



Sunday Masses:

SS John & Paul (Webcam): 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 Monday -Friday Mary Immaculate

7 pm Thursday -Friday SS John & Paul Church

SHANNON PARISH NEWSLETTER

Parish Office: 4, Dún na Ri, Shannon

Tel 061 363243

Tuesday to Friday: 10.00am - 1.00pm
(lunch 1.00pm - 2.00pm) 2.00pm - 5.00pm

Fr. Michael Geraghty Co-PP: 087 992 6519

Fr. Tom Whelan Co-PP: 087 273 0299

Canon Brendan O'Donoghue: 086 8038163

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



December 24th 2023, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Our Prayers and Sympathies to: The Griffin family on the death of Geraldine Griffin, Tullyglass Hill. The Lynch family on the death of Sarah Lynch, Carrig Hill. The Duff family on the death of Mary (Milcie) Duff, Tradaree Court. Mary Carew, Coill Mhara, on the death of her brother Ned Bowe, Nottingham. May they Rest in Peace.

Month's Mind Mass: Hannah McMahon will take place in SS John and Paul Church on Saturday December 30th at 6.30pm.

First Anniversary Mass for: Michael Moloney will be held in Mary Immaculate Church on Wednesday 27th of December at 12 noon.

Anniversaries: Ronan Collins, Martin Collins, Mary Collins and Bert and Rita McNulty. Mary and Luke Murray, Maria Murray, Margaret and William Flynn and Fr. Michael Flynn. Roger Bevan and Mary Nolan. Norah and Denis Cahill, Charles Connolly, Mortimer and Kathleen Duggan, Tom Mannix, Michael Moran, Ann Mullaney, Mary O'Halloran, Susan O'Flaherty, Bridget Sunderland, deceased members of the Tyler family and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Last Sunday's Collection

Thank you for your support to last Sunday's collection which was €2,535. The Priests' Collection will be taken up on Christmas Day and over the Christmas period. Thank you also for contributions made to Goradiche of €100 this week.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje



Shannon Airport to Medjugorje – 22nd to 29th of May 2024 – €795 per person sharing. Price increases to €845 after 2nd February 2024. Bookings now being taken for this 7 night Group Pilgrimage with Kathleen and Jimmy Morris. Full religious programme operated by Marian Pilgrimages Medjugorje Team. Please contact Kathleen and Jimmy on 061 362657 or 086 3271657.

Pioneer Total Abstinence Association

Pioneers around the world are invited to attend Mass next Wednesday 27th of December and to prayerfully mark the 125th anniversary of the foundation of the Association in 1898. Mass and prayers will be live streamed on that day at 10am (Irish time) around the world via www.pioneerassociation.org.

Parish Office Hours

The Parish office will be closed from 5pm Friday December 22nd to Wednesday 3rd of January at 10am.

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

If anyone would like to support the wonderful work of St. Vincent de Paul in our local community, please feel free to leave any donations into the Parish Office and mark your donation for SVP. Unfortunately, we are not able to accept food or toys. Thank you for your support.



Dear Parishioners

2023 has been a year of change in Shannon Parish. I know for many of you it has been difficult having to say farewell to Fr. Arnie and Fr. James who moved on to new pastures. However, we have been blessed with the wonderful welcome we have received over the last few months and it's been lovely getting to meet lots of new faces (and hopefully many more in the year ahead). Some things never change and we are so blessed to have the wonderful Canon Brendan as a spiritual and supportive rock.

We welcome home those who join us for Christmas and as ever we are so mindful of those who can't be with us from other parts of the world, but we keep them in our hearts and prayers. We also think of those who may find this Christmas tough for different reasons, especially those who have lost a loved one over the last year.

Thanks to all who help make our parish the vibrant, welcoming, and inclusive place that it is, and we hope it will always be; where people will come to share and encounter the child Jesus. We are so fortunate to have many people involved in front and behind scenes. Thank you to you all. It could not be done without you but as always, we would love to have more. Wishing you all a joyful, peaceful and blessed Christmas.
Fr Michael, Fr Tom and Canon Brendan.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

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 is omitted awaiting its Christmas Proclamation.)

OPENING PRAYER

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 7:1-5.8-12.14.16

A reading from the second book of Samuel

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David,' Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 88)

R. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.

Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **[R]**

2. 'With my chosen one I have made a covenant; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages. **[R]**

3. He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me.' I will keep my love for him always; with him my covenant shall last. **[R]**

SECOND READING Romans 16:25-27

A reading from St. Paul's letter to the Romans

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

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

NICENE CREED

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.



focus on sunday

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 24th December 2023

Mary accepted the life of God into her womb through the power of the Holy Spirit thus bringing God's salvation into the world. Let us open our hearts to welcoming Jesus into our lives this Christmas.



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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord, sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar, just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith. When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption, we pray, almighty God, that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer, so we may press forward all the more eagerly to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.



Someone asked a Christian how the teachings of Confucius and Buddha would differ from those of Christ. He responded with a story.

A woman fell into a deep hole. Try as she might, she could not get out. Confucius came along and looked in. He said, "Poor woman, if you had paid attention to me, you would not have fallen in there in the first place." He kept walking. The Buddha approached. He too spotted the woman and said to himself. "If she can just manage to get out of that hole, I can give her great help in the form of wisdom to live by." And he continued his journey. Finally, along came Jesus. He spotted the woman. He was moved with compassion and jumped in immediately to help her out.

We gather at this Mass on Christmas Eve to celebrate the concern God has for each of us. His eager willingness to jump in and help us is illustrated by the birth of his Son in our world. St. Irenaeus summed up this feast well when he wrote: "God became man so that we might become God." It has been well said that Christmas is a gift that we cannot keep until we give it to someone else. Christ is always with us, especially in the poor, always asking for room in our hearts. As we pray for peace and wish the peace of Christ to one another, may we be mindful that peace is much more than a season. It is a state of mind and a way of life.

Fr. Joe Walsh

Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali: *Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin Other texts: cum permissu: *Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal. © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Darton, Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & or Geoffrey Chapman Ltd. Robin Photo by Tom Clements. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballyjoogan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK38 Phone (01 630 6751).