

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.

GREETING

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
May almighty God have mercy on us. **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God, splendour of faithful souls, graciously be pleased to fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all peoples by the radiance of your light.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ,.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Ecc 24:1-2.8-12

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus
Wisdom speaks her own praises, in the midst of her people she glories in herself.
She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High, she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One.
'Then the creator of all things instructed me, and he who created me fixed a place for my tent.
He said, "Pitch your tent in Jacob, make Israel your inheritance."
From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall remain.
I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle, and thus was I established on Zion.
In the beloved city he has given me rest, and in Jerusalem I wield my authority.
I have taken root in a privileged people, in the Lord's property, in his inheritance.'

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-6.15-18

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ, for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved.

That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans; Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 1:1-18 (or *1:1-5.9-14)

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

** In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.**
A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.
The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh, or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.
John appears as his witness. He proclaims:

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps.147:12-15.19-20

R. The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.

- O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Zion, praise your God! He has strengthened the bars of your gates, he has blessed the children within you. **[R]**
- He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with finest wheat. He sends out his word to the earth and swiftly runs his command. **[R]**
- He makes his word known to Jacob, to Israel his laws and decrees. He has not dealt thus with other nations; he has not taught them his decrees. **[R]**

'This is the one of whom I said : He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.' Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received - yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.
No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

NICENE CREEED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines:
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. 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

Sanctify, O Lord, the offerings we make on the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son, for by it you show us the way of truth and promise the life of the heavenly Kingdom. 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.**



focus on sunday

Jesus is the One sent by God who speaks to us about the wisdom and truth of God. By accepting him we too become children of God and are filled with grace and truth.



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.
We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

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

To all who would accept him, he gave the power to become children of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord our God, we humbly ask you, that, through the working of this mystery, our offences may be cleansed and our just desires fulfilled. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

May God, the source and origin of all blessing, grant you grace, pour out his blessing in abundance, and keep you safe from harm throughout the year. **Amen.**

May he give you integrity in the faith, endurance in hope, and perseverance in charity with holy patience to the end. **Amen.**

May he order your days and your deeds in his peace, grant your prayers in this and in every place, and lead you happily to eternal life. **Amen.**

And 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.



We live in a season of lights – candle lights, Christmas lights, lights on the street and on the houses. As the season is still with us, we can ask what light enlightens our lives? What light do we live by?

Jesus is presented as an image of the true light. His gospel shines light into our lives and lets our light shine.

We live by the light of Jesus by listening to his word, living by his example and in prayer. Pope Francis recommends: "Today, for example, try for 10 to 15 minutes, no more - to read the Gospel, picture what happens, and say something to Jesus. And nothing more. And so your knowledge of Jesus will be bigger and your hope will grow. Do not forget, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, in order to do this contemplative prayer".

We allow his light shine in us by watching him in the gospel and trying to live his gospel of love as he spoke it. The word of God is not just a series of human words, but a Person who is the Son of God. We find this light in prayer.

Later in his ministry, Jesus will speak of letting our light shine. The light within us from God is not just for ourselves but to be shared for others. We can switch on God's light for each other in speaking about him, praying with each other, taking part in the Mass and in any service we do for others, close to us and those far away.

That is the light of Christmas, if we can shine this light for a few days, why not for the rest of the year?

Let your light O Lord Shine within me, and let your light brighten the lives of those around me.

Donal Neary SJ. (editor Sacred Heart Messenger).

Jesus' Story *Fr. Liam Hickey*

God Our Father wanted to share happiness. So God made the sun, the stars, the mountains, the oceans. They were "God's Voice," but they could not speak "words." Then, God made human beings, boys and girls who could speak words, like love, please, thanks, sorry. God made all people in the image and likeness of His Own Son, Jesus Christ, and He is called "THE WORD OF GOD." To be human and happy is to follow Jesus, and learn to love. The Angelus Bell always reminds us of God's Love Story.



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/>
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Shannon.Parish.Killaloe/
Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/ShannonParish67>
YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/ShannonParish67

Parish App



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Second Sunday of Christmas

Months Mind Mass Next Saturday 8th January for Hugh O'Donnell, Tullyglass Court at 12 noon in Mary Immaculate Church

First Anniversaries: Next Sunday 9th January for Betty Scullion, O'Brien Park, at 11am in Mary Immaculate Church.

Anniversaries: John Bullman, Sean Burke, Bernie O'Byrne, Laura Power, Michael & Kitty Farrell, Pat Hourigan, Helen McEnery, Birthday Remembrance Andrew, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

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: re-opens on Thursday January 6th for Adoration between 2-6pm.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration on Sunday in SS John and Paul resumes on Sunday January 9th from 2-6pm

Parish Office re-opens on Tuesday January 4th 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 or phone 363243.

Daily Mass (Monday to Wednesday) at 7pm in SS John and Paul will **pause** beginning Monday January 10th and will resume for the Season of Lent.



Celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord

Wed Jan 5th at 7pm in SS John and Paul Church,
Thursday Jan 6th at 10am in Mary Immaculate Church,
and 12.15pm and 7pm in SS John and Paul Church.

Special Church Collections Dates 2022
will be taken up on the dates below:

29 th /30 th January 2022	Diocesan Administration Appeal
19 th /20 th February 2022	Parish Faith Formation Appeal
16/17 th March 2022	Diocesan Education Fund
16 th /17 th April 2022	Priests' Easter Collection
14 th /15 th May 2022	Lourdes Invalid Appeal
18 th /19 th June 2022	Priests' Summer Collection
23 rd /24 th July 2022	Diocesan Needs Appeal
27 th /28 th August 2022	Diocesan Sick & Retired Priests' Appeal
24 th /25 th September 2022	Priests' Autumn Collection
22 nd /23 rd October 2022	Mission Sunday Appeal
26 th /27 th November 2022	Youth Ministry Appeal
24/25 th December 2022	Priests' Christmas Collection

Most of the above collections fall on a Sunday or Holy Day and include the Vigil Masses. We ask that no other collection would take place on the weekend of a second collection or the day of the Priests' collection. We thank you for your continued generosity to all our Collections as they play a primary part in the pastoral care of the Parish. Fr. Arnie

Pope Francis's Prayer Intentions for 2022

The monthly prayer intentions of the Holy Father for the year 2022. (Vatican News Extract)

The prayer intentions are entrusted to the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, which Pope Francis officially established as a pontifical work on 17 November 2020.

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network is a pontifical work with the mission of mobilizing Catholics through prayer and action, in the face of the challenges confronting humanity and the mission of the Church. These challenges are addressed in the form of prayer intentions entrusted by the Pope to the entire Church. Its mission is inscribed in the dynamic of the Heart of Jesus: a mission of compassion for the world.

Formerly known as the Apostleship of Prayer, the network was born as a Jesuit initiative in 1844 in a house of formation for young Jesuits in Vals, in the south of France. Fr. Francis Xavier Gautrelet SJ, the spiritual director of the young men, suggested them a way of being apostles and missionaries in their daily lives by offering to God everything they were doing and striving to be available to Jesus in order to carry out their everyday duties well. The fervour of the spiritual initiative spread far and wide in the Catholic Church and in 1890, Pope Leo XIII entrusted his monthly prayer intentions to the Apostleship of Prayer, assigning the job of running the network to the Jesuits. In 1915, its youth section, the Eucharistic Crusade, was born, today known as the Eucharistic Youth Movement.

In 2016, Pope Francis renamed the Apostleship of Prayer as the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. He raised it to the status of a pontifical work in 2018 and made it a Vatican Foundation with a canonical and juridical status in 2020. The Network continues to be led by the Jesuits. In recent years, the Network has been popularizing the Pope's monthly prayer intentions through its Video of the Pope, across its presence in 98 countries with more than 35 million Catholic members.

Below, please find the prayer intentions of the Holy Father for 2022:

JANUARY - For true human fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

FEBRUARY -For religious sisters and consecrated women

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

MARCH - For a Christian response to bioethical challenges

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

APRIL - For health care workers

We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

MAY - For faith-filled young people

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

JUNE - For families

We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

JULY - For the elderly

We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.

AUGUST - For small businesses

We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

SEPTEMBER - For the abolition of the death penalty

We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

OCTOBER - For a Church open to everyone

We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

NOVEMBER - For children who suffer

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

DECEMBER - For volunteer not-for-profit organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

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<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>