

# PARISH OF INISHMAGRATH

## Third Sunday of Advent

### Gaudete Sunday

14th December 2025

Parish Office, Drumkeeran - 964 8025 ~ Parish Administrator - Fr P Casey 916 4143

Neighbouring Priest: Fr T Mannion 964 3014

### Masses

Sat 13th Dec	7:00pm	Creevelea.	John & Brigitte Brandt. Paddy McGowan & Deceased Family, Geaglum.
	8:00pm		Mary, Mother of God Church, Newtownmanor.
Sun 14th Dec	10:00am	Drumkeeran.	Jubilee of Prisoners. The Deceased of the Cassidy & Gannon Families.
	11:30am		St Patrick's Church, Dromahair.
Mon 15th Dec	6:00pm	Drumkeeran.	Exposition.
Tues 16th Dec	11:00am		Áras Bhríde.
	7:00pm		St Brigid's Church, Killargue - Exposition with Mass at 8:00pm.
Wed 17th Dec	9:30am		St Patrick's Church, Dromahair.
Thur 18th Dec	10:00am	Drumkeeran.	Josie, Peggy & Francis Leyden.
	7:00pm		Mary, Mother of God Church, Newtownmanor - Exposition with Mass at 8:00pm.
Fri 19th Dec	7:00pm		St Patrick's Church, Dromahair.
Sat 20th Dec	7:00pm	Tarmon.	Tom, Mary & Eddie McCabe. Sarah & Martin McMorro, Geaglum, daughter Mary McGuighan, son Patrick McMorro & James Doherty & Family.
	8:00pm		St Brigid's, Killargue.
Sun 21st Dec	10:00am	Drumkeeran.	Brigid Wynne & Thomsie & Mary McDermott.
	11:30am		St Patrick's Church, Dromahair.
Wed 24th Dec	7:00pm	Drumkeeran	Christmas Vigil Mass. Maureen Rogan & Deceased of the Family.
Thurs 25th Dec	10:00am	Creevelea	Christmas Day Mass.

**Please note:** We will try to accommodate all specific requests and requirements for Anniversary Masses, changes may be necessary and we appreciate your patience.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Special community celebrations of the Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place to celebrate the importance of "Forgiveness" and to receive absolution for Christmas on the following dates and times:

- + Creevelea Church at the 7:00pm Vigil Mass on Sat 13 Dec.
- + Tarmon Church at the 7:00pm Vigil Mass on Sat 20 Dec.
- + Drumkeeran Church at the 10:00am Mass on Sun 21 Dec.

Individual Confession is available for Christmas after weekday Masses or on request.

**Drumkeeran NS:** St Brigid's NS, Drumkeeran are holding their Christmas Carol Service in Drumkeeran Church on Tues 16 Dec at 7:00pm, the whole community is invited to come and join in with this joyful celebration of Christmas and the birth of Jesus by the children and staff.

### Thought for the Day:

**Matthew 11:2-11**

Advent calls us to stop and think. But for nearly everyone the season of Advent is also the busiest time of the year. There is so much to be done to prepare for Christmas; cards, presents, the planning of meals, hospitality in general. Leaving aside whether we actually need to do all this and whether it could not all be simplified, the actuality of most lives during Advent is emphatically not one of contemplation. We can benefit from moments each day, that we set aside just to keep ourselves grounded in faith. It is Jesus and His birth that we celebrate, not just togetherness. Can we still enter into the spirit of Advent, this Holy Season?

*Sr Wendy Beckett - The Art of Christmas*

**Point to Ponder:** Imprisoned. When I read the Gospel for today I asked myself what's wrong with this picture? On a day the Church celebrates Gaudete Sunday, a word which commands us to rejoice, we hear about John the Baptist the greatest man born of woman, a man who dedicated his entire life to God was now behind bars. Maybe he was asking himself the same question. What's wrong with this picture? Life doesn't always go the way we want. We often find ourselves in circumstances that we really can't make sense of. Situations that not only confuse us but can cause us to question ourselves and even God.

These curve balls that life throws us when we expect one thing and get another can alienate us and result in a faith crisis. We ask Why is God allowing this tragedy, or suffering? Why doesn't God act the way I want God to act? I don't understand it? Jesus however is saying that in the midst of all the suffering we see and experience, God's kingdom is present. The greatest challenge to our faith is almost always suffering because it is the most difficult to reconcile with an all loving God, and yet Jesus challenges us to be patient and trust in Him and look to the seeds of the kingdom all around us which are signs of hope. He is asking us to believe despite our circumstances and trust in His plan. The weeds grow with the wheat but in the end Jesus will sort them all out. In the end everything will be okay and if it's not okay it's not the end.

*Digitalmissionaries.com*

**The Society of St Vincent de Paul:** We will hold our annual Christmas Collection in Creevelea on Sat 13 Dec and in Drumkeeran after Mass on Sun 14 Dec. There will be envelopes at the back of the local Churches which can be returned in the collection baskets or left in the locked box in the lobby at the back of Drumkeeran Church. For anyone in need, we can be contacted at 085 776 4431 all contact is strictly confidential. We are truly grateful for your support and hope that you can donate generously.

**Primary School Survey 2025:** The current Department of Education survey on the future of patronage in the primary sector is important in that it will shape the discussion on primary school divesting for the years to come throughout the Republic of Ireland. Please participate in this survey if you are a parent or a prospective parent of a primary school student. The survey can be accessed at [www.gov.ie/primaryschoolssurvey](http://www.gov.ie/primaryschoolssurvey). **Have your say before the survey closes on Tues 16 Dec.**