

THE PARISHES OF MALLOW & MOURNEABBEY

Parish Office St Joseph's Parish Centre, 27/28 Bank Place, Mallow
Phone: (022) 20276 Email: parishmallow@gmail.com
Hours: Monday to Friday 9am-5pm. Closed 10am-10.30am & 1pm-2pm
Website mallowparish.ie **Facebook** @mallowparish



Rt Rev. Msgr Anthony O'Brien, P.P., V.G. (087) 6834193
V. Rev. Andrew Carvill, Adm Mourneabbey (022) 51606
Rev. Anthony Sheehan, C.C. (087) 6563997
Rev. Damien Lynch, C.C. (022) 53909
Sick Calls: (022) 21251
Youth Minister: Bernadette O'Connor (086) 8031126

4TH JANUARY 2026 ~ 2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

MASS & CONFESSION TIMES

St Mary's Church, Mallow

Saturday (vigil): 6.30pm
Sunday: 8.30am & 11.00am
Monday – Saturday: 10.00am
Confessions Saturday after 10.00am Mass
Convent of Mercy: Sunday Mass 9.30am

St John the Baptist, Burnfort

Sunday 11.30am
Thursday 9.30am

Church of the Resurrection, Mallow

Saturday (vigil): 7.30pm
Sunday: 10.00am & 12.00pm
Monday – Friday: 9.15am
Confessions Friday after 9.15am Mass

St Michael the Archangel, Analeentha

Sunday 10.00am
Friday 9.30am

Adoration Chapel in St Mary's Church Monday to Saturday 10.30am – 6.00pm

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on Saturdays & Sundays. Inquiries to the Parish Office.

Livestreaming from St Mary's Church on churchservices.tv/mallow

Catholic newspapers are on sale after Sunday Masses in Mallow.

Society of St Vincent de Paul Contact (022)50188 or (086)2693571

Bethany Bereavement Service for all types of bereavement and loss. Contact (086) 3918751

The Priests of the Parish wish to thank all the people for their generous contributions over the Christmas period. A special word of thanks to all collectors during the year, to the money counters and to everyone who helped in any way in running the Parish during the past year – Ministers of Holy Communion, Readers, Altar Servers, The Choirs, Flower Arrangers, C.E. Workers, those who opened and closed the churches, looked after the Altars and Shrines and those who kept the churches clean. We thank you all for your support and loyalty throughout the year. We pray God's blessing on you all for 2026.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK MONDAY 5TH JANUARY – SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY

St. Mary's Church *Tue Feast Day 10am* Michael, Patrick, David & Lily O'Driscoll, *Wed* First Anniv: Sadie Carroll-Ryan, *Thur* William O'Connell, *Sat Vigil 6.30pm* Dan O'Brien, *Sun 11am* Philomena Walsh

Church of the Resurrection *Fri* Maisie France, *Sat Vigil, 7.30pm* Bunton Sheehan, *Sun 10am* Jimmy O'Riordan

St. John the Baptist, Burnfort *Sun* Months Mind: Maureen Buckley & Rem. her husband Jerry Buckley

St. Michael the Archangel, Analeentha *Sun* First Anniv: Patrick O'Mahony

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK (Optional observance in italics)

Tue 6th The Epiphany of the Lord **Wed 7th** St Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

ON THE MYSTERY OF THE NATIVITY BY ST MAXIMUS THE CONFESSOR

The Word of God, born once in the flesh (such is his kindness and his goodness), is always willing to be born spiritually in those who desire him. In them he is born as an infant as he fashions himself in them by means of their virtues. He reveals himself to the extent that he knows someone is capable of receiving him. He diminishes the revelation of his glory not out of selfishness but because he recognises the capacity and resources of those who desire to see him. Yet, in the transcendence of mystery, he always remains invisible to all. For this reason the apostle Paul, reflecting on the power of the mystery, said: *Jesus Christ, yesterday and today: he remains the same for ever.* For he understood the mystery as ever new, never growing old through our understanding of it.

Christ is God, for he had given all things their being out of nothing. Yet he is born as man by taking to himself our nature, flesh endowed with intelligent spirit. A star glitters by day in the East and leads the wise men to the place where the incarnate Word lies, to show that the Word, contained in the Law and the Prophets, surpasses in a mystical way knowledge derived from the senses, and to lead the Gentiles to the full light of knowledge. For surely the word of the Law and the Prophets when it is understood with faith is like a star which leads those who are called by the power of grace in accordance with his decree to recognise the Word incarnate.

Here is the reason why God became a perfect man, changing nothing of human nature, except to take away sin (which was never natural anyway). His flesh was set before that voracious, gaping dragon as bait to provoke him: flesh that would be deadly for the dragon, for it would utterly destroy him by the power of the Godhead hidden within it. For human nature, however, his flesh was to be a remedy since the power of the Godhead in it would restore human nature to its original grace. Just as the devil had poisoned the tree of knowledge and spoiled our nature by its taste, so too, in presuming to devour the Lord's flesh he himself is corrupted and is completely destroyed by the power of the Godhead hidden in it.

The great mystery of the divine incarnation remains a mystery for ever. How can the Word made flesh be essentially the same person that is wholly with the Father? How can he who is by nature God become by nature wholly man without lacking either nature, neither the divine by which he is God nor the human by which he became man? Faith alone grasps these mysteries. Faith alone is truly the substance and foundation of all that exceeds knowledge and understanding.

The Parish Office will re-open this Wednesday, 7th January.

NOTICES

Tuesday 6th January is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord and a holy day of obligation.

Masses: St Mary's – Monday 6.30pm (vigil) & Tuesday 10.00am

Church of the Resurrection – Tuesday 9.15am & 7.30pm

Burnfort – Monday 7.30pm (vigil) Analeentha – Tuesday 10.00am

St. Mary's Tea/Coffee after Mass – our first one for 2026! Everyone's welcome for a cuppa and chat after 10am Mass on Friday, 9th Jan., (in the Hibernian Hotel)! Helping us to know our parish community (sponsored by Mallow Parish Pastoral Council).

Weekly Envelope Boxes for 2026 - Renewed thanks to all who support the church funds, and those who use the envelope method. If you have not received a box and would like to join, please contact the Parish Office 022 20276 or email- sacristanmallow1@gmail.com.

