

# PARISH OF INISHMAGRATH

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

24th December 2023

Fr Tom McManus – 964 8025

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

Fr Loughlain Carolan 985 3012

### Masses

Sat 23rd Dec	7:00pm	Tarmon	Tarmon NS will join in with this Liturgy.
Sun 24th Dec	11:15am	Drumkeeran	
	7:00pm	Creevelea	Christmas Vigil Mass.
	9:00pm	Drumkeeran	Christmas Night Mass. Maureen Rogan. Nora Brennan.
Mon 25th Dec	10:00am	Tarmon	Christmas Day Mass. NO Adoration or Mass this evening in Drumkeeran.
Tue 26th Dec	11:00am	Áras Bhríde	
	12:00noon	Tarmon	Public Mass. St Stephen's Day Mass - Fr John Gilhooly will be the celebrant.
Wed 27th Dec	10:00am	Creevelea	Brigid McHugh, Derrylustia.
Thurs 28th Dec	10:00am	Drumkeeran	
Fri 29th Dec	7:00pm	Tarmon	
Sat 30th Dec	7:00pm	Tarmon	
Sun 31st Dec	10:00am	Creevelea	
	11:15am	Drumkeeran	

**Confession:** Available after weekday Mass or on request.

**Newsletter:** Please see [www.inishmagrath.com](http://www.inishmagrath.com) for more articles.

**Kilmore News:** Tues 12 Mar 2024 will mark the 150th Anniversary of the opening of the iconic building which served as the original Saint Patrick's College, Cavan (up to its relocation to the new college building in 2012) and now houses the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre since 2005. Bishop Martin Hayes will be the principal celebrant of a special Mass to commemorate this milestone anniversary in the Cathedral of Saints Patrick & Felim, Cavan on Sat 16 Mar 2024 at 11:00am. Further details will be announced in due course.

Fr. Tom and the Parish Team wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas!



**Loving God, Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

#### Points to Ponder:

**Luke 1: 26-38**

The question of Mary in today's Gospel reading "How can this come about?" is a very human one. It is the kind of question that is asked by others in the Gospels. When Jesus was with His disciples in the wilderness in the presence of a hungry crowd, they asked Him, "How can one feed these people with bread here in the desert?" When we stand before a situation which seems beyond our resources to deal with, we all find ourselves asking the same kind of question, "How can this be?" "How will I get through this?" The angel Gabriel's answer to this question of Mary invited her to trust not in herself but in God. "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you." A lot was being asked of Mary and it would make great demands on her, but she was not being asked to take on this task of being mother to God's Son on the basis of her own resources alone. With this reassurance, she surrendered to the demanding task that God was giving her, "Let what you have said be done to me." Mary has often been described as a model disciple. In today's Gospel reading, she models a faith that trusts in God's power, stands ready to do what God asks. The question, "How can this be?" can inhibit us, hold us back, but, as in the case of Mary, it can also open us up to the working of the Holy Spirit within us and through us.

*Fr Martin Hogan.*