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**Sunday 31st December 2023 – Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

**DROMAHAIR – KILLARGUE - NEWTOWNMANOR**

***On behalf of Fr Paul, we wish you and all your loved ones a Peaceful,***

***Happy & Safe New Year. (Parish Pastoral Council).***

**The Work of Christmas**

When the star in the sky is gone, when the song of the angels is stilled.

When the wise men and princes go home, when the shepherds go back to the hills.

When the king returns to his palace and there's plenty of room at the inn.

When the infant escapes Herod's malice, the work of Christmas begins:

To search out the lost and the needy, to overcome suffering and fear.

To comfort the sad and the weary, to help those who can't see or hear.

To feed the poor and the hungry, to reconcile peoples apart.

To support those with cause to be angry, to bring peace to the human heart.

**Monday 1st January 2024 (New Year’s Day) is the Feast of Mary the Mother of God and World Day of Prayer for Peace.**

As we celebrate the example of the Holy Family this weekend, we are also encouraged to pray for world peace on Monday, 1st January 2024.We trust that our prayer at home and in our parishes will bring peace to our troubled world and especially to the Holy Land where God sent his Son, Jesus to be among us.

**Mass in Dromahair Church on Monday 1st January (New Years Day) at 11am.**

**Saturday next - 6th January 2024, is the Feast of the Epiphany.** **(Vigil) Mass in Dromahair on Friday 5th January at 8.00pm; Mass in Killargue on Saturday 6th January at 8.00pm.**

**Significant Dates in the Parish for 2024**

**Confirmation – Dromahair/Drumkeeran: Saturday 27th April 2024 at 3.00pm.**

**Blessing and Visitation of Graves – Killargue & Cloonlougher Cemeteries:** **Sunday 30th June 2024.**

**Blessing and Visitation of Graves – Newtownmanor & Carrickatemple Cemeteries:** **Sunday 4th August 2024.** More details to follow later.

**A Family Prayer for the New Year**

Dear God, we thank you for the gift of a new year. *We pray that you will guide us and bless us* throughout this year. We ask that you **help us to grow in faith, hope, and love.**

May we be a light to others and share your love with those around us.

We pray for PEACE in our homes, our communities, and our world. May ***we be instruments*** of your peace and work towards justice and reconciliation. We pray for those who are suffering, that they may find comfort and healing. We pray for those who are lost, that they may find their way. Keep our family in your care today, tonight and always. **Amen.**

**Recently Deceased: Mary Alice Kelly,** Killargue. Funeral Mass will be celebrated today – Sunday 31st December, in St. Brigid’s Church, Killargue, at 2.00pm, followed by burial in Killargue New Cemetery.  **Brendan McMorrow,** Fivemilebourne, whose Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Patrick’s Church, Dromahair, on Thursday 21st December,

***May they Rest in Peace. Amen.***

**ST PATRICK’S CHURCH, DROMAHAIR:**

1. **Mass: Monday (New Year’s Day) at 11am**; **No Mass on Wednesday at 9.30am**; **Friday (Vigil Mass for Holy Day) at 8.00pm;** Sunday at 11.15am.
2. **Pray for:**

**Daniel & Mary Hannon,** Shriff, and **Deceased of the Hannon & Rooney families.** Mass on Sunday 31st December at 11.15am.

**Mass for the Feast of Mary the Mother of God on Monday 1st Jan (New Years Day) at 11am.**

**No Mass on Wednesday 3rd January at 9.30am**

**(Vigil) Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany on Friday 5th January at 8.00pm.**

**Eugene McDermott,** Drumlease. **Joe Toolan,** Rockvalley. Mass on Sunday 7th January at 11.15am.

#### May they all be blessed with the gift of Eternal Life with God in Heaven. Amen.

1. **Liturgy for January:** Readers – Paul Jordan & Mary Brodie; Collectors – Padraig Watters & Kevin McGoldrick; Altar Society – Volunteers needed. ***Please contact Fr Paul or Padraig.***

**CHURCH OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD, NEWTOWNMANOR:**

1. **Mass:** **Thursday at 8.00pm (Adoration after Mass until 9.00pm);** Sunday at 10.00am.

### Pray for:

### Available for Intention. Mass on Sunday 31st December at 10.00am.

### Available for Intention. Mass on Thursday 4th January at 8.00pm (Adoration after Mass)

### John Fowley, Cornalaughta. Mass on Sunday 7th January at 10.00am.

#### May they all be blessed with the gift of Eternal Life with God in Heaven. Amen.

1. **Liturgy for January**: Readers – Martina Feeney & Deirdre McGourty; Collectors – Jim Banks & Volunteer; Altar Society – Bernie Boylan & Hazel Curry.

**ST. BRIGID’S CHURCH, KILLARGUE:**

1. **Mass**: **Sunday (Funeral Mass) at 2.00pm;** **Tuesday at 8.00pm (Adoration from 7.00pm to 8.00pm);** Saturday (Vigil) Mass at 8pm.
2. **Pray for:**

**The People of the Parish.** Mass on Saturday 30th December at 8.00pm.

**Funeral Mass for Mary Alice Kelly, Killargue. Sunday 31st December at 2.00pm.**

**Available for Intention.** Mass **(St. Pio Novena Prayers)** on Tuesday 2nd January at 8.00pm **(Adoration from 7.00pm to 8.00pm)**.

**Bernadette Gaw, Sr Gretta Kelleher, Jack Kelleher,** and **Beatrice Gallagher.** **Jim Rooney,** Killargue and San Francisco, U.S.A. ***Months Memory*** (Vigil) Mass on Saturday 6th January at 8.00pm.

#### May they all be blessed with the gift of Eternal Life with God in Heaven. Amen.

1. **Liturgy for January:** Readers – Bernadette Feeney (Curry) & Josie Feeney; Collector; Brian Dolan; Altar Society – Marianne Feeney.

**Sincere thanks to the people of all three church areas** - those who helped in so many ways, cared for, cleaned, and sanitised our churches, contributed financially, took up collections, those on the altar society, gave contributions for flowers, did beautiful floral arrangements, took part in the Liturgy. Community Employment Scheme workers & supervisors, for your generosity and support throughout the year.

***A special word thanks to our sacristans for all their help and support during the year. Fr Paul.***

**Congratulations and Best Wishes to Margaret Sharkey, R.S.S. Supervisor, Dromahair & Killargue Schemes, on her recent retirement.**

**Short Mat Bowling** – resumes in Killargue Community Centre (following renovations) on Tuesday 9th January 2024, at 8.00pm.

As we begin a New Year, remember *“We have a God who is capable of crying with us, capable of walking with us in the most difficult moments of our lives*”. Pope Francis.