

Ferbane Parish Bulletin

Sunday 3rd December 2023 First Sunday of Advent

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

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, FERBANE

SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER - 7pm

1. Josie B Keenan (4th A), his wife Peggy (24th A), their daughter Tessie Guinan and Uncle Frank Dolan.

SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER - 11am

1. Gregory Foley and his daughter Hazel and his brother Noel Foley.
2. Nuala Corcoran (1st A) and her daughter Deborah (2nd A) and deceased members of the Corcoran family.
3. Patrick & Bridget Egan.

Mon. 4th: 10am

Tues. 5th: 10am - People's Mass.

Wed. 6th: 10am - Tom & Annie Claffey, Endrim.

Thurs. 7th: 10am

FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

THURSDAY 7th DECEMBER - 7pm

FRIDAY 8th DECEMBER - 11am

1. Peter & Maura Doyle and their son Raymond.

Sat. 9th: 10am

SATURDAY 9th DECEMBER - 7pm

1. Paudge Dunican and his daughter Rowena Mary.
2. Jim & Betty Ryan.

SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER - 11am

1. Gary Mooney (1st A).
2. Willie & Kitty Madden.

PATRICK & SARAN, HIGH STREET

SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER - 12 noon

1. Olive Hanniffy and her parents Colm & Rose.
2. Michael & Mary Cooper and their sons Desmond & Kevin.
3. P.J. Minogue and his parents John and Mary. Michael & Annie Heavin.

FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

FRIDAY 8th DECEMBER - 8pm

SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER - 12 noon

1. P.J. Rourke and deceased members of the Young family.

ST. OLIVER PLUNKETT, BOORA

SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER - 9.30am

1. Jane Leavy (1st A).

FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

FRIDAY 8th DECEMBER - 9.30am

SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER - 9.30am

1. Deceased members of the Corcoran family, Gallen.

NIGHT PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

For Advent commences in Ferbane Church on Wednesday 6th December at 8pm.

MASSES - All ceremonies can be heard on 106.5FM Parish Radio. Parish bulletin is available on www.ferbaneparish.ie.

COLLECTIONS - November 26th: Offertory/Shrine €2,105. Thank you.

DEATHS - Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Cecilia Corcoran, Gallen*, for *Vincent Nannery, Gallen* and for *Fr. Peter Brady, Longford* (former member of St. Saran's teaching staff), all of whom died recently. Rest they rest in peace.

PARISH OFFICE - Open every Wednesday from 9am-1pm and 2-5pm. Tel: 090 6454309 or email parishoffice@ferbaneparish.ie.

SVP - Confidential phone line 087 9272877.

HIGH STREET / BELMONT WOMEN'S GROUP - Christmas Market this Sunday 3rd December from 10am to 2.30pm in High Street Hall. All local crafts, jams, gifts etc. Raffle in aid of Offaly Hospice. We ask for your support.

YOUNG AT HEART / SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY - This Sunday 3rd December in Gallen Community School. Mass at 2pm.

FERBANE TIDY TOWNS - Are hosting the Christmas Lights Ceremony outside the Mary Ward Heritage Centre on Sun. 3rd Dec. from 5pm (lights switched on 6pm). Some local groups are selling handmade Christmas crafts and refreshments. Cash only. No card machines. Hope to see you there!

GALLEN UNITED - Lotto Draw (Prize fund €7,000 Jackpot €1,800; Star Prize €5,200). Winning numbers were 6, 8, 13, 14. Bonus 2. No jackpot winner. One match 3 winner. Next draw on Monday 4th December.

BHM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP Monthly meeting on this Tuesday 5th December at 9pm in High Street Hall. All are welcome.

FERBANE GAA - *Lotto*: Winning numbers in last week's draw 8, 13, 15, 21. Bonus 5. No jackpot winner. Four match three winners. Next week's jackpot is €11,200. Draw on Tuesday 5th December.

COFFEE MORNING - Continues on Wed. 6th December in the Bridge Hall, Ballycumber Road at 10.30am (after Mass). Bus as usual. All welcome.

FERBANE BRIDGE CLUB - Continues on Wednesday 6th December at 7.30pm. All welcome.

PROGRESSIVE 25 - Cards every Friday night in Ferbane Heritage Centre at 9pm. More card players needed for game to continue.

FERBANE LIBRARY - A new Parent and Toddler Group will begin in the library on Tuesday mornings from 11am-12pm, starting on Tuesday, December 5th. All welcome. A **FREE Christmas Cross Stitch Workshop** will take place in the library on Thursday, December 14th from 6.30pm-7.30pm. Suitable for age 10-15 years and upwards. Booking is necessary as places are limited. Phone 090 6454259 or email ferbanelibrary@offalycoco.ie for any further information.

COMMUNITY GAMES - Are having their AGM on Thursday 7th December at 8.30pm in Gallen United Clubhouse. Everyone welcome.

ST HILDAS' SERVICES, FERBANE SUPPORT SERVICES - Are holding a *Christmas Coffee Morning* on Friday 8th December from 10:30am to 12:30pm in the Mary Ward Heritage Centre.

ANAM CARA MIDLANDS - The organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly **Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wed. 13th Dec. at 7.15pm in the Mullingar Park Hotel.** This event is FREE and open to all bereaved parents. We also offer an online service. For info. call 01 4045378.

FERBANE BELMONT CE - Have vacancies on our scheme for 2 Groundsperson/Caretaker, 2 General Operatives and 1 Caretaker Cleaner. Successful applicants will continue with all existing benefits with a scheme top up. All participants can also avail of training and upskilling. Call 090 6454068.

BOOK LAUNCH - AS THE YEARS I BACKWARD SPAN: Collected Essays on the Wonders of Ferbane by Brendan Ryan, dealing with the history of Ferbane, will be launched in Gallen Community School on Friday 8th Dec. at 8pm. A limited edition will be available at the launch. Hardback 300 pages €25 (€20 at launch). Light refreshments served. An ideal Christmas gift.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

'Be on your guard'

Advent is here again and so, another Church year begins. The word advent means 'coming'. During this special season of grace we are afforded the opportunity to reflect on the first coming of Christ two thousand years ago; on His second coming at the end of time; on the fact that one day He will come to call each one of us home. In that sense it is always Advent until our earthly lives have run their course. Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. It is an invitation to see the world beyond ourselves. It is a four-week course in waiting. Waiting does not diminish us. It enlarges and deepens us. It makes us more receptive. It brings us beneath the surface of things to what is essential. As we go through these weeks we could seize the moment to go beneath the surface, to take stock of our lives and act on the command that Jesus places before us in today's Gospel: **'be on your guard'**. For the Christian there should be little talk of 'later'. We live in the 'now' and secure our future by taking care of the present. One pertinent question should exercise our minds in that regard: if He were to come for me tomorrow, would I be ashamed of what I did today? This season is God's precious gift to us.