

Holy Family Parish, Askea

4th December 2022 Vol 34 No 2

Second Sunday of Advent

Fr. Tom Little
059 - 91-31559 /
087 2481731
Fr Tommy Dillon
059 - 91-42565
Emergency Priest on
Duty
087 2588118

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Askea Parish
Community
Centre Phone
059 91-42565
Parish Secretary
087 1269709

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Mass Times:

Askea 9.30am Mon-Fri.
Sat 7pm.
Sun 9am, 10.30am
& 12 Noon.

Bennekerry
Sun 11.30am.

Tinryland Tues & Wed
9.30am, Fri 7.30pm,
Sunday 10am

Deadline for items for
Newsletter is 5pm on
Wednesday by phone to
059 9142565 or email
to
office@askeaparish.ie
Website:
www.askeaparish.ie

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening
Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village, though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.
My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.
The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Robert Frost

Keeping in Touch

St Mary's Parish, Bennekerry - Sunday 4th December 2022

Second Sunday of Advent

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Robert Frost

St Mary's Parish, Bennekerry

Fr Tom Little PP - Ph 059 9131559. Fr Tommy Dillon PE 059 9142565
Newsletter Items - 059 9143881. **Deadline for News items: - 9pm
Wednesdays** Emergency Number for the Priest on Duty 087 2588118.
Parish Office - 059 9142565 087 - 1269709.
Website: www.askeaparish.ie; email: office@askeaparish.ie

Sunday 4th December 2022

Anniversaries

Mary Murphy, Brownshill

CALENDAR

Monday 5th:-**2nd Week of Advent**

Tuesday 6th:-**St Nicholas**, a fourth century bishop of Myra in modern-day Turkey, of whom little is known. He is patron of Russia, of sailors, of pawnbrokers and of children.

Wednesday 7th:-**St Ambrose**, 339-397, became governor of the Roman province whose seat was in Milan. In 374, the Laity insisted on him becoming bishop though he was not baptised, He defended orthodoxy in brilliant preaching and through his writing. Patron of Milan, beekeepers and domestic animals.

Thursday 8th :- **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Friday 9th:-**St Juan Diego Cuahtlatatzin**, 1474-1548, saw the vision of Our Lady of Gaudalupe in December 1531.

Saturday 10th **Our Lady of Loreto**

K & L Diocesan Lotto Results for Wed 30th November 2022

Numbers drawn were 20, 22, 27 & 31. No Jackpot winner.
6 Match 3s get €167 each. Askea / Bennekerry had NO Match 3s.

Winner

Promoter

Next week's Jackpot €13,000.

Ticket for the Lotto are available in the Church.

You can also call to the Parish Centre during the week to buy a ticket.

Gift Lotto tickets are also available in the Parish Centre.

You can buy a ticket for multiple weeks (5 weeks = €10; 10 weeks = €20; etc) and receive a gift card with the details.

Irish Dancing Mary O'Donohoe School of Irish Dancing takes place in Askea Parish Community Centre on Mondays from 6.30pm - for students of all ages from 4 years upwards.
Contact Mary at 087 2434717.

Christmas Tree Festival in St Mary's Church Carlow. Fri 2nd December 12 Noon-9pm. Sat 3rd 10am-8pm. Sunday 4th 12 noon - 6pm. Official opening on Friday 2nd Dec by Bishop Dennis Nulty at 7pm.

Christmas Fair and Coffee Morning on Saturday 3rd December from 10.30am to 4pm in The Old Schoolhouse, Barrack Street, Carlow hosted by the Elderflower Garden Club. Tea / Coffee, mince pies, sweet treats, unique craft items, handmade Christmas decorations, chat with Santa. Why not join us and start your Christmas with a genuine welcome and seasonal atmosphere.

Graigucullen MONSTER Bingo on Tuesday 6th December St. Fiacc's Hall @ 8.30pm. Jackpot on 50 numbers €4730. Double number €1160 Lotto €500. Chocolates left & right of the winner. Great prizes, bring a friend.

Carlow College Music: All is Bright Christmas Concert – Sunday 11th Dec 2022 at 4pm in St. Mary's Church, Castle Hill, Carlow. Performing many of your Christmas favourites. Adults €10, Concessions €8, Children Free.

Tickets available from Carlow College of Music and [eventbrite.ie](https://www.eventbrite.ie)

Alternative Christmas Presents

Many of us are struggling to pay our bills this Christmas. However, many others are desperate for food and shelter, and for basic necessities to live. Please consider this before you shop for Christmas; think about where the items have come from and who has been involved in making them. Choosing **Fairtrade** products can help people who produce them to have a reasonable standard of living. You can buy Fairtrade selection boxes, chocolate Santa's, tea, coffee, hot chocolate, bananas, roses, etc. You can also buy *Fairtrade products* to make up a Christmas hamper or have one made-up for you at any of the Health Food Shops.

Show your loved ones you care by giving a friend a '**Gift Card from a Charity**', donate to a charity, buy a Christmas gift in a charity shop (eg Vincent de Paul), and/or support charity Christmas cards. You can be 100% sure these gifts will be much appreciated and will bring a giant smile to many. Please also think about making an **eco-friendly** choice i.e. minimum amount of wrapping, avoiding plastics and synthetic items; also shopping locally. Did you know that shiny coated wrapping paper cannot be recycled. These choices help reduce your carbon footprint and contribute towards reducing your carbon footprint. It is vital that we do our bit to save our planet.

Many of my friends who received '*charity gifts*' last year said '*It made my Christmas to get a card from a friend who made a donation to a charity*'. While it's always nice to get presents, it can be equally rewarding to give. These are just some of the organisations that would greatly appreciate your help over Christmas.

trocaire.org (TROCAIRE); concern.net (CONCERN); oxfamireland.org/donate (OXFAM); donate.redcross.ie / Crois Dhearg na hEireann (IRISH RED CROSS- UKRAINE APPEAL); fairtrade.ie (FAIRTRADE); selfhelpafrica.org (SELF-HELP AFRICA); gortagroup.org (GORTA); unicef.ie (UNICEF); www.goalglobal.org (GOAL); www.barnardos.ie; Bothar.ie; Unicef children's charity; [Children in Need - Printed Card or e-Card](#) and FocusIreland.ie

Remember you can order cards, vouchers or gifts by telephone or online and you will have them in the post within a few days. '*It is in giving that you receive*'.

Nollaig Shona Dhaoibh.

Carlow Choral Society present a gala performance of Handel's Messiah in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow, on 3rd December 2022 at 8.00pm. Tickets are €20.00 and are available

on www.eventbrite.ie and www.carlowchoralsociety.com and from choir members.

Interested in Piano Lessons? I am a music student at the Royal Irish Academy of Music, Dublin. I have completed my Grade 8 RIAM piano exams and was Piano student of the year with Carlow College of Music 2022. I am looking forward to starting classes and if you or your child is interested in learning how to play, please contact me at 083 0787480. Rates very reasonable. Natalia.

Christmas Concert The Wolseley Singers are hosting an afternoon Christmas Concert in the Club House in Mount Wolseley, Tullow on Sunday 11th December 2022 at 3pm. A great afternoon's entertainment is guaranteed with all proceeds going to the Cancer Society.

Guided Day-Retreat for Religious Education Teachers

Takes place at Ennismore Retreat Centre on Tuesday, 13th December from 10 am to 4 pm. This is open to currently employed Religious Education Teachers. This day will be led by the well-known Dominican retreat director Fr Stephen Cummins, OP and Mrs Hilda Campbell, a member of the Council and Diocesan Advisor for the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. The initiative to organise this retreat arose from discussions at the Council for Catechetics to find ways we can support Religious Education Teachers. For further details and to register for the Retreat, please see our Eventbrite page here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/come-away-and-rest-a-guided-day-retreat-for-religious-education-teachers-tickets-468323667697>

For overnight accommodation and for any specific dietary requirements for lunch please contact in advance Johanne Ridgeway at info@ennismore.ie

An Old Man's Winter Night

All out of doors looked darkly in at him
Through the thin frost, almost in separate stars,
That gathers on the pane in empty rooms.
What kept his eyes from giving back the gaze
Was the lamp tilted near them in his hand.
What kept him from remembering what it was
That brought him to that creaking room was age.
He stood with barrels round him -- at a loss.
And having scared the cellar under him
In clomping there, he scared it once again
In clomping off; -- and scared the outer night,
Which has its sounds, familiar, like the roar
Of trees and crack of branches, common things,
But nothing so like beating on a box.
A light he was to no one but himself
Where now he sat, concerned with he knew what,
A quiet light, and then not even that.
He consigned to the moon, such as she was,
So late-arising, to the broken moon
As better than the sun in any case
For such a charge, his snow upon the roof,
His icicles along the wall to keep;
And slept. The log that shifted with a jolt
Once in the stove, disturbed him and he shifted,
And eased his heavy breathing, but still slept.
One aged man -- one man -- can't keep a house,
A farm, a countryside, or if he can,
It's thus he does it of a winter night.

Robert Frost