



THE PARISH
OF ATHY

Comprising the Faith Communities
of:
ST MICHAEL'S, ATHY
&
ST MARY'S, BARROWHOUSE



MASS OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2023

Prayer

Loving God, as we your children prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus our Saviour, help us to prepare our hearts too. May the coming birth of the Son of David encourage us to true repentance and genuine conversion of heart. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



CHURCH NOTICES

Weekend Mass times:

Athy Church: Saturday 6 pm Vigil, Sunday 10.30 am & 12 noon **Barrowhouse:** 9 am.

Due to work on heating 9am Rosary before Mass will **not** take place over the next 6 weeks.

If you wish to have the names of your deceased loved ones added to the **Christmas Day List** please hand the names in by lunch time Thursday 21st Dec. The printed list will be displayed near the Altar and will be remembered in Christmas Masses.

Area Distributors are reminded that **from Friday next 15th December, at 9.30am Christmas timetables & Due envelopes will be ready** for collection from the Parish Office and from behind the high Altar thereafter.

On Sunday, Christmas Eve Morning **there will be one Mass only** in the Parish Church at **11am** (replacing 10.30am & 12 noon). There will be **no 9am Mass on Sun, 24th December in Barrowhouse Church.** There **will** be a 6pm Vigil on Sat 23rd.

Last Weekend Collections:

P. Dev.: €2,941 (includes annuals) **Common:** €1,085
Share: €830 *Thanks to contributors.*

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Annual Appeal will take place 9th /10th December.

The collection will be taken up during all Masses.

It will replace the Share Collection.

Donations can be made in the following way.

Drop it into the Parish Office where there is a collection box. Leave it into the charity shop, *Vincents* on William St.

You can also post it to head office, by using the blue envelope

SVP House, 91-92 Sean McDermott St. Dublin Freepost .
Donation will be returned to Athy.

While Shepherds Watched,

presented by Athy Musical and Dramatic Society, will be celebrated on **Tuesday, 19th December at 7.30pm** in the Parish Church

READINGS

1st Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-5.9-11

Psalm: Ps. 84

2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

Recently Deceased:

Patrick 'Paddy' Kelly, Dominick's Park, Reception & funeral on Monday, at 1 pm. Burial in New St. Michael's Cemetery

Saturday 6pm

Month's Mind: Ger Kelly, (Paicr Bhríde) late of England
Anniversaries: Canice Bergin, Eilish O'Neill, David & Mikey Harris, Fintan Lalor, Pat Kehoe, Joe & Annie Kehoe, Joseph 'Joe' O'Neill (2nd A), Maureen Brennan, Emmet Corcoran, Vincent Robinson, Mary & Patrick Donovan, Dec. mem. of Robinson family, Thomas & Bridget Ayers, Declan & Carmel Ayers, Stephen Leonard, Dec. mem. of Leonard family, Nancy Rice, Anthony Kelly, Christina Byrne, Bernadette Byrne, Christina Brennan Byrne, Nancy English, Noel Ward, Brian & Sheila Kelly, Baby Brian Kelly, Jack & Margaret Murphy, Brendan Murphy, Mary & John O'Mara, John Kilfeather, Nonie Heatherley, John Murphy, Josephine & Michael O'Rourke, Dec. mem. Of Kelly & Webster families, Kathleen Cusack, Zoltan Zinn Collis, Tony Doyle, Bridget & Andrew O'Brien, Mary Perse, Ned & Joe Perse, Stefan Clarke Perse, Dec. mem. of Perse family, Patrick Tierney, Sean Fitzgerald, Aidan Crowe, Kathleen 'Kitty' Foley, James & Mary Haughton

Sunday 9am Barrowhouse: Mary 'Ciss' Brennan, James & Mary Brennan, Brigid Brennan

10.30 am: Birthday remembrance:

Christy Kelly
Anniversaries: Michael Piert Jr., Michael & Alice Piert, Dec. mem. of Piert family, Nellie O'Neill, Paddy 'Skinner' Foley, Joseph 'Joe' O'Neill, Michael Byrne, John Kavanagh, Nancy Rice, Fintan Lalor, David & Mikey Harris, Nancy English, James & Ann Mulhall, Jack & Margaret Murphy, Brendan Murphy, Mary & Jim O'Mara, John Kilfeather, Nonie Heatherley, John Murphy, Kay Gannon, Bridget & Andrew O'Brien, Mary Perse, Ned & Joe Perse, Stefan Clarke Perse, Dec. mem. of Perse family, Eileen, James & Ted O'Neill Mary Dunne (30th Anniv)

12.00 noon: Birthday rem:

Tom Heskin
Anniversaries: Valerie Wilson, Nellie O'Neill, George Higginson, Paddy 'Skinner' Foley, Joseph 'Joe' O'Neill, Mai & Bill Heffernan, John Kavanagh, Angela & Brendan Doran, Brendan Doran Jr. Michael & Annie Dargan, Nancy Rice, Fintan Lalor, David & Mickey Harris, Zoltan Zinn Collis, Edith Zinn Collis, Jack & Margaret Murphy, Brendan Murphy, Mary & Jim O'Mara, John Kilfeather, Nonie Heatherley, John Murphy, Kathleen Cusack, Mary Perse, Ned & Joe Perse, Stefan Clarke Perse, Dec. mem. of Perse family, Anthony Byrne, Margaret 'Peg' Moran, Jim & Martin Conroy

Mon. 9.30 am: Julia Martin, Fintan Lalor, David & Mikey Harris, Sp Int., Martin & Margaret Fox

Tues. 9.30 am: Joseph 'Joe' O'Neill, Michael Byrne, Tom, Jean & Derek Donohue, Eileen, Kevin, John & June Fingleton, Dec. mem. of Philips & Fleming families, Mary Berry, Mary McMahan, Betty & Paddy Brennan, Dec. mem. of Brennan & Bambrick families, Carmel & Noel Reddy, Michael Raddie, Betty Cusack, Rita Ward, Natasha Glancy

Wednes. 9.30 am: Kathleen O'Brien, Donor's Intention

Thur. 9.30 am: Fr. Jim Candon O.P., Kathleen O'Brien,

Friday 9.30 am: Louise Allen burial today in England

Birthday rem: Angela Brennan

Gay Coffey, Zoltan & Edith Zinn Collis, Dec. Doyle & McGrath families, Bridget Morrissey, Bridie & Bertie Doyle, Jack Brogan, Paddy & Betty Brennan, Edward & Margaret Brennan, Tony, John & Michael Brennan, Sp. Int. for Golden Wedding

ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH CHURCH
Heating Fund

Please take a
Donation Envelope

All returned envelopes will be included in a

Christmas Draw

Sunday 17th December, '23
after 12 o'clock Mass

Every donation appreciated

Prizes: €250, €150, €100

€100 Liffey Mills Voucher	€75 Voucher Clarendon Court Hotel
Bradburys Christmas Hamper	Clean Jean Voucher
€50 Manleys Voucher	Drinks Hamper from Lock 13
€50 Perry's Voucher	Greenfields Festival '24, 2 Tickets

ALL prizes kindly sponsored

REPAIR OF HEATING SYSTEM & HEATING FUND

Work on main central heating system in Athy Parish church has commenced and it is hoped that it will be completed before Christmas. The Cost is €167,000, which a huge amount of money for our parish. The Parish Finance Committee have established a Heating Fund. We need your help. If you are willing to support please take a Heating Fund envelope which you will find at doors of the church. In appreciation of all donations, big and small, all envelopes will be included in a **Christmas Draw** which will take place on Sunday, 17th December 2023, after 12 noon Mass.

Thanks to those who have already contributed.. Over €6,700 has been raised so far.

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Liam Rigney P.P. Parochial Hs.,
1 Stanhope Pl. Athy, Co. Kildare. R14 CH 90.
Ph: 087 2607377 liam.rigney@dublindiocese.ie
Fr. Tim Hannon C.C. Ph: 059 8630704,
Fr. Francis McCarthy C.C. Ph: 087 6978143.



Pastoral Workers:

Conor McCann, Ph: 086 7905654
conor.mccann@dublindiocese.ie
Natasha Geoghegan Ph: 087 6730300
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Athy Parish Office

Mon 2.15-4 pm
Tues & Wednes: 9.30am –1.30 pm & 2 -4 pm,
Thur & Fri: 9.30-1.30 pm,
(afternoon by phone/email only)
Saturday: 10.30-12.30 pm. (note change in closing time)
CLOSED HOLYDAYS
Email: athyparishrc@eircom.net
Phone 059 86 38391
Address: Parish Office, St. Michael's Church, Athy,



CATECHETICAL CORNER - ADVENT...TIMES 3

We have probably all heard many times that the word 'Advent' means coming or arrival. And we are probably also aware that the Advent Season, it is not Christmas yet, is a time of preparing for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. But we might not be aware that when we talk of Advent, and the coming of Christ, we are, in fact, referring to three comings of Christ.

The first Advent of Christ is His birth which we celebrate in at Christmas time. Christmas time is the liturgical season that runs from Christmas Day up to the feast of the Epiphany on January 6th. This great event, the Incarnation is also remembered each day when we pray the Angelus. Traditionally the Angelus is prayed three days each day at 6am, noon and 6pm and it recalls the Annunciations to Mary and the Birth of our Lord.

The second Advent of Christ, is what we call the Second Coming at the end of time, this is called the 'Escathon', the Greek word meaning the end. We look forward to, and indeed our whole life should be one long Advent Season, preparing for the coming of Christ. The end of all things, the Escathon, is properly understood, not as the case of Christ returning to a world from which he departed when He ascended to Heaven. Rather, it is the case of Christ becoming visible to a world in which He has been present but unseen since the Ascension. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), put's it like this:

"When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Saviour's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming..." (CCC # 524)

The third Advent of Christ is the coming of Christ in the Sacramental and ordinary life of the Church and of the individual Christian. In many ways this is the Advent of Christ over which we have some control. At Baptism we receive all that is needed to live the life of Grace, to live a life untied to Christ. Grace is a free gift and as such we are free to respond to that gift or not. The grace, the gift, remains in us, but it can be that it is like an un-opened and unused gift.

The liturgical season of Advent is a time for us to relook at the grace we have been given, it is an opportunity to focus on the coming of Christ, not just in His incarnation or at the end times, but in the ordinary every day and most especially in our sacramental life.

We have two weeks, give or take, before we celebrate the Incarnation, how can we use this time wisely to be like John the Baptist and prepare a way for the Lord?

PARISH SHOP/OFFICE

CHRISTMAS STOCK now available from Parish Office, includes advent calendars, Church Art calendars, cribs, candles, Christmas Mass bouquets, gifts, along with a good selection of cards including from Divine Word Missionaries



Reminder subscribers to collect their December Messenger magazines

ATHY PRAYER MEETING

Every Tuesday at 8pm in Fr. Dennehy's Old house
All welcome

ENROLMENT IN SCOIL PHADRAIG NAOFA 2024

For Junior infants or ASD classes
From Friday 12th January - Friday 2nd February
Contact details 059 8634811
or e mail info@spnathy.ie

THE GAELSCOIL ÁTHA Í ENROLMENT FOR 2024-2025

is now open for junior infants starting school.
Open night on Thursday, 7th of December at 5:30pm to 7pm.

October Tap & Go Share & Common collected amounted to €178.00 from 23 transaction

ATHY COMMUNITY ARTS

Are hosting a concert by the Irish Tenor Patrick Hyland, Wednesday 13th December at 8pm. There will be a special guest appearance by local talent Katie Roycroft
Tickets €22 available from Winkles & Athy Lions Club bookshop.

For more details contact 087 0576713 or
athyarts@gmail.com

Athy Parish website www.parishofathy.ie
Parish Radio 107.9 fm