enquiries and booking contact Fina 096 45374 / 087 681 6821

Confessions

Confessions is available on Friday evenings in Tourlestrane church at 6pm to 6.30pm in the adoration room.

Drimina NS

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Bowls at Banada Abbey

Why not try out this new game at Banada Abbey hall each Thursday at 8.00pm?

Baptised and Sent

Over the past four years the Irish Church and the Universal Church have been on a journey of renewal. Numerous gatherings have been held across every Irish diocese and various other groupings. These gatherings have been carried out in a prayerful way in an attempt to listen deeply to where the Holy Spirit is calling us, the people of God, as we try to respond to the call .The fruit of what emerged

from this extended period of reflection and prayer can be found in the Irish Synodal Pathway's document, Baptised and Sent.
Baptised and Sent identifies recurring themes in our conversations. These include the wound of abuse and the demand for real healing and accountability; the call of women and men for leadership roles and a recognition of women's gifts in the life of the Church; the alienation of young people, many of whom find our liturgies wearisome and our witness unconvincing; the discomfort, and sometimes exclusion, felt by LGBTQ+ people; the fatigue of priests carrying too much on ageing shoulders; and the gnawing sense of a Church that has struggled to speak credibly into the public square and secular culture.

Dominican Retreat Centre

Upcoming events at the Dominican Retreat Centre,
St. Mary's Priory, Tallaght Village, Dublin D24 KA40

- **Advent Retreat** Thursday 11-Sunday 14 December
- **Lectio Retreat Day** Sunday 30 Nov 10am-4pm
- **Mindfulness for Christmas** Saturday 6 December 1-am-3pm
- **Taize Prayer Around the Cross** (Ages 18-35) First Thursday of each month at 7:30pm

For more information, phone 01 4048189 or email dominianretreats@gmail.com

Date of First Communions

First Communion will be celebrated in Tourlestrane church for the children in second class from Banada NS and Drimina NS on Saturday 16th May at 11am
First Communion will be celebrated in Lough Talt church for the children in second class in Castlerock NS on Sunday 24th May at 11am.

Date of Confirmation.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated with Bishop Kevin Doran in Tourlestrane church on Friday 8th May at 4pm.

Altar Servers.

Thanks to the boys and girls who have volunteered to be altar servers this year.

Children's Choir.

It was good to see the children's choir beginning rehearsals for the new year. Encourage your children to take an active part in the work of our parish community.

Achonry Pioneers

Achonry Pioneer Total Abstinence Association If anyone in the parish would like to receive their Silver, Gold or Diamond Pioneer pin or become a member, please email achonrypioneers@gmail.com or contact Thomas at 087-2344338

Pre Marriage Courses

Pre Marriage Courses by Accord in. Check for availability, , on **www.accord.ie**.
Sligo, Glass House Hotel: 12 places Fri. 5th./ Sat. 6 Dec.; 12 places Fri. 30th./ Sat. 31 Jan.

Dementia Support Worker

Join Our Caring Team! Dementia Support Worker (Care in the Community) Looking for meaningful, flexible work? We're seeking compassionate, honest, reliable people to support individuals living with dementia in their own homes in Co. Mayo
Locations: All throughout Co. Mayo
What You'll Do: Offer companionship and social connection. Assist with daily living activities. Support meaningful activities. Give primary carers a well-deserved break.
Flexible hours – work around ***your*** schedule! Make a real difference, one visit at a time.
Essentials: QQI Level 5 modules in **Care Skills** & **Care of the Older Person**
Desirable: Previous experience in caring / QQI Level 5 in Health Care
Interested? Get in touch today! 094 93 64900 or email careers@westernalzheimers.ie

Tusla, Meitheal.

Meitheal is a Tusla led process for children and families who may need support. Meitheal enables families to identify what is working well and not so well in their child or young person's life and work towards changes they would like to see happen for their child or young person. For more information on Meitheal please contact 0876562844 or email

Rite & Reason: True growth can be found in a Church faithful to the mission given to it by Jesus Christ

As someone who is serving as a bishop in today's Ireland, I am painfully aware that many people no longer look to the Church as being significant in their lives in the way they once did. From my experience of pastoral ministry for over 28 years, I am also mindful of the existential questions deep within many hearts at this time of volatility in the world and our society.

In response to these realities, the Irish Catholic Bishops in 2021 invited people to reflect upon the question: "What is God asking of the Church in Ireland at this time?" It was envisaged that the Irish Church would explore this question and it would lead to an assembly or assemblies where the fruits of the reflection could be teased out together and guide us along the road of renewal.

Coincidentally, shortly after the Irish Bishops' announcement, the late Pope Francis called on the Universal Church to set out on the Synodal Pathway under the headings, "Communion, Participation and Mission".

The word "synodal" has been somewhat difficult to grapple with as it is unfamiliar language to many. In essence, it means "walking together". By calling on the Universal Church to "walk together" on this journey, Pope Francis invited us, as brothers and sisters in Christ, to open our hearts to the Holy Spirit and discern how we can enter into deeper communion with one another and to encourage more participation in the life of the Church.

All of this was to be carried out in the context of the mission given to each one of us in Baptism. Even though many saw this as something new, in essence Pope Francis's dream of a synodal Church was not something novel, as it is firmly rooted in the vision of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). One of the major themes emerging out of the Council was the model of Church as the "people of God". "Synodality" is a living out of this model in the day-to-day reality of the Church's life and mission.

With this as a backdrop, over the past four years the Irish Church and the Universal Church have been on a journey of renewal. Numerous gatherings have been held across every Irish diocese and various other groupings. These gatherings have been carried out in a prayerful way in an attempt to listen deeply to where the Holy Spirit is calling us, the people of God, as we try to respond to the call of the Gospel today.

The fruit of what emerged from this extended period of reflection and prayer can be found in the Irish Synodal Pathway's document, Baptised and Sent. This was discussed by a gathering of 240 lay, religious and clerical delegates from the four corners of the country last weekend at a pre-Synodal assembly in Kilkenny. It affirms the many challenges we face but also the great possibilities.

Baptised and Sent identifies recurring themes in our conversations. These include the wound of abuse and the demand for real healing and accountability; the call of women and men for leadership roles and a recognition of women's gifts in the life of the Church; the alienation of young people, many of whom find our liturgies wearisome and our witness unconvincing; the discomfort, and sometimes exclusion, felt by LGBTQ+ people; the fatigue of priests carrying too much on ageing shoulders; and the gnawing sense of a Church that has struggled to speak credibly into the public square and secular culture.

In response, some within the Church are calling for radical reform, while others prioritise caution and fidelity to more traditional ways. Between invitation and expectation, between renewal and continuity, the tension is real.

However, Baptised and Sent offers us hope. It proposes Baptism as the great unifying paradigm; the truth that every Christian, lay or ordained, is equally valued, called and sent on mission. Flowing from this, seven Spirit-led priorities have emerged from our four years of listening to and reflecting with people in our parishes. Namely, they are: belonging, co-responsibility and lay ministry, family, formation and catechesis, healing, women, and youth.

These priorities point to a Church that is faithful to the mission given to it by Jesus Christ. They point to a Church that welcomes, that listens, that challenges, that shares leadership, that

accompanies families, that forms disciples, that heals wounds, that cherishes and empowers women and men and engages with young people.

Our recent gathering in Kilkenny was another step on this journey together, challenging us to respond to these priorities with courage. It was a prelude to the first National Synodal Assembly which will take place in October, 2026.

Karl Rahner, the late German theologian, reminds us: “Any attempt to look into the future is difficult and inevitably comes up against what is obscure and vague; but such a look into the distance is necessary if we are not to be cowards, remaining comfortably stuck in the present and only passively awaiting the future. But this glance into the future can be one of faith and hope.”

As the Irish Catholic Church glances into the future, may it do so with courage, “without remaining comfortably stuck in the present”. We are called as a community of disciples to set out without fear, to rediscover the joy and the challenge of the Gospel.

May this continuing journey of renewal, despite its struggles, questions and sometimes frustrations, enable us to witness Christ’s message of love, hope and joy in the new reality of today. As we take this road together, may it open up new possibilities for mission and engagement with faith in a world where many are asking soul-searching questions in a fragmented age.

Bishop Paul Dempsey is Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin