

Mallow and Mourneabbey Parish Newsletter

Sunday December 6th 2020

Second Sunday of Advent Year B

www.mallowparish.ie

Bishop Crean appeals for help for the parishes of the Diocese of Cloyne as Churches re-open for Public Worship

To parishioners in the Diocese of Cloyne

Re: 1. Need for financial support

2. Need for help to return to prayer together for Christmas and to do so safely.

2020 has been a difficult year for practically everybody. Covid 19 has caused great suffering to those who contracted the illness, to their families, their carers and frontline people, not to mention those who have died with Covid, and the impact restrictions have made on grieving families. We remember all continually in our prayer.

Many people have missed attending Mass, being deprived of receiving the Lord in Holy Communion and the opportunity to celebrate other sacraments. Many priests made great efforts to use the Internet to broadcast Mass. However, even this has been a poor substitute. Given the ongoing risk of transmission of the virus, parishes will need the help of stewards to ensure best practice in our gatherings for prayer this Christmas. I appeal to those in organisations, both sports and business, with skill in ensuring safe gatherings of people, to offer your service to your parish community. The priests and parish pastoral councils will appreciate your help to allow us to gather safely for prayer at this time.

The restrictions have impacted people psychologically, socially and financially. Many people are no longer working or are working on reduced hours on less income. This has forced people to cut their cloth to measure. The poor especially will need our help this Christmas.

Parishes also have been badly affected financially. Not having public Sunday Mass has meant no weekly collections for the upkeep of the parish. All the regular bills still need to be paid.

In parishes where envelopes are used, many parishioners have been giving their offerings to the parish office or a priest's house. All such offerings, and those for the priests, are deeply appreciated and hereby acknowledged.

We do not know your personal circumstances, we ask you to please consider contributing by giving to the collection when Masses re-open, or by whatever method suits you. I thank you in anticipation of your response to support your parish at this critical time.

Wishing you and yours the blessing, joy and peace of the Saviour.

Most Rev. William Crean, Bishop of Cloyne

Resumption of Public Masses

Churches have reopened for public masses under strict conditions since the 1st of December. Wearing of masks during Mass, which we are already doing in Mallow, is now a requirement.

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are urgently required to sanitise both churches every evening. As this involves the use of fogging machines, we are asking healthy men to give an hour one evening a week to make the churches safe for all of us.

Please give your name and phone number to any of the priests/ Thanks you to all who have responded to our appeal already.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place from **2.00 pm to 6.00 pm on the Sundays of Advent** in St Mary's Church. All are welcome but are subject to restrictions on numbers as per present guidelines. The usual public Holy Hour on Sundays is transferred to 5.00-6.00 pm. There will therefore be no Eucharistic Adoration at 7.30pm. Please spread the word. Thank you.



ADVENT: How often do we hear a song and a singer without knowing or needing to know their appearance? The message we hear or the manner of their speaking engages us sufficiently to gain our respect and our attention. When we think of the Israel of the time of John the Baptist it is the voice of John which is heard in the wilderness. The voice of the Lord speaks through John and the people respond. Word gets out and people flock in their thousands to hear him speak and in the process of repentance they speak their sins aloud. The readings invite us to listen to the voice of the Lord in the stillness of the wilderness. The voice of others can influence us for good or ill. The voice of conscience prodding us to act, or the voice of a doctor or dentist requiring us to change certain aspects of our diet or lifestyle, or the voices of social commentators of the voices of commercialism. To whom do we listen? Who or what influences us?

NOTICE RE MASSES

All Sunday Masses resume
this weekend
as Level 3 restrictions take effect.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

December 7th/8th

(Usual Holyday Mass times apply)

Please note—Government restrictions on numbers attending Masses still apply

The dispensation from the Obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays still applies

We appeal to daily Mass goers to forego attendance at Sunday Mass to allow for those who can only attend on Sundays.

Thank you all for your cooperation
and understanding

ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS:

FRIDAYS 5.00 - 6.00PM AT CHURCH OF THE
RESURRECTION

Adoration on Sundays of Advent

2.00—6.00 pm

SATURDAYS 10.30 –11.30

at St Mary's after 10 am Mass

ALL MASSES AT ST MARY'S CONTINUE TO BE STREAMED ONLINE DAILY

We all need to keep vigilant in following the guidelines: washing of hands and sanitising regularly, keeping social distance and avoiding large gatherings of people.

Don't forget that **Radio Maria** is available readily

Listen in via: SAORVIEW Ch 210

App "Radio Maria Ireland"

Internet: <http://radiomaria.ie>

Facebook "Listen Live Radio"

Priests of our Parish:

Msgr. Anthony O'Brien, P.P., V.G. 087 6834193.

Fr. James Greene, C.C. 085 8471249.

Fr. Andrew Carvill, C.C. 022 51606.

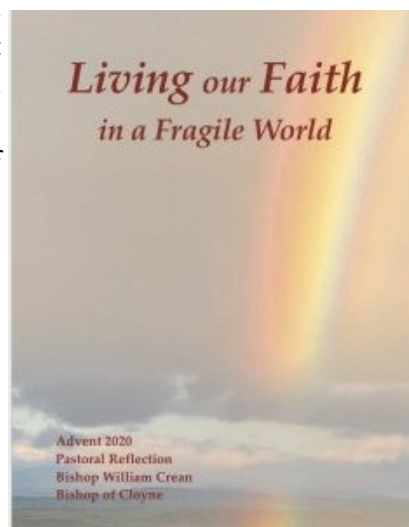
Fr. John McCarthy, C.C. 086 8212101.

Sick Calls:- Please call 022 21251

PARISH WEBSITE www.mallowparish.ie

Watch Masses live from St. Mary's Church
by logging on to churchservices.tv/mallow

The Bishops Pastoral Letter for Advent entitled *Living our Faith in a Fragile World* is available at the back of the churches. Please take one with you.



Christmas Services 2020

Because of Covid and the need for restricting numbers for Masses, **there will be extra Masses for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.** We will have 10 Masses on Christmas Eve and 6 Masses on Christmas Day between Mallow and Mourneabbey. There may be up to 18 Masses depending on the availability of priests.

Confessions available on Sunday afternoons for the 3rd and 4th Sundays of Advent (13th and 20th of December) and between 2.p.m. and 5.p.m. in St. Mary's Church. A card detailing all services for Christmas will be available with details of times of Masses and times of Confessions leading up to Christmas.

Please note that the labels with the names of all the faithful departed for 2019/2020 on our November Tree of Remembrance are available in the sacristy of St Mary's. Thanks to all who decorated our churches in November.