



### 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*

## December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023

### First Sunday of Advent

Our Prayers and Sympathies to: The Mulkeen family on the death of Austin Mulkeen, Knock, Mayo. The Carey family on the death of Robert Carey, Inis Ealga. The McMahon family on the death of Hannah McMahon, Cronan Lawn.

First Anniversary Mass for: Anne Burke will take place Sunday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 11am in Mary Immaculate Church.

Anniversaries: John and Alan Caulfield, Joe Garrihy, Bill Jones, Agatha Lenihan, Bridie and Jack McGrath and deceased members of the Considine family, Mike McKee, Tom and Anne Moore, Bruce Savage and Pdraig, Tony, and Nellie Sweeney.

### Last Sunday's Collection

Last Sunday's collection was €2,257. The second collection supporting Parish Ministries was €1,855. We thank you for your great generosity. Thank you also for contributions made to Goradiche of €90 this week.



### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Parish Masses will be celebrated for the Feast of the Immaculate at the following times:

#### SS John and Paul Church

Vigil Mass: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of December at 7pm.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of December at 7pm.

#### Mary Immaculate Church

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of December at 10am.

## 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](mailto:office@shannonparish.ie) [www.shannonparish.ie](http://www.shannonparish.ie)



### Apostolic Work

On Tuesday December 5<sup>th</sup> from 10am Shannon and Newmarket-on-Fergus Apostolic Workers will be having a sale of beautiful hand knit garments. All proceeds are in aid of the Missions. Please support this good cause if you can.

### Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina will take place every Wednesday during Advent after 10 o'clock Mass in the Jubilee Chapel. All are welcome.

### Monthly Music Sessions in Wolfe Tones

Club na Sionna will host its monthly session of music and song in Wolfe Tones GAA Hall on Wednesday December 6<sup>th</sup> at 9pm. All singers, musicians and listeners are welcome. Special guests on the night are Oliver and Blackie O'Connell.

### Tax Rebate Scheme

Any Parishioner who contributes to the Parish with their envelope and are part of the Tax Rebate Scheme are asked to call into the Sacristy to collect your new box for November 2023 – November 2024. If you're interested in being part of the scheme, please contact the Parish Office for details.

### Invitation to Readers

We would like to invite all our readers and prospective new readers to a short meeting on Wednesday December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Mary Immaculate Church for an informal chat and an opportunity for our readers to collect their new Missals.

### 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.facebook.com/Shannon.Parish.Killaloe/)

<https://www.twitter.com/ShannonParish67>

[www.youtube.com/c/ShannonParish67](https://www.youtube.com/c/ShannonParish67)

Parish App

Download on the App Store



### Mercy on the Mall

Mercy on the Mall with the opportunity of Confessions will take place in Skycourt Shopping Centre on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December from 1pm to 5pm. Please note the change from the usual date of the 8<sup>th</sup> of December which unfortunately, Skycourt Shopping Centre could not make available. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Book Launch Invitation

### Building Dreams

Reflections on six decades of Change in Irish Society

By Fr. Harry Bohan

Launched by:  
Bishop Willie Walsh

Sixmilebridge GAA Club  
House

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of December

19.30

Hope to see you there!!!



Bishop Willie Walsh will officially launch Fr. Harry Bohan's latest book entitled: *Building Dreams: Reflections on six decades of change in Irish society 1963 – 2023*. The book explores how as Ireland changed economically the major emphasis was placed on economic values with less and less focus on spirituality and faith. As Fr. Harry traces the evolution of Irish society, he highlights the major implication this has had for both the church and society. In this book Fr Harry is calling for a bottom up approach something echoed in the synodal journey Pope Francis has begun within the Catholic Church. All are Welcome.

*Sixmilebridge GAA Clubhouse on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of  
December at 7.30pm*



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us  
to one another and to the Father:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin  
and division:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with your  
Father:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us....Amen.

*(The Gloria is omitted awaiting its Christmas Proclamation.)*

## OPENING PRAYER

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve  
to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds  
at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand,  
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING *Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1.3-8*

#### *A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,  
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.

Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways  
and harden our hearts against fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants,  
the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open  
and come down

- at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard,  
no eye has seen

any god but you act like this  
for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity  
and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners;  
we had long been rebels against you.

We were all like men unclean,  
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves  
and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name  
or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us  
and gave us up to the power of our sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father;  
we the clay, you the potter,

we are all the work of your hand.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps. 79)

**R. God of hosts, bring us back;**

**let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help. **[R]**

2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted. **[R]**

3. May your hand be on the man you  
have chosen,  
the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again:  
give us life that we may call upon your name. **[R]**

### SECOND READING *1 Corinthians 1: 3-9*

#### *A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians*

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Let us see, O Lord,  
your mercy and give us  
your saving help.**

**Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL *Mark 13:33-37*

#### *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

**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.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;**



# focus on sunday

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 3rd December 2023

Advent is a reminder that our life on earth is a preparation for the life of eternity in heaven; and that we wait for the coming of Christ to take us home.



We begin Advent and a new Church year with a reading from a section of Mark's Gospel known as the 'Apocalyptic Discourse'. This is Jesus' farewell speech to his disciples where sketches an image of the world which will be hostile to his message and to his followers.

In the final parable, Jesus urges total trust in God's cosmic plan and calls for vigilance: 'Keep awake'. And, whether we like it or not, this text is also addressed to each of us: 'What I say to you, I say to all.' The story of Jesus is told to bring readers into a greater awareness, to help spiritual growth and transformation in life. Mark's first audience experienced many obstacles as they lived under the fear of persecution, but the greater danger expressed in this text is the danger of sleepwalking through life.

While this might not sound like a very cheery text with which to begin the joyful season of Advent, we dare to read this narrative through the lens of hope. Instead of worrying about when the 'master of the house' will return, we can focus instead on what we do in our daily lives to aid our own awakening: perhaps we need to slow down in order to wake up, to create quiet spaces for ourselves, to reflect a little more deeply, to find the stillness we truly need. Challenges lie ahead, that much is guaranteed, but so do amazing possibilities. For great things can happen when we truly wake up and respond to the reality of the world around us. Let awe and wonder grow and be prepared for the coming of the true Christmas Gift.

Jane Mellett

Adapted from "The Deep End - A Journey through the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Mark" (Messenger Publications, Dublin, 2003).

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

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings  
we make, gathered from among your  
gifts to us, and may what you grant us  
to celebrate devoutly here below gain  
for us the prize of eternal redemption.  
Through Christ our Lord.

### AFTER THE CONSECRATION

*The mystery of faith.*  
**Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**The Lord will bestow his bounty, and  
our earth shall yield its increase.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these mysteries, O Lord, in which  
we have participated, profit us, we pray,  
for even now, as we walk amid passing  
things, you teach us by them to love the  
things of heaven and hold fast to what  
endures. Through Christ our Lord.

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 & 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).