

Ferbane Parish Bulletin

Sunday 10th December 2023 Second Sunday of Advent

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

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, FERBANE

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.

Mon. 11th: 10am - Patrick & Angela Egan, Gallen.

Tues. 12th: 10am - Noel & Una McIntyre and deceased members of the McIntyre family.

Wed. 13th: 10am - Deceased members of the Ferbane Bridge Club.

Thurs. 14th: 10am - People's Mass.

Fri. 15th: 10am

Sat. 16th: 10am - Margaret, John & Martin Egan.

SATURDAY 16th DECEMBER - 7pm

SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER - 11am

1. Margaret Molloy (3rd A).
2. Tommy & Kitty Flaherty.

PATRICK & SARAN, HIGH STREET

SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER - 12 noon

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

SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER - 12 noon

1. Michael & Margaret Daly, their daughter Margaret, her husband James Murray & their daughter Mary Connaughton and deceased family members.

2. Patrick & Nan Kearns, their daughter Anne and deceased family members. Patrick & Mary Rourke and their sons Pat, Tom, Joe & James.

ST. OLIVER PLUNKETT, BOORA

SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER - 9.30am

1. Deceased members of the Corcoran family, Gallen.

SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER - 9.30am

1. Nancy Colgan, Leamore and deceased members of the Colgan & Boland families.
2. Mary Kate & Peter Grogan, Leamore.

NIGHT PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

For Advent continues in Ferbane Church on Wednesday 13th December at 8pm.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

In Ferbane Church on Tuesday 19th Dec. at 8pm.

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

COLLECTIONS - December 3rd: Offertory/Shrine €2,195. Thank you.

BAPTISM - We welcome into our Christian Community *Caeden Kenny*.

DEATH - Please pray for *John Brazil Snr, Derricamore* who died recently. Rest in peace.

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

SVP - *Annual Blue Envelope Appeal* for St. Vincent de Paul will take place this weekend in all our Parish churches. Please return the envelopes in the Offertory baskets or leave into the Presbytery, Ferbane. *SVP meeting* on Tues. 12th Dec. at 7.30pm in the Presbytery. Confidential phone line 087 9272877.

GALLEN UNITED - *Lotto Draw* (Prize fund €7,100 Jackpot €1,900; Star Prize €5,200). Winning numbers were 6, 10, 13, 25. Bonus 9. No jackpot

winner. Two match 3 winners. Next draw on Monday 11th December.

FERBANE GAA - *Lotto*: Winning numbers in last week's draw 2, 8, 27, 30. Bonus 19. No jackpot winner. One match three winner. Next week's jackpot is €11,400. Draw on Tuesday 12th December.

COFFEE MORNING - Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 13th December. Bus will leave Church grounds at 1.15pm for Birr.

FERBANE BRIDGE CLUB - Continues on Wednesday 13th December at 7.30pm. All welcome.

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 LIBRARY - 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 further info.

ONLINE LAUNCH - Of Aidan Doyle's 'A Revolution in Profiles', a website profiling Offaly in the Revolutionary Years on Thursday 14th December. Website launch 8pm. Launch can be viewed on Facebook profile, <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553625544577>. The website is available free of charge at <https://revolutioninprofilesoffaly.com/>

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

CHRISTMAS JUMBLE SALE - In Ferbane Heritage Centre on Saturday 16th December from 10.30am - 5pm. Coffee Morning at 10.30am with spot prizes. Raffle on the day which will take place at 5pm. All money raised will go to Sr. Paula Healy and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, Ferbane for their Missions. To book a table contact Rachael 087 9503791. All donations welcome.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH CHOIR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE - Will take place in St. Mary's Church, Cloghan on Sunday 17th December at 8pm. All donations from this Service will be donated to the Irish Red Cross. *Wishing you and your families a very happy Christmas.*

BELMONT SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY - Will be held on Sunday 7th January 2024 starting with Mass at 3pm in High Street Community Centre.

BELMONT GUN CLUB - Draw cards are currently on sale. Proceeds to Senior Citizens party. Kindly support.

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.

FERBANE TIDY TOWNS - Would like to sincerely thank all our volunteers who fundraised to pay for running costs, collected spot prizes, put up the Christmas lights over 4 hours in bitter conditions, prepared the Mary Ward Heritage Centre for the event, served beverages, MC'ed, escorted Santa, crowd control, organised the raffle, cleaned up after the event and of course the main man himself for taking time out of his busy schedule to drop into the children of Ferbane. The Christmas Lights Ceremony would not have been possible otherwise, so they deserve a big pat on the back and a mile buiochas. A huge thank you to everyone and local businesses who sponsored the Christmas Lights. If you would like to get involved with Ferbane's Tidy Towns' Christmas Lights Ceremony next year or our other activities please contact us on Facebook or Instagram. *Nollaig Shona!*

BHM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP BELMONT - Committee and members wish all our community a very happy Christmas and a peaceful, prosperous, community spirited new year. The group would like to thank everyone for their support in 2023 and look forward to working with everyone on projects planned for 2024. *Merry Christmas.*

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

'Prepare the way of the Lord'

When the king of Thailand travels around his country, the roads are cleared by the army to make way for him. All obstacles human or inanimate are moved aside to make the royal journey smooth. At Christmas our King comes and during Advent we are invited to prepare the way. It's a season that should be charged with a 'hopeful vigilance'. As the booming voice of John the Baptist echoes across the generations from his place of testing in the wilderness we are challenged to straighten the crooked places in our lives, to lay low the rugged hills, to remove from our hearts and minds the things that make us less than we could be. We are asked to take a second look, to think again. It's no easy thing to change one's life, but if we are to take Advent seriously we have to take John the Baptist seriously too. Now is the acceptable time. Christians should never live by 'the rule of tomorrow', especially in Advent. 'Repensare'.