



focus on sunday



A day to pray with and for our family; to give thanks to God for them; to pray for healing of divisions and bitterness. We pray that we may grow in respect and love for our extended family throughout the world.



So much in this story; not just a little boy lost. It brings in so many issues of life for us. Pain with family members. Losing someone, someone leaving home, worrying and fretting about a younger one. So often part of family life. The worrying parents. About letting the children go. Everyone finds their own way in life. Things move on. The example of the father teaching the child to ride the bike. He has to let go if the child is to learn.

LISTENING TO YOUNG PEOPLE!

Gifts in Jesus emerge at 12. They have something to tell us. Gifts later to blossom. He was encouraged in his mission in life by the elders listening. Not just passive but asking questions, challenging them with his wisdom. Lessons here for young and old – for the old to listen to the young, and for the young to ask advice and gain wisdom from the old. Both can get stuck into thinking they have all the answers. We all have something to offer each other if we are true to the best in us and not exercising our egos and pride.

THEN FOR MARY AND JOSEPH

The care of God for Jesus. She knew that, and had to hand him over to God. The care of God for all we know and love. Mary praying, often for Jesus. She let him go - not to nothing, but to his father in heaven. That is what the parent does also – allow God look after the other, and the child later doing the same for the parent. Knowing that as we are about the business of God, the business of love, he too is about the same business, of care and love for his people.

Donal Neary SJ. (editor Sacred Heart Messenger).



Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

When Jesus was young he strayed away and got lost. Mary and Joseph were very sad and were looking everywhere for him, because they cared and were worried. My nephew has a teenage boy. He wanders away. His parents ask him to text them just to let them know where he is. He forgets. Lord, Mary and Joseph ease the pain that we make for each other in home life.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the infant lying in a manger.

GREETING

In the name of the FatherAmen.
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
May almighty God have mercy on us.... Amen.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practising the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 1:20-22.24-28

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel, 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'
When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull, and

the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.' There she left him, for the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 83:2-3.5.6.9-10

R. They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.

- How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts.
My soul is longing and yearning, is yearning for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. [R]
- They are happy, who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise. They are happy, whose strength is in you; they walk with ever growing strength. [R]
- O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer, give ear, O God of Jacob. Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed. [R]

SECOND READING 1 John 3: 1-2. 21-24

A reading from the first letter of St. John

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.
My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.
Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 2: 41-52

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

All bow for following two lines:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation, humbly asking that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph, you may establish our families firmly in your grace and your peace. Through Christ our Lord.



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
My Lord and my God.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament, most merciful Father, to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family, so that, after the trials of this world, we may share their company for ever. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.
Amen.
Go in peace.
Thanks be to God.





Sunday Masses:

SS John & Paul (Webcam): Friday 7pm;
Saturday 6:30 pm; Sunday 10 am and 12:15 pm
Mary Immaculate Church - Saturday 12 noon;
Sunday 9 am and 11 am

Weekday Masses:

10 am Mon-Fri Mary Immaculate
7 pm Thursday SS John & Paul Church (Webcam)

SHANNON PARISH NEWSLETTER

Parish Office: 4, Dún na Ri, Shannon
Tel 061 363243

Tuesdays & Wednesdays: 9.30am - 12.30pm
(lunch 12.30pm-1.30pm) 1.30pm - 5.30pm
Thursdays: 9.00am - 1.00pm

Email: office@shannonparish.ie www.shannonparish.ie

Tune in and Follow us on:

Radio 105.6 FM for Mass from SS John and Paul
Webcam: <https://www.shannonparish.ie/web-cam/>
www.facebook.com/Shannon.Parish.Killaloe/
<https://www.twitter.com/ShannonParish67>
www.youtube.com/c/ShannonParish67

Parish App



2 6 D e c e m b e r 2 0 2 1
F e a s t o f t h e H o l y F a m i l y

'May the promise of the season, which is Jesus, be a reminder of God's unending love for us & may the peace of Christ fill the World. May the joy & the happiness of Christmas season give hope to the world with all that we have.' Pope Francis.

Our Prayers & Sympathy to the families of: Noirin Brennan, Stonehall, Newmarket on Fergus and Tradaree Court, whose cremation took place last Monday. To Mark Bergin, Tullyvarraga Court on the death of his mother Norrie Bergin, Celbridge and Shannon. To the family of Pat O Shaughnessy, Cork, who was buried on Friday. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and may the light of heaven shine on their souls.

First Anniversaries: This Sunday St. Stephen's Day at 11am for Christy Higgins, Tradaree Court.

Anniversaries: First Anniversary Bridget Sunderland, Michael Chambers, Mortimer and Kathleen Duggan, Ann Mullaney, Kathleen Clair, Mary & Jim Barry, Michael Kearney, Horan and Mullins Families, John Meaney, Colm Forde, Myrtle, Billy & Jim Lagan, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Parish Collection: last Sunday €2,140. Míle Buíochas.

Thank you for your wonderful support to the parish.

As well as the usual way to donate to your parish you can also use our new method of using the QR code (here) which is also placed at the doors and shrines of our Church's, Adoration Chapel Notice Board, and Parish Office. It's another easy way for you to support your parish using your smart phone.



Parish Tax Rebate Scheme: If you are part of the Tax Rebate Scheme where the parish benefits, you're new box of envelopes are available in the sacristy. If you're interested in being part of the scheme please contact the Parish Office for details.

Adoration Chapel: will close at 6pm on Thursday and re-open on Thursday January 6th.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration on Sunday in SS John and Paul will pause at 6pm on Sunday and resume on January 9th 2022.

Mass and Baptismal Bookings: Baptisms celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Saturday every month. If you are intending to book a Mass or a baptism we would ask you book through the Parish Office. Email office@shannonparish.ie. If you'd like to book a Mass etc during Christmas closing, please email the Parish Office or text Michelle (SS John & Paul Church) on 085 7233570 or Mary (Mary Immaculate Church) on 086 3897372. The Parish Office reopens on Tuesday 4th January at 9.30am. Thank you!

Parish Office re-opens after Christmas on Tuesday January 4th 2022.

Priests Christmas Collection will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Envelopes will be distributed to your home over the coming week, with additional ones in the Church's and parish office. You are also welcome to donate on www.shannonparish.ie using the donate button or you can use the QR Scan code which will take you directly to the donate button.

Christmas Schedule of Masses are listed below, on the website, Facebook, and in the Church's. We invite you to take one Mass of your choosing for Christmas Day and one Mass on Sunday December 26th – please note the extra Mass times listed to facilitate Covid protocols.

Weekday Masses on Mon Dec 27 to Jan 4 will be celebrated at:
10am in Mary Immaculate and 7pm in SS John and Paul

Sunday Missals for 2022 available in the sacristy for €7.00.
2022 Parish Calendars are available at the Church Doors.

A Gentle Reminder the wearing of masks or face visors, and sanitising of hands is mandatory in the Church.
Do continue to stay safe.



Christmas Message 2021

'Glory to God in the Highest and on Earth Peace to All Men'

We welcome the festival of Christmas and the Birth of Jesus Christ with joy and gladness. God becomes human like you and me in a humble stable in Bethlehem. His arrival to simple surroundings continues to capture our minds and hearts in ways that cannot be put into words. He is now one like us because God so loved the world he sent his Son Jesus Christ, so each of us could have life and have it in abundance.

Our message to you this Christmas is a simple one. We invite you to enter into the very spirit of what Christmas means – the Birth of the Saviour, and let us celebrate in the safety of our homes as we continue to confront the Pandemic.

It has and continues to be an extraordinary 2021, indeed we think of those who have been affected in so many ways from Covid-19. We think of those who have died, those who were diagnosed, the frontline staff in the many facets of community and health, our parish community and parishioners who have connected with us in person, or through the wonder of technology. Our Christmas will be different again this year, but no less meaningful. Perhaps this Christmas we in small ways would reflect on what does the

birth of Christ in humble surroundings mean for me? With that in mind let us continue to be safe, to act responsibly, to look out for one another.

Thank you to everyone who plays no small part in making the vibrant community and parish of Shannon we enjoy today, and especially to everyone who helped our parish during lockdowns and re-openings – our stewards, cleaners, music leaders, choirs, readers, eucharistic ministers, sacristans, volunteers, Church maintenance teams, envelope distributors, pastoral and finance councils, bereavement support, SVP, Gorodische Team, Schools and Staffs, Apostolic Society, friends of the parish, and so many more who offered to help, or the supportive word along the road.

Thank you for the simple acts of kindness you show to us, and the words of encouragement as we go about our ministry. We wish you a blessed Christmas and a New Year of health and fulfillment. We think of those who are living alone, or in hospital or are living abroad. We think of those who are working for Christmas and the emergency services.

We invite you to visit our Church's over the Christmas and say a prayer at the crib.

God bless you this Christmas and for 2022 from Brendan, Francis, James and Arnie.



Christmas Mass Schedule 2021



CONFESSIONS:

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday (Dec 20-22nd)
after 10am & 7pm Masses



CHRISTMAS EVE: 2pm (Mary Immaculate Church)
4pm (SS John and Paul Church)
6pm (Mary Immaculate Church)
7pm (SS John and Paul Church)
9pm (Mary Immaculate Church)
Midnight (SS John & Paul Church)

CHRISTMAS DAY: 8am (SS John & Paul Church)
9am (Mary Immaculate Church)
10am (SS John & Paul Church)
11am (Mary Immaculate Church)
11.30am (SS John & Paul Church)

Sunday 26th December:

SS John & Paul: Sunday 10am, 11.30am, and 12.15pm

Mary Immaculate: Sunday 9am, 11am.

(Please note there is an extra Mass at 11.30am in SS John and Paul Church on Sunday December 26th)

*****Note: Extra Masses are scheduled for Christmas and Sunday December 26th. There are NO evening Masses on Christmas Day or Sunday December 26th. Daily Masses (Monday to Friday) from December 27th to January 7th will be at 10am in Mary Immaculate Church and 7pm in SS John and Paul Church.**

We welcome you to Mass for Christmas and we encourage you to attend.

We ask parishioners and friends (especially families with children, and elderly) to attend an early Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Mask/Face coverings and sanitising on entry and exit are mandatory in the Church.

We ask everyone to attend ONE Mass for Christmas Eve/Day and ONE Mass on Sunday Dec 26th.



A Blessed and Happy Christmas to Parishioners and Friends!

