

Holy Family Parish, Askea

25th December 2011 Vol 22 No 5

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Thank You!

Fr. Tom Little
059 91-34992

Fr Liam Morgan
059 91-43260

Sr. Joan Pierce
059 91-42565

Emergency
Priest on Duty
087 2588118

ASKEA PARISH COLLECTIONS

Development
Fund €1,734
Offertory
€1,833

Askea Parish
Community
Centre Phone
& Fax 91-42565
Parish Office
087 1269709

Carlow Day Care
Centre
91-35977

Childcare Centre
9135206

Deadline for items
for Newsletter if
5pm on Wednesday
by phone or fax to
9142565 or email
to askeabennekerry
@eircom.net

...to all parishioners who constantly support and take part in the life of our neighbourhood, community and Parish;

...to all who subscribe to the various collections throughout the year- without your support the Parish could not function.

... to the Sacristan, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Choir, Musicians, Ushers / Collectors, Servers, Flower Arrangers,

...to the Carers of Altar linens, other occasional Special Ministers and all other helpers in our Parish Liturgies;

...to all members of the Parish Groups for their commitment and dedication to the Parish;

...to the staff and all users of the Parish Community Centre; Carlow Day Care Centre and Community Childcare Centre;

...to the School Principals and staff for their care and co-operation with families and Parish;

...to all who deliver flyers, letters etc. during the year;

...to all who promote and support the Parish Lotto each week;

...to all who gave to our Community Christmas Hamper Appeal.

If your name has been omitted, please forgive us and know that you are thanked also.

Keeping in Touch

ST MARY'S PARISH, BENNEKERRY

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The Night Before Christmas

(A more spiritual version of the famous Christmas story).

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the town,
St. Joseph was searching, walking up roads and down;
Our Lady was waiting, so meek and so mild,
While Joseph was seeking a place for the Child;
The children were nestled, each snug in their beds,
The grown-ups wouldn't bother, there's no room they said;
When even the innkeeper sent them away,
Joseph was wondering, where they would stay;
He thought of the caves in the side of the hills,
Let's go there said Mary, it's silent and still;
The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow,
Made pathways of light for their tired feet to go;
And there in a cave, in a cradle of hay,
Our Saviour was born on that first Christmas Day!

The Father was watching in heaven above,
He sent for His angels, His couriers of love;
More rapid than eagles God's bright angels came;
Rejoicing and eager as each heard his name;
Come Power, Come Cherubs, Come Virtues, Come Raphael,
Come Thrones and Dominions, come Michael and Gabriel;
Now fly to the Earth, where My poor people live,
Announce the glad tiding My Son comes to give;

The Shepherds were watching their flocks on this night,
And saw in the heavens and unearthly light;
The Angels assured them, they'd nothing to fear,
It's Christmas they said, the Saviour is here!
They hastened to find Him, and stood at the door,
Till Mary invited them in to adore;

He was swaddled in bands from His head to His feet,
Never did the Shepherds see a baby so sweet!
He spoke not a word, but the shepherds all knew,
He was telling them secrets and blessing them too;
Then softly they left Him, The Babe in the hay,
And rejoiced with great joy on that first Christmas Day;
Mary heard them exclaim as they walked up the hill,
Glory to God in the Highest, Peace to men of good will!

Sister St. Thomas, B.N.D. de N

Mary's Dream

I had a dream, Joseph. I don't understand it,
but I think it was about a birthday celebration for our son.
The people in my dream had been preparing for about six weeks.
They had decorated the house and bought new clothes.
They'd gone shopping many times and bought many elaborate gifts.
It was peculiar, though, because the presents weren't for our son.
They wrapped them in beautiful paper and stacked them under a tree.
Yes, a tree, Joseph, right inside their homes!
They'd decorated the tree with sparkling ornaments.
There was a figure like an angel on the top of the tree.
Everyone was laughing and happy.
They gave the gifts to each other, Joseph, not to our son.
I don't think they even knew him.
They never mentioned his name.
I had the strangest feeling that, if our Jesus had gone to this
celebration he would have been intruding.
How sad for someone not to be wanted at his own birthday party!
I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible Joseph, if it had been real!

Author Unknown.

St Mary's Parish, Bennekerry

Fr Tom Little PP - Phone 059 9131559 /9134992

Fr Liam Morgan CC 059 9143260. Newsletter Items - 059 9143881.

Deadline for News items: - 9pm Wednesdays

Emergency Number for the Priest on Duty 087 2588118.

Parish Office - 059 9142565

Anniversaries -

Sunday 1st January 2012 at 11.30am

Tom & Mary Sheehan, Bennekerry

James Hutton, Rutland Terrace

<u>Bennekerry Offertory €164.</u>	<u>Development €246.</u>
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PALATINE G.F.C. Lotto Results: - 19/12/'11

Lotto numbers: -05, 11, 16, & 26. Jackpot no winner

MATCH 3 WINNERS share (€200): 3 MATCH-3 - WINNERS €70 each.

Winner

Fergal Browne

Mick Morrin

Cormac Duff

Sellers Prize €70:-Mary Tracey

Next Draw on Tuesday 3rd January 2012 in Palatine Clubhouse at 10:00pm — tickets €2 each. Jackpot €10,600.

Seller

John Browne

Gerry O'Neill

John Browne

Thought for Today - A Family Prayer

Lord, behold our family here assembled.

We thank Thee for this place in which we dwell;

For the love that unites us;

For the peace accorded us this day;

For the hope which we expect tomorrow;

For the health, the work,

the food and the bright skies that make our lives delightful;

For our friends in all parts of the world.

Christmas Dues

for Priests of the Parish will be taken up at all Masses on Saturday 25th Dec. Your support, as always, is greatly appreciated.

Parish Contact details:

Fr. Tom Little 059 91-34992. Fr Liam Morgan 059 91-31212.

Sr. Joan Piense 059 91-42565.

Emergency Priest on Duty 087 2588118

Askea Parish Community Centre Phone & Fax 059 91-42565

Askea Parish Office 087 1269709

Carlow Day Care Centre 059 91-35977

Askea Community Childcare Centre 059 91-35206

Deadline for items for Newsletter if 5pm on Wednesday by phone or fax to 9142565 or email to askeabennekerry@eircom.net

Askea Parish Community Centre

will re-open after the Christmas break on Tuesday 3rd January 2012. Details for Anniversary Masses may be left into the Sacristy.

Askea - Bennekerry Lotto Draw

The next draw will take place on Wednesday 4th January 2012. Many thanks to all who support the Lotto each week by buying or selling tickets.

Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration will not take place on Wednesday 28th December. Adoration will re-commence on Wednesday 4th January after the 9.30am Mass.

Support Group

For Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families in Cathedral Parish Centre on Thursdays at 8pm. Details from Alan O'Dwyer MIACP 059 9134865 / 087 2455994.

'You Are Not Alone'

Family Support Group

For families living with drug abuse. Meetings in Askea Parish Centre Wed from 6pm until 8pm. Call Margaret on 085 7872730.

Low Cost Counselling

Service in Askea Parish Community Centre. Contact 087 6272628 or 086 4063043.

Talk It Over Bereavement

Support 086-3364961.

Moving On Overcoming

Depression (MOOD) - A group for relatives of those experiencing depression takes place on the first Wed of every month at 8pm in Cathedral Parish Centre, College Street, Carlow.

Alcoholic's Anonymous meets every Wednesday at 8.30pm and Saturday at 11am in Askea Parish Centre.

One 2 One Counselling

Psychotherapy Accredited C.B.T. Therapists. Private and Confidential therapy for Individual, Couples, Child and Adolescent Counselling. Ph: 059 91 71909 or 085 160 0999.

Al-Anon Family Groups

Carlow: Mon - St. Catherine's Social Services 8pm; Thurs - Askea Parish Centre 8pm. Sun - St Catherine's Social Services 8.15pm. (Ph: 01 8732699 www.al-anonuk.org.uk)

BODYWHYS - 2 SUPPORT

GROUPS 1st. for people with eating disorders. 2nd. for family and friends of same at 7.30 pm on Wed 1st of each month in the Cathedral Parish Centre, College St.

Aware Support Group meets in the Cathedral Parish Centre every Tuesday at 8pm. Contact Mick on 087 9498100 or email mick@awaresoutheast.com The Helpline 1-890 303 303

Nar-Anon

The Nar-Anon Family Groups are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction. Meetings every Mon at 7pm in Saol Nua Building, Aislinn Centre, Ballyraggett Co Kilkenny. Phone 085 2191031.

Carlow Women's Aid

7 Old Dublin Road Carlow. Freephone 1800 444944.

Carlow Dial to Stop Drug

Dealing Dial 1800 220 220 anonymous and safe. *You dial, we act.*

Calendar

Monday 26th St Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was one of those in charge of the poor and needy. He is outstanding for his forgiveness of his enemies. Patron of deacons, stonemasons and bricklayers.

Tuesday 27th:-St John brother of James, son of Zebedee, the disciple whom Jesus loved, is traditionally said to have died at Ephesus. He is considered to be the author of the Fourth Gospel, The Book of Revelation and three Letters. The Letter especially teaches the law of love; he is said in his old age to have preached only one message — Love one another.

Wednesday:- The Holy Innocents, martyrs

Thursday 29th:-St Thomas a Becket, 1118-1170, as Archbishop of Canterbury, came in conflict with Henry 11 over Church rights, He was killed in his Cathedral on this date.

Friday 30th:-The Holy Family is seen as the model for the human family, the religious community and the Church itself. The celebration of the incarnation has brought us to see God's closeness. In the Holy Family we see the ordinariness of the life of Jesus, the simple acceptance by Mary and Joseph of the marvel of God. In the daily life of family and community we can touch the Divine, we can come close to God. But we have to learn to live centred on God, with respect and love for each other.

Saturday 31st:-St Sylvester died in 335 after being bishop of Rome for 21 years. Being elected in the year after the Edict of Milan he was free to build many churches in Rome.

Saturday 31st:-St. Sylvester (pope)

Sunday School for children aged 4-7yrs will be held on the first Sunday of each month at 12 Noon Mass. Parents are welcome to join in if child needs a little extra support.

Meditation Experience: Meditation Group meets every Thursday from 7.30pm to 8.30pm at the Carlow Day Care Centre in Askea. Why not come along and try it out? No experience necessary. No charge. For more information, ring Noel on 087 2251183.

Eucharistic Adoration takes place in Holy Family Church, Askea every Wednesday after the 9.30am Mass and concluding at 7pm.

Adoration finished for Christmas on Wednesday 21st December and will resume on Wed 9th January.

Kildare & Leighlin Weekly Lotto Results

For Wed 21st December 2011.

Numbers drawn were

No Jackpot winner. Next Week's Jackpot €20,000

Match 3 share €1,000. - € each. There were Match 3s from Askea / Bennekerry.

Winner

Promoter

There will be no Lotto Draw next Wednesday 28th December.

The next Lotto Draw will take place on Wednesday 4th

January 2012. May we wish all our Promoters and Purchasers a Happy and Holy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Tickets €2 each - available from Askea Parish Centre. Please note the draw takes place on Wed at 4.30pm in Portlaoise. Tickets must be returned by 5pm each Tuesday to Askea Parish Centre.

Christmas Masses

Christmas Day:

Askea 9am, 10.30am and 12 Noon.

Bennekerry 11.30am

Tinryland 10am

St Stephen's Day Mon 26th Dec and Tues to Fri 27th Dec to 30th December -

Askea - 9.30am

Saturday 31st December 2011

Askea 7pm;

Sunday 1st January 2012

Askea 9am, 10.30am and 12 Noon;

Bennekerry 11.30am

Tinryland 10am

Just Four Weeks 'Best of Health' Weight Management Class takes place in Askea Parish Community Centre every Friday from - 10.30am - 11.30am and from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. 'Just Four Weeks' will return after the Christmas break on Friday 13th January 2012. Contact 087 6757493.

Saorview...Ireland's free Digital television service RTE 1, RTE 2 HD, TV3, TG4, RTE News Now, 3E, RTE Junior, RTE 1 Plus 1. Contact Padraig for any installation queries. 087 2727317 or www.tvireland.ie

C-clear Window Cleaning All frames included. Telescopic poles. Hot Pure Water. Contact Jason 086 8397998. Don't risk a fall - give us a call.. (10 windows - €20). Also Oven Cleaning - double oven €60.

Yoga Classes available on Tuesdays from 7.30pm to 9pm in Tintean Community Centre, Pollerton Road. Contact Bernie 087 1237687 for details.

Painter available Great prices, 085 1235606.

Driving Lessons

Approved Driving Instructor and RSA Registered. Contact Peter Walsh 087 6158431 or email peterwalsh01@eircom.net. Gift vouchers available.

Weight Watchers

Meeting Carlow: Tuesdays: 9am in Askea Parish Centre, 5.30pm & 6.45pm Askea Girls' School, Wednesdays: 5.15pm & 6.30pm Seven Oaks Hotel, Thursdays: 9am, 10.15am & 12.30pm in Dr Donal O'Brien Centre.

Goal Mile

will be held Christmas Morning at 11am on St Laurence O'Toole Athletic Trace in Carlow. All donations to Goal Foundation.

Night to remember

In memory of Amy Lawlor. In Seven Oaks Hotel on Tuesday 27th December at 8pm. Guests include: Michael English, Joe Cuddy, Mary Darcy, Crystal Swing and Nicky Kealy. Tickets €20. Contact John Kissane 086 6075552; Declan Byrne 087 2548319 or Sandy Burns 086 3938072. Proceeds to the Amy Lawlor Memorial Fund for Cystic Fibrosis.

Éire Óg News

Weekly Jackpot - Numbers drawn 3, 4, 16 and 28. No Jackpot winner. Congratulations to Colum Duffy who Hugh Kelly who win €150 having matched 3 numbers. Next week's Jackpot €6,950. Next weeks match 3 will share €150. NEXT WEEK'S CLUB LOTTO - Please note that next week's lotto will take place as usual on Monday night December 26th however the draw will be at an earlier time of 7.30pm. Tickets may be purchased by calling into the Club, or phone 9143951, Riverside Stores Hanover, and the Flower Shop Fairgreen, Shopping Centre. Numbers may also be selected and paid for by direct debit: contact the office for further details.

A big Thank You to all who helped out at the Christmas Dinner on Sunday last, a great day was had by all!!

ENTERTAINMENT NEWS Christmas Raffle on Friday 23rd, Please note no music this Saturday (Christmas Eve).

Dancing to 'Deltone Ramblers' on Stephen's night, no cover charge

Family Fun Run 2nd Jan 2012 Kick start the New Year with Éire Óg Family Fun Run day. Free Entry to all, tea and refreshments afterwards in the Club. Starts at 11am, contact 9164923 for further details.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members, sponsors, promoters, mentors and all volunteers who work tirelessly throughout the year, a very happy Christmas and the best of health and good luck in 2012.

Carlow Day Care Centre

News: Jigsaw pictures for sale. Made by patrons of the Centre - price €10.

The Day Care Centre will re-open after the Christmas break on Tuesday 3rd January 2012.

Sincere thanks to anyone who helped or contributed in any way during the year. Wishing all our patrons a Happy and Holy Christmas.

Derek Ryan in Concert

at the George Bernard Shaw Theatre, Carlow on Fri 13th Jan 2012. Special Guest Louise Morrissey. Tickets from Box Office 059 9172400.

Turf for Sale Ten large bags delivered locally €30. Contact 085 2760229.

New Year's Resolution to Volunteer

The 50th International Eucharistic Congress are delighted to announce that they have now over 700 registered volunteers from all over Ireland and continue their call to volunteers as more are needed. Recently, the first volunteer induction training sessions were held and there will be more induction training sessions in January. Why not make it your News Years' resolution to volunteer. Register now and make a difference!

International Theology Symposium Announced

The Theology Symposium is a meeting of graduates in theology and academics to reflect on the theme "*The Eucharistic Ecclesiology of Communion Fifty Years after Vatican II*". It takes place in St Patrick's College, Maynooth, from 6th until 9th June 2012, the week before The 50th International Eucharistic Congress. There will be plenary sessions, seminars and liturgies enriched by expert contributions from international scholars across the disciplines of Theology. Read more about the Symposium and book online: www.iec2012.ie/theologysymposium

The IEC2012 on Facebook

The 50th International Eucharistic Congress invites you to join the preparations to the Congress via Facebook. Through their social media, the Congress team are making available news, photos, videos, reflections, interesting links, website updates, spiritual resources and much more! Go to www.facebook.com/IEC2012 and press "like". You are also welcome to subscribe to the IEC2012 online newsletter to keep up to date with all the latest Congress news on www.iec2012.ie/subscribe

Opportunities to Exhibit at the 50th International Eucharistic Congress

During the week of the Congress, the 50th International Eucharistic Congress will have indoor exhibition spaces hosting over 100 exhibition stands as well as other exhibition areas around the RDS. These will allow commercial organisations and Church to represent themselves and offer religious goods, Irish craft products and services to thousands of pilgrims. The exhibition layout is now available and bookings are being taken by email: exhibition@iec2012.ie

Bennekerry Senior Citizens' Christmas Raffle Results

- 1st Prize - Hamper - Jimmy Doyle, Russelstown
- 2nd Prize - Turkey Voucher - Pauline Kelly, Pollerton Little
- 3rd Prize - Ham Voucher - Tom O'Reilly, 26 Kernanstown
- 4th Prize - Brandy - Molly Coughlan, Sion, Bennekerry
- 5th Prize - Whiskey - Geraldine Walsh, Burton Hall
- 6th Prize - Gin - Mary Walker, Kearney's Lane
- 7th Prize - Baileys - Pat Broderick, Brownshill
- 8th Prize - Chocolates - Ann Nolan, Montgomery Street
- 9th Prize - Chocolates - Emma Cassidy, 133 Sandhills
- 10th Prize - Biscuits - Ann Gillespe, 10 Brookfield
- 11th Prize - Biscuits - Ellen Cullen, Rathvilly
- 12th Prize - Lamp - Liz Nolan, Kernanstown Terrace
- 13th Prize - Doll - Gay Cotter, Co Cork

Many thanks to all who supported our raffle this year. A special word of thanks to Fr Tom Little who donated the extra prizes.

Trip to 'Dirty Dancing' in Grand Canal Theatre

Wednesday 18th January 2012. Seats in Upper Stalls €44 each. Coach €14. 3 course meal €16.50 each. Total €74.50. (Meal, at the Maldron Hotel is optional).

Final payments due by the 6th January 2012. Payments can be handed in to Anne Dunne at the Carvery Area of Dinn Rí between 11am and 1.30pm on 6th January of Contact Ann at 087 9018153.