



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 31st 2023,

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Month's Mind Mass for: Margaret O'Donoghue will be celebrated in Mary Immaculate Church on Sunday 7th of January at 11am.

First Anniversary Mass for: Michael McKenna will be celebrated in Mary Immaculate Church on Saturday 6th of January at 12 noon. Bridget Carroll will be celebrated in SS John and Paul Church on Saturday 6th of January at 6.30pm. Olive Crowley will be celebrated in SS John and Paul Church Sunday 7th of January at 12.15pm.

Anniversaries: Sean Burke, Michael and Kitty Farrell, Christy Higgins, Kerry Rowland Murray, Jimmy Nolan, Bernie O'Byrne, Margaret and Louis Quinlivan, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Last Sunday's Collection

We thank you for your great support for the Priests' Christmas collection. If you were away or forgot, your donation is still welcome. Envelopes are available in our Churches and donations can also be made through our Parish website www.shannonparish.ie. Many thanks also to the envelope distributors who kindly give their time to distribute the envelopes to the houses in the Parish on our behalf. Míle Buíochas

Monthly Music Session in Wolfe Tones

Club na Sionna will host its monthly session of music and song in Wolfe Tones GAA on Wednesday 3rd of January 2024 at 9pm. All singers, musicians and listeners are welcome. Special guests on the night are Stephen and Abby.

If you look for me this New Year

You won't need a special star -
I'm no longer just in Bethlehem.

I'm right there where you are.

You may not be aware of Me
amid the celebrations –

You'll have to look beyond the stones
and all the decorations.

But if you take a moment
from your list of things to do
and listen to your heart you'll find
I'm waiting there for you.

You're the one I want to be with
You're the reason that I came.

And you'll find Me in the stillness
as I'm whispering your name.

Love Jesus

Parish Office Hours

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

Concert in Aid of Mid-West Cancer Foundation

Charity Concert in aid of Mid-West Cancer Foundation at UHL will take place on Saturday 6th of January 2024 at Treacy's Oakwood Hotel at 8pm. One of the highlights of the concert will be the singing of World Acclaimed Composer Patrick Cassidy's "Sanctus" (from the Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York), sung by Harmony Bro and Non Nobis Domine Choir. Tickets can be purchased from Aidan White at (086 3197235).

Special Church Date Collections 2024

13/14th January 2024 - Diocesan Administration Appeal

24/25th February 2024 - Parish Faith Formation Appeal

23/24th March 2024 - Trocaire Lenten Collection

30/31st March 2024 - Priests' Easter Collection

20/21st April 2024 - Diocesan Education Fund Collection

25/26th May 2024 - Killaloe Lourdes Invalid Fund

15/16th June 2024 - Priests' Summer Collection

29/30th June 2024 - Diocesan Needs Appeal

7/8th September 2024 - Killaloe Sick and Retired Priest's
Collection

28/29th September 2024 - Priests' Autumn Collection

19/20th October 2024 - Mission Sunday Appeal

24/25th December 2024 - Priests' Christmas Collection

Most of the above collections fall on a Sunday or Holy Day and include the Vigil Masses.

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. Tom and Fr. Michael.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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

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 Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great.'

'My Lord,' Abram replied, 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless . . . ' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be one of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 104

R. He, the Lord, is our God.

He remembers his covenant for ever.

1. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works! [R]
2. Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face. [R]
3. Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke. O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose. [R]
4. He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. [R]

SECOND READING Hebrews 11:8.11-12.17-19

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 2:22 - 40 (*shorter version in italics)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord* - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord - and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:*

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my



focus on sunday

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH 31st December 2023

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.



Think for a while sometime today of the joys of family life. Recall them and enjoy them. It's the place where we find unconditional love. We may drive each other mad at times or let each other down. But our love is

strong for the person just as that person is. In that way family is a sacrament, a sign of God accepting us, forgiving us, moving us on to greater love and maturity and always faithful. The reason we call into family around Christmas is just that; we are family.

Family today is varied. We live in a world which needs the values of family life but there are difficulties. Financial worries and worries about children and the life they will have, are many. Worries about our older people and their health and future.

The joy of real love varies as we get older. Mary and Joseph had no idea that Jesus would get lost. That he would cause them worry. Mary and Joseph must have been proud of Jesus - seeing him becoming an adult like any Jewish boy. They knew that sometime they would have to let him go.

So, family also lets us be and lets us go. We miss our family who are away but realise that is what they chose to do, or often, had to do. Our family give us our roots - where we came from, but also our wings to find our own way in life, with a new family.

So, every family is a holy family! Not just a saint and an immaculate mother. But holy in trying to love each other as best we can.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger