

# PARISH OF INISHMAGRATH

## Third Sunday of Advent Bambinelli / Gaudete Sunday

17th December 2023

Fr Tom McManus – 964 8025

Neighbouring Priests: Fr T Mannion 964 3014 - Fr P Casey 916 4143 -  
Fr Loughlain Carolan 985 3012

### Masses

Sat 16th Dec	7:00pm	Tarmon	John Williams.
Sun 17th Dec	10:00am	Creevelea	Tom & Brigid Gallagher.
	11:15am	Drumkeeran	Brigid Wynne (3rd Anniversary).
Mon 18th Dec	6:00pm	Drumkeeran	Adoration until 6:50pm.
	7:00pm	Drumkeeran	Paddy Mooney (MM).
Tue 19th Dec	11:00am	Áras Bhríde	
Wed 20th Dec	10:00am	Creevelea	Mary, James & Kathleen Gilhooly.
	6:30pm	Drumkeeran	Drumkeeran NS Carol Service.
Thurs 21st Dec	10:00am	Drumkeeran	
Fri 22nd Dec	7:00pm	Tarmon	
Sat 23rd Dec	7:00pm	Tarmon	Vigil for Fourth Sunday of Advent, Tarmon National School will join in with the Liturgy.
Sun 24th Dec	11:15am	Drumkeeran	Fourth Sunday of Advent.
	7:00pm	Creevelea	Christmas Vigil Mass.
	9:00pm	Drumkeeran	Christmas Vigil Mass. Maureen Rogan.
Mon 25th Dec	10:00am	Tarmon	Christmas Day Mass.
			NO MASS this evening in Drumkeeran.
Tues 26th Dec	12:00noon	Tarmon	St Stephen's Day Mass - Fr John Gilhooly will be the celebrant.

**Confession:** Available after weekday Mass or on request.

**Visitation:** Fr Tom will be doing his rounds for Christmas and the New Year on Fri 22 Dec.

**Drumkeeran Church Choir:** Practise will be held on Mon 18 Dec at 8:00pm.

**Newsletter:** Please see [www.inishmagrath.com](http://www.inishmagrath.com) for more articles.

**Drumkeeran NS:** St Brigid's NS, Drumkeeran are holding a Carol Service in Drumkeeran Church on Wed 20 Dec at 6:30pm. There will be the option to give a voluntary donation which will go directly to the school. All are welcome to join in this celebration of Christmas.

**Tarmon NS:** The children will help out in the Liturgy on Sat 23 Dec at the 7:00pm Mass. They will be involved in the choir and in the Prayers of the Faithful. As Tarmon NS has a small number of pupils, they would like help from the previous few year's pupils. Please help if you are able to join in with this Mass.

### Points to Ponder:

It is possible to experience joy while feeling sad, angry, or happy. That is because joy is altogether something other than a feeling. Of course, many of us feel some form of elation when we hear the Gospel passage "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people" or when we see a beautiful landscape. When we were young we confuse that elation with supernatural joy. While elation is a passing feeling, joy is more of an attitude rooted in unshakeable faith and hope.

This joy is an attitude, disposition, or orientation. We don't have to be a bubbly, happy-go-lucky person to be "joyful" - that would be confusing the externals with the internals. Instead, joy brings us peace. The anxiety we may feel when faced with human obstacles or challenges can be overwhelmed and trumped by the fundamental disposition of joy within.

This joy comes from Christ, the victor. We know He rules, that He has conquered death, and that He invites us to live with Him. That should colour absolutely everything we see. We know that no matter what happens, whether good or ill, we will triumph with Him. That is how joy can vanquish sadness. Though we may experience physical loss or distress, joy can buoy us up via supernatural hope.

Adversities can be overcome. No matter the struggle, we know who we serve and He brings us joy. Any other challenge can be taken in stride, knowing that God is in control. Our faith tells us He knows what we need - and whether He gives us what we want or not, we know He is providing for us.

*Paul Schaeffer.*

**New Schedule for Weekend Masses:** Starting in the New Year and following on from the Bishop's Pastoral letter and our needs as a Parish, the following will be the schedule:

1. Three Masses will be reduced to two. One vigil Mass and one Sunday Mass.
2. Vigil Mass on a Saturday at 7:00pm in winter time will be in Creevelea church and then in Tarmon church for the summer time.
3. The Sunday Mass will be at 11:15am in Drumkeeran church.
4. For January, February and March of 2024 the Vigil Mass will be in Creevelea Church and for the following six months it will switch to Tarmon Church. It is safer to avoid the busy traffic at Tarmon Church in the dark evenings of winter.
5. Parishioners who help out in the church not being used at the weekends can now help out in winter of the two other churches that are being used. It should be easier to get volunteers for reading, collecting, distributing Communion, singing in the Choir, serving, etc.
6. When Fr Tom is away there will be one Mass at the weekend in Drumkeeran church. This will be the case for Sat 20 Jan 2024, Mass will be at 7:00pm and celebrated by Fr Paul Casey from Dromahaire.

**Flowers for Christmas:** If you want to help decorate the churches for Christmas you can give a donation to the Sacristan in your local church; Kathleen Rynn in Tarmon, Ann McDonagh in Drumkeeran and Peggy Horan in Creevelea. Thank you.

**Christmas Craft Fair:** Sun 17 Dec from 12:00 noon until 3:00pm in the Courthouse in Drumkeeran. All welcome!