

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY ~ *Blessing the Christ Child*

Next Sunday **18th December**, please join us in St. Eunan's Cathedral to celebrate 'Bambinelli Sunday' at our 10 am Mass. Children/Adults are invited to bring along their 'Baby Jesus' crib figure from their homes to Mass for a Special Blessing.

DATES FOR YOUR 2017 DIARY

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY (6th January)

Mass Times: 7.30 pm (vigil), 8 am, 10 am, 5.45 pm and 7.30 pm

HOLY HOUR for ALL WHO MINISTER in the CATHEDRAL
Tuesday 31st January at 8 pm

Ash Wednesday ~ 1st March

Mass Times: 8 am, 10 am, 1 pm, 5.45 pm and 7.30 pm

Palm Sunday: 9th April

Easter Sunday: 16th April

Divine Mercy Sunday: 23rd April

CONFIRMATION DATES

Saturday 11th February ~ Gaelscoil Adhamhnáin ~ 3 pm

Thursday 16th February ~ Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Illistrin ~ 5 pm

Saturday 18th February ~ Scoil Cholmcille ~ 11 am

Saturday 18th February ~ Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál ~ 3 pm

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DATES

Saturday 6th May ~ Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Illistrin ~ 11 am

Saturday 13th May ~ Scoil Cholmcille ~ 11 am

Saturday 20th May ~ Gaelscoil Adhamhnáin ~ 11 am

Saturday 27th May ~ Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál ~ 11 am

Feast of Corpus Christi: Sunday 18th June ~ Procession at 3 pm

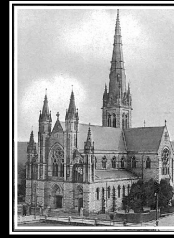
GRAVEYARD SERVICES

Sunday 2nd July ~ Conwal Graveyard ~ 4 pm

Monday 3rd July ~ Aughaninshin Graveyard ~ 7 pm

Sunday 9th July ~ Old Leck Graveyard ~ 4 pm

Sunday 9th July ~ New Leck Graveyard ~ 5 pm



ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL LETTERKENNY NEWSLETTER

Sunday 11th December 2016

Third Sunday of Advent

CONGRATULATIONS

This afternoon, Sunday 11th December at 3 pm, Damien Nejad from Annagry will be ordained a Priest. Please pray for Rev. Damien as he prepares to give his life in the service of the Church.

CITIZEN'S ASSEMBLY SUBMISSION REGARDING THE 8th AMENDMENT

It is vitally important to protect life. The 8th Amendment protects both the life of the Mother and her unborn Child. Presently the Citizen's Assembly is discussing the 8th Amendment. We are all encouraged to have our point of view listened to. **Submissions are to be received before the 16th December.** In this Newsletter there is a prepared submission that you could sign and post or you could write your own submission.

A brief submission (500 words max) can be emailed to:

info@citizensassembly.ie online at **www.citizensassembly.ie** or by post **before Monday 12th December** to: Citizens Assembly, 16 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

**For the price of a stamp - 72c
YOU can help to protect an unborn life from Abortion.**

ADVENT TWILIGHT RETREAT

You are invited to 'An Advent Twilight Retreat' in preparation for Christmas on **Monday 19th December** from 7 pm - 10 pm in the Pastoral Centre, Monastery Avenue, Letterkenny. *Come away to a quiet place for prayer, reflection, reconciliation and Mass.* The theme is: 'The Christ Child - God With Us'. Retreat Director: Fr. Cathal O'Fearraí. Everyone is welcome. No Charge - donation welcome.

PRIEST ON DUTY THIS WEEK: Fr. Philip Kemmy

Sunday 11th December

Masses ~ 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon, 3 pm (Ordination) and 6.30 pm

Baptisms - 1.30 pm

St Pius X Adoration Chapel is open at 1 pm

Al-Anon Meeting in the Pastoral Centre - 8 pm

AA Meeting in the Pastoral Centre - 11 am and 8.30 pm

**Divine Mercy
Chaplet**

will be recited
daily
at 3 pm

Monday 12th December ~ Our Lady of Guadalupe

8 am Mass ~ John Toner

10 am Mass ~ Special Intention

7.30 pm Mass ~ Packie and Bridget O'Donnell

St Pius X Adoration Chapel is open

CONFESSIONS: 8 pm

Grow Mental Health Meetings in Pastoral Centre - 7.30 pm

AA Meeting in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

Morning Prayer

9.40 am

(Monday to Saturday)

Evening Prayer

7.10 pm

(Monday to Friday)

Tuesday 13th December ~ St. Lucy

8 am Mass ~ Michael Toner

10 am Mass ~ ®

7.30 pm Mass ~ Kay and Tommy Gallagher

St Pius X Adoration Chapel is open

Legion of Mary Meeting in the Conference Room after 10 am Mass

Legion of Mary Meeting in the Parochial House at 7 pm

Baptism Preparation in the Parochial House tonight, 13th December at 8 pm

Divine Mercy Prayer Group in the Crib Room - 8 pm

Gamblers' Anonymous Meeting in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

AA Meeting and Al-Anon in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

Wednesday 14th December ~ St. John of the Cross

8 am Mass ~ Dan Collins

10 am Mass ~ Tim Foley

7.30 pm Mass ~ ®

St Pius X Adoration Chapel is open

Mother's Prayer Group Meeting in the Conference Room - 7 pm

Youth 2000 Prayer Group for Young Adults in the Parochial House - 7.30 pm

Cathedral Choir Practice in the Conference Room - 8 pm

Narcotics Anonymous Meeting in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

St. Vincent de Paul ~ Parish of Conwal and Leck ~ 9129503

St. Vincent de Paul ~ Parish of Aughanishin ~ 9122366

PILGRIMAGES FOR 2017

RAPHOE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES will depart on the **22nd May**. Cost: €699 per person. Please phone the Lourdes Office on 9125090 for further information.

100th Anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions ~ RAPHOE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA under the patronage of Bishop Philip Boyce will depart on the **10th July** ex Dublin for seven nights. Cost: €764 (plus insurance €25 per person - free bus Letterkenny/Dublin Airport return). Spiritual Director: Fr. James Sweeney. For further details please phone Mena on 9121748.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE will take place on the **6th September** for 7 days with Spiritual Director. Cost: €729 per person. Please contact Kathleen on 9121641 or 086-3721962 for details.

RAPHOE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK will take place on Saturday **19th August**.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES will depart on the **28th August** with Fr. James Gillespie as Spiritual Director. Please phone Kathleen on 9121551 or Fr. James on 9122608 for further information.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOUG DERG ~ Saturday **2nd September**.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDUGORJE ~ The Annual Donegal N/W Pilgrimage with Marian Pilgrimages will leave Letterkenny on the **27th September**. Flight ex Knock. A discount in price will occur if a deposit is paid before mid February. For bookings and further information please ring Michael on 087-2922499.

MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE PILGRIMAGE: Airport Transport and 7 nights B&B: €279/€319. Phone: 01-4434510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com for further information and for flight details.

Anyone wishing to book a **BAPTISM** are asked to give a fortnight's notice. Baptisms take place at 5 pm on a Saturday and 1.30 pm on a Sunday. Please bring your child's Birth Certificate when booking the Baptism.

The 11th Annual **CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER** for people living on their own will be held in the Conwall Parish Hall, behind the Church of Ireland on Christmas Day from 1 pm until 4 pm. This event is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the Radisson Hotel. The purpose of the day is to help people who are living on their own to break through isolation and loneliness on the day, to provide company and celebration. Transport can be provided if required. If you wish to avail of a dinner or have any enquiries please contact Kathy on 086-8676565

NEW YEAR'S DAY DINNER for the **homeless and lonely** will take place in Trinity Hall, Letterkenny. Homemade dinner at 2 pm - 5 pm totally free for homeless people/families or those who feel lonely at this time of year. If you want to book in advance please text Linda on 087-8340534.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS are **AVAILABLE** from the Parochial House and also from Veritas, Lower Main Street and Esso, Port Road. The pack of six costs €6. The recipients of these cards will be remembered in the Prayers of the Faithful at Masses in St. Eunan's Cathedral from the 24th December to the 1st January. Any profit will go to St. Vincent de Paul. The Parish Pastoral Council sincerely thanks everyone who sold Christmas Cards.

TRÓCAIRE is hoping for your support for the **Trócaire Gifts and Christmas Appeal**. The gifts make a huge difference to the lives of families and communities in some of the world's poorest countries and start from as little as €5 for olive trees for Palestinian families. To find out more, buy a gift or make a donation please log on to trocaire.org or call 1850 408 408

Set the table for **ONE MORE FOR CHRISTMAS** and **FEED** a child at a place of education in some of the world's poorest communities for an entire school year school year for only **€14.50**. Please visit: www.onemoreforchristmas.com or www.marysmeal.ie - after all, there's always room for one more at Christmas.

ST. PIUS X ADORATION CHAPEL is located in the grounds of Loreto Convent, beside the Cathedral. You are invited to drop in to pray in silence in front of the Blessed Sacrament, or to commit to a regular hour's adoration. To know more please phone Brigid on 9122641.

Pieces of **ORIGINAL STONE** from the Cathedral Spire are available from the Parochial House or from Veritas, Lower Main Street. Cost: €17.50. This beautiful keepsake was sculpted in Letterkenny and would make a lovely Christmas gift for family and friends at home or abroad.

We encourage all couples **PLANNING ON GETTING MARRIED** in St. Eunan's Cathedral or any other Church during 2017 to contact the Civil Registration Office, Tirconaill House, Letterkenny (inside the gates to the St. Conal's Campus), to give notification of their intention to marry. Please remember, you have to give a minimum of **three months notice** to the Cathedral and to the Civil Registration Office.

'Strange Occurrences in a Small Irish Village' DVD available now. A fascinating film about an extraordinary story. The acclaimed feature documentary examines the phenomenon of Knock Shrine, from the testimonies of those that witnessed the Apparition in 1879, to those that play a central role in Knock Shrine and village today. The DVD is now on sale at Knock Shrine Bookshop, Knock Museum and online at www.knockshrine.ie

Thursday 15th December

8 am Mass ~ Brendan O'Boyle

10 am Mass ~ Rose Ann O'Donoghue

7.30 pm Mass ~ Redmond and Mary McMonagle

St Pius X Adoration Chapel is open

AA Meeting in the Pastoral Centre - 5.30 pm

Charismatic Prayer Meeting in the Conference Room - 8 pm

Friday 16th December

8 am Mass ~ Celia Tinney and Deceased Members of the Gallagher Family

10 am Mass ~ Peggy Francis

7.30 pm Mass ~ Terry McDermott, John McDonagh, Mary Mullen, Michael Kelly, Mary Kelly, Elizabeth Atallah, Mai McFadden and Bridie McBride

St Pius X Adoration Chapel is open

Al-Anon Meeting in the Pastoral Centre - 10 am

AA Meeting for Women in the Cathedral Conference Room - 1 pm

AA Meeting in the Pastoral Centre - 5.30 pm

Saturday 17th December

10 am Mass ~ Molly Coyle (First Anniversary) **1 pm** - Nuptial

7.30 pm ~ Vigil Mass

Confessions: 12 noon - 1 pm and after 7.30 pm Mass

Baptisms ~ 5 pm

AA Meeting in the Pastoral Centre - 11 am

Narcotics Anonymous Meetings in the Pastoral Centre - 5.30 pm

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday (9.30 am - 4.30 pm)



Phone: 074 - 9121021

Email: steunanscathedral@eircom.net

Website: www.steunanscathedral.ie

Parish Pastoral Council Email: conwalandleckpc@gmail.com

OFFERTORY COLLECTION ~ 4th December 2016 - €5,740

Parish Expenditure: €4,474.06

Thank you for your gift to God and His Church

RECENT BAPTISMS ~ We welcome into God's Community

Mason Martin Cannon ~ Grace Judy Harvey ~ Ellie Suzanne Owens

Kyra-Lynn Bernadette McCreagh ~ Pearse Francis McLaughlin

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ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE will take place next Sunday, 18th December at **8 pm**. (Please note the time change from 7.30 pm) We extend a warm welcome to all Parishioners and Visitors to Letterkenny to come and join in the singing of your favourite Carols.

BOXES OF SUNDAY ENVELOPES for 2017 are ready for distribution. If you distributed them last year, it would be great if you would do so again this year. If you are living in the Parish and would like to receive a box of Sunday envelopes for 2017 or set up a standing order, please contact the Parochial House on 9121021. **For anyone living outside the Cathedral Parish who receives a Box of Cathedral Envelopes usually by POST, please COLLECT your box from the Sacristy.**

A **CEILÍ** will be held in the Bonagee Community Centre tonight, **Sunday 11th December**. Dancing 8 pm - 11 pm. Admission (including supper): €7.

CAROLS AT CHRISTMAS WITH THE CONWAL SINGERS will take place on **Wednesday 14th December** at 8 pm in Conwal Parish Church. Under the musical direction of Conductor Karen Patton the Singers will perform seasonal carols with special guests the Donegal Chamber Orchestra, Denise Blake, Aisling NiFhionnán, Davin Crawford and organist Nicky Morton. Voluntary retiring collection. All are welcome to Conwal Parish Hall thereafter for festive fare and mince pies.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS in the Central Library, Letterkenny on **Thursday 15th December**. Music by "The Hazels", The Polish School in Letterkenny. Special Guests: The Church of the Irish Martyrs Folk Choir under the direction of Patrick Doherty. Traditional Polish Cake, Pastries and Christmas wreaths will be available. All proceeds will go to the Polish School.

The annual **Donegal Down Syndrome CANDLE/CAROL SERVICE** will be held in St. Eunan's Cathedral on **Thursday 15th December** at 5.30 pm. All are welcome.

The Letterkenny Carol Singers will be performing in the Letterkenny Shopping Centre on **Friday 16th December** from 4 pm - 5 pm and on **Saturday 17th December** from 5 pm - 6 pm. Please come along and hear your favourite Christmas Carols. All proceeds will go to the 'Care of the Aged'.

'FOLLOW THE STAR' to the Celtic Garden Christmas Trail at the IOSAS Centre, Muff. An interactive family experience to recapture the true spirit of Christmas and learn about some of the Christian stories behind our favourite Christmas traditions. Taking place on the **16th, 17th, 18th and 21st December** at (4 pm - Saturday and Sunday only), 5.30 pm and 7 pm. Pre-booking is essential. For tickets and further information contact the IOSAS Centre 9384866 or visit: celticprayergarden.com or find us on facebook IOSAS Centre Christmas Trail.

MASS IN HONOUR OF BLESSED ALEXANDRINA will be held in Termonbacca, Derry next Sunday evening, **18th December** at 7.30 pm.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) for Christmas

Saturday 17th December: 12 noon to 1 pm and 8 pm

Sunday 18th December: 1 pm to 6 pm

Monday 19th December: 8 pm

Tuesday 20th December: 10.30 am to 12 noon and 8 pm

Wednesday 21st December: 10.30 am to 12 noon and 8 pm

Thursday 22nd December: 10.30 am to 12 noon and 8 pm

Friday 23rd December: 10.30 am to 6 pm and 8 pm

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE IN THE CATHEDRAL

CAROL SERVICE ~ Sunday 18th December ~ **8 pm**

CHRISTMAS EVE ~ Saturday 24th December ~ Family Mass ~ 7.30 pm

MIDNIGHT MASS ~ Saturday 24th December ~ 12 midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES ~ 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon
and 4.30 pm (Polish)

(There will be **NO** 6.30 pm Mass on Christmas Day)

The **ADORATION CHAPEL** will close on Friday 23rd December at the usual time and will reopen at 7 pm on Christmas Day.

LETTERKENNY CAROL TRAIL ~ We **INVITE** all the members from our Choirs and Singers to join with Choir Members from the other Churches on **Friday 16th December** at 7.30 pm at Trinity Presbyterian Church where we will begin our Carol Trail with Christmas Carols and Scripture Readings, stopping at Church Lane, Mountsouthwell, St. Eunan's Cathedral (8.10 pm) and Conwall Parish Church with a candlelit procession. We will have refreshments in Conwall Parish Hall afterwards. Everyone is very welcome.

Youth 2000 invites all young adults between the ages of 16-35 to a **CATHOLIC WEEKEND RETREAT** taking place from the **16th - 18th December** at Newbridge College, Co. Kildare. Booking is essential. For more information please phone 01 6753690 or visit www.youth2000.ie or see Youth 2000 Ireland Facebook Page.

The **Staff and Pupils from Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Illistrin** warmly invites everybody to their **CAROL SERVICE** on **Monday 19th December at 6 pm** in St. Eunan's Cathedral.

The **Staff and Pupils from Scoil Cholmcille** warmly invites everybody to their annual **CAROL SERVICE** on **Wednesday 21st December at 1 pm** in St. Eunan's Cathedral.