

PARISH OF INISHMAGRATH

Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday

15th December 2024

Fr Tom McManus – 964 8025

Neighbouring Priests: Fr T Mannion 964 3014 - Fr P Casey 916 4143 -

Fr Loughlain Carolan 985 3012

Masses

Sat 14th Dec	7:00pm	Creevelea	John Williams.
Sun 15th Dec	11:15am	Drumkeeran	Josie, Peggy & Francis Leydon.
Mon 16th Dec	6:00pm	Drumkeeran	Adoration.
	7:00pm	Drumkeeran	Mass - Deceased of the Cassidy Family.
Tue 17th Dec	11:00am	Áras Bhríde	Non-residents welcome again - provided no coughs, colds, flu, Covid, etc.
Wed 18th Dec	10:00am	Drumkeeran	
Thurs 19th Dec	10:00am	Drumkeeran	
Fri 20th Dec	7:00pm	Tarmon	
Sat 21st Dec	7:00pm	Creevelea	
Sun 22nd Dec	11:15am	Drumkeeran	Brigid Wynne.

Confession: Available after weekday Masses and anytime on request.

Visitations: Fr Tom will be doing his rounds on Fri 20 Dec to include December First Friday, Christmas and January First Friday.

Collections for 2024: Thanks to all who have contributed to the Dues, Offertory and other collections. If you are paying Dues by cheque please make it payable to "Priest's Revenue Account". If you are paying Offertory by cheque to your local church please make it payable to; "Drumkeeran Church Account", "Tarmon Church Account" or "Creevelea Church Account". An extra "thank you" goes out to those who made a donation towards the cost of the new heating system in Drumkeeran Church.

Altar Flowers for Christmas Time: If you would like to give a donation towards the flowers, please pass it to the Sacristan of your local church. Thank you.

Envelopes for 2025 Collections: Please collect your box of envelopes from your local church. If anyone would like to help the parish financially and does not have envelopes, please ask Fr Tom for them.

Choir Practice: Will be held on Mon 16 Dec at 8:00pm in Drumkeeran church. If you can sing, please help the choir for the Christmas Mass.

Points to Ponder:

As Luke tells the story of Jesus' earthly ministry in the Gospel of Luke and the story of Jesus' heavenly ministry through the Holy Spirit in the Book of Acts, he comes back to this question again and again, 'What should we (I) do?'

1. This is THE question Luke wants all of us to ask. Luke is looking for more than just, 'What must I believe?' God uses Luke to speak to our times when goodness and godliness are sometimes associated with only what we feel or what we think. Change has to change more than just what goes on in the gray matter between our ears. Yes, God wants our hearts, minds, and souls to be thoroughly convicted and passionate.
2. Yes, without faith and love, all action is hollow and vain.
3. But, the Bible makes clear that faith is not genuine if all it does is change what we think. Real faith leads us to action.
4. Faith is always displayed in action based upon trust – it is never just mere wistful thinking or good intentions. When Jesus enters our world, He changes it. When Jesus enters our lives, He changes them. So the question of each day, the ultimate question of faith, is this: 'What, Lord, should I do?' Why not begin each day by asking Jesus that question?

O God, guide my steps, lead my heart, and form my character. I want my faith to be more than mental. I want my love for you to be displayed in what I do and how I do it. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

www.heartlight.org

Thought for the Day: Joy is not passive. It is active, current and we have agency to create it ourselves. We don't have to wait for it to tap us on the shoulder. Some practical advice I share is:

- If suffering is 'like velcro'. Negative experiences are apparently 2.5 times as impactful as positive experiences. Perhaps the key, then, is to actively look at joyful experiences 2.5 times more than negative ones?
- Scientists have tested bloods and found that acts of kindness have a demonstrable positive effect on health.
- Desmond Tutu tells us that living from compassion and gratitude is the start.
- Joy is spontaneous and natural. Find the spark of joy in every situation. We can take ourselves too seriously.

Sula Bruce

Drumkeerin NS: Past pupils and parents of present and past pupils are asked to help buy and sell tickets for the fundraising effort. Let it be known they can buy tickets online by visiting; <https://www.idonate.ie/raffle/StBrigidsNSDrumkeerinRaffle>.

The Organic Centre Rossinvers' Green Christmas Fayre: Will be held this Sun 15 Dec, from 11:00am to 5:00pm. With Christmas market, seasonal food, natural decoration workshops, entertainment and sustainable Santa! Free entry on the day, all are welcome.

Would like someone to talk to over Christmas? SeniorLine is Ireland's national telephone service for older people open every day of the year 10:00am until 10:00pm, Freephone 1800 80 45 91. You may feel isolated, alone, bereaved or far from family. Senior Line's older volunteers are trained to listen, to support and refer to other helpful services if necessary. So don't be alone, and lift the phone. Phone SeniorLine 1800 80 45 91, No problem too big or too small.