

Fr. Peter Burke - (090) 6454380 • Fr. Michael Morris - (090) 6454309 • www.ferbaneparish.ie

# CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, FERBANE

SATURDAY 24th DECEMBER Christmas Eve - 5pm Vigil Mass 9pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY 25th DECEMBER Christmas Day - 9am and 11am

Mon. 26th: 10am - St. Stephen's Day.

1. Jane Leavy (Months Mind).

2. Patrick & Sally Kenny.

Tues. 27th: 10am -

1. Pat & Breda Daly & their daughter Claire.

2. James & Nuala Cooney.

Wed. 28th: 10am - Phil, Mary & Brenda Gilsenan.

Thurs. 29th: 10am - People's Mass.

Fri. 30th: 10am Sat. 31st: 10am

### SATURDAY 31st DECEMBER - 7pm

1. James & Anne Reamsbottom, sons Noel and Joe and their daughter Mona.

SUNDAY 1st JANUARY - 11am

## SS. PATRICK & SARAN, HIGH STREET

SATURDAY 24th DECEMBER Christmas Eve - 7pm Vigil Mass SUNDAY 25th DECEMBER Christmas Day - 12 noon

SUNDAY 1st JANUARY - 12 noon

### ST. OLIVER PLUNKETT, BOORA

SATURDAY 24th DECEMBER Christmas Eve - 7pm Vigil Mass SUNDAY 25th DECEMBER Christmas Day - 9.30am

#### SUNDAY 1st JANUARY - 9.30am

**MASSES** - All ceremonies can be heard on 106.5FM Parish Radio. All our weekday and weekend Masses can be viewed on our livestream link www.ferbaneparish.ie. Parish bulletin is available on www.ferbaneparish.ie.

**COLLECTIONS** - Our account details with Bank of Ireland are as follows:

Account No: 75907205. BIC: BOFIIE2D IBAN: IE39 BOFI 9016 3475 9072 05.

We greatly appreciate your continued contributions. Weekly collection including Shrine €2,195. Thank you.

**DEATHS** - We pray for the repose of the souls of Thomas Flaherty, Delvin Park and Tony Morris, Navan (brother of Fr. Michael Morris), both of whom died recently. May they rest in peace.

**MARRIAGE** - Congratulations to Sandra Murray and Kevin Brewer who were married recently.

WALK WITH ME - TALK WITH ME - Mental Health Community Remembrance Day Walk in Ballinahown Sportspark on Tuesday 27th December from 10.30am - 4pm. Funds raised will be donated to the charity JIGSAW. Your support would be much appreciated.

**FERBANE GAA** - *Lotto:* Winning numbers in last week's draw 4, 10, 12, 30. Bonus 31. No jackpot winner. Two match 3 winners. Next week's jackpot is €6,000 and the draw is on Tuesday 27th December

**GALLEN UNITED** - *Lotto Draw* (Prize fund €5,600 = Jackpot €2,800; Star Prize €2,800).

Winning numbers in last week's draw 7, 10, 14, 15. Bonus 18. No jackpot winner. Two match 3 winners. Next draw on Tuesday 3rd January.

**OFFALY PRO-LIFE** - Are organising a baby shower to coincide with Nollaig na mBan. We are asking supporters to donate their excess baby clothes, baby necessities and maternity wear etc. for mothers in need. We will have a van parked in the public car park outside the Heritage Centre in Ferbane from 11am to noon on Saturday 7th January where these items can be dropped off.

**BELMONT SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY** - Will take place in High Street Hall on the 8th January 2023, commencing with Mass at 3pm. Raffle tickets will be on sale. Please support.

**BELMONT GUN CLUB** - Draw tickets currently on sale, please support. Proceeds in aid of Belmont Senior Citizens Party. Draw will take place on the 8th January during the party.

**EMPLOYABILITY MIDLANDS** - Do you have a disability, illness or injury and would like help to find a job? If the answer is yes, you can contact Liam on 086 387 3047 or Patricia on 086 145 1074 and we will be happy to tell you more about EmployAbility Midlands. For further information visit www.employabilitymidlands.com.

ARE YOU, OR IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW, LIVING WITH A LONG TERM HEALTH CONDITION? - If so, then you may be interested in the 'Living Well Programme'. Living Well is a Free ONLINE, 6 week group self-management programme for adults living with long term health conditions, such as asthma, COPD, diabetes, heart conditions, stroke and others to name but a few. The Living Well Programme supports people to develop the skills and confidence to live with their health condition. There are spaces available on our January programmes. To book your place please contact Áine (041) 6850676 / (087) 1140371 or Joanne (041) 6860710 / (087) 4308735 or visit www.hse.ie/livingwell.

**PEAT SOUNDS -** A new album from Brownie Guinan is now on sale at local shops and online at www.brownieguinan.com. Thanks for all your support. The album is roaring up the charts as we speak! *Happy Christmas to all!* 

**PARISH OFFICE** - Will be closed on Wed. 28th December and will reopen on Wed. 4th January. 090 6454309 OR parishoffice@ferbaneparish.

#### **FEAST OF CHRISTMAS**

When Jorge Bergoglio ascended the throne of Peter on 13th March 2013 and assumed the name of Francis, we all looked again at the life of the man from Assisi, how he loved nature, cared for the poor and renewed the Church. His most enduring legacy was surely the creation of the crib, when in 1223 he gathered some local people in a cave in the small town of Greccio to depict the stable scene. From those humble beginnings people have erected cribs down the ages in all kinds of shapes, sizes and places. The Italian city of Naples is a case in point. In the heart of the ancient city lies the much-visited 'Via Gregorio Armeno', which for obvious reasons is known as 'Christmas Alley'. From early in the year artists and craftsmen spend hours in their workshops along that street designing cribs with a difference. They have come up with the ingenious idea of placing the Bethlehem scene in ordinary settings. Consequently, their unique cribs contain not only the figures of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, but also the figures of ordinary people going about their everyday chores. The message is strikingly clear. Jesus is to be sought and found in the 'bits and pieces' of every day. When the celebration of Christmas ends and the work of Christmas begins, we need to be aware of His presence in ordinary people and places and in surprising people and places too.

tenderness for the past, courage for the present and hope for the future.

Christmas is

# **CHRISTMAS GREETING**

We offer our Parish family, at home and abroad, a blessed and joyful Christmas. We thank you most sincerely for your unfailing kindness, warm friendship and generous support during 2022. On the threshold of a new year we turn to Him, to whom all time belongs and all seasons. May He bless us, may His face shine on us and may He grant us His peace. Beannachtaí na Nollag agus na hÁthbhliana.

Fr. Peter, Fr. Michael, Sr. Joseph.