

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

7th December, 2014

Second Sunday of Advent

No: 1236

MASS TIMES

Sunday

9.00, 10.30, 12.15
Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Weekdays

9.30am only

Eve of Holydays

7.30pm

Holydays

9.00, 10.30 &
7.30pm

CONTACT DETAILS

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Emergency Number:
087-251 9940

THE SWISS GUARDS

They are some of the best known figures in Rome—the Swiss Guards who have been protecting the Pontiff for more than 500 years. But, who are the young soldiers standing to attention at the Vatican's portals and what is their life really like?



The Swiss Guards had already existed for many years before they were made official by Pope Julius II in 1506. Down through the centuries, the Popes have come to rely on the solidarity and loyalty of the young Swiss mercenaries. In 1507 during the sacking of Rome, 147 Swiss Guards were killed defending the Pope.

These days there is little fighting in a Swiss Guard's life, except the occasional tussle with a persistent tourist intent on gaining admission to the Vatican City, which is the world's smallest independent state. Only those who live and work there or have business there may enter except for St. Peter's Basilica and Square and the Vatican Museum, all of which are open to visitors. One of the Swiss Guard's duties is guarding the four entrances to the City, checking papers and issuing instructions to visiting Bishops and Clerics.

Most of the Swiss Guards are men in their twenties who serve for two or three years in Rome, but a handful make it their entire career. A number of the men are married. They and their families live in apartments within the Vatican City. The Vatican has its own supermarket, pharmacy and there is a doctor on call. New recruits must be Swiss born, Catholic, unmarried and more than six foot tall. According to Fr. Alain De Raemy, Chaplain to the Swiss Guards, "there are different reasons for joining the force, some are young men who are very keen Catholics and they are looking for something spiritual. Others are looking for adventure in another country and for most, of course, there is a bit of both". All the soldiers are immensely proud of being Swiss and of the service they have given the Popes through history. "When they are sworn in, they pledge to give their lives, if necessary, for the Pope".

Arthur O'Callaghan.

Advent



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8th DECEMBER, 2014

MASSES: SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER - 6.15 VIGIL MASS
MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER - 9.00AM, 10.30AM AND 7.30PM

PUPILS FROM COLÁISTE AN SPIORAID NAOIMH WILL SING AT THE 7.30PM MASS ON MONDAY, 8TH DECEMBER AND AFTER THE MASS WILL LEAD A CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE.

Voluntary donations of food or finance to the Coláiste Christmas Food Campaign.

NOTICE BOARD

St. Vincent de Paul:

The Christmas collection in aid of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will take place at all Masses next weekend, Saturday/Sunday Dec. 13th/14th.

Parish Council:

Next meeting will be held in the Parish Centre on Monday, 8th December.

Liturgy Group:

Next meeting will be held in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 9th December at 7.30pm.

Donations for flowers for Christmas:

Donations would be more than welcome for flowers for the Christmas altar. A box will be placed on the altar rails for offerings *during Mass times only*. Thanking you in anticipation.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland:

Next Carer's support Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 10th December from 3.00pm to 4.30pm at the Bessboro Day Care Centre, Bessboro, Blackrock, Cork. All welcome. Contact (021) 4972504.

Alzheimer Society of Ireland—Cork Branch Saturday Club:

Christmas Carols led by the Monkstown Chamber Choir on Saturday, 13th December, 2014 at the Bessboro Day Care Centre. There will also be an exhibition of Art Works produced by clients of the Day Care Centre from 2pm to 4pm. Light refreshments provided. Free admission. All welcome.

Heart Throbs:

Bishopstown & Ballincollig Cardiac Support Group—next meeting on Monday 8th December, 2014 at the Bishopstown Library, Wilton Shopping Centre from 11am to 1pm. New members always welcome. For further information contact (087) 2874106.

"Light & Shade, Solas & Scáth"

Exhibition of Oil paintings by Daithi O hAodha in Bishopstown Library, Wilton Shopping Centre 1st to 23rd December. All welcome to come and view.

Children's Mass on Christmas Eve at 6.15pm

On Monday, 15th December, 2014 at 3.00pm, we will have a gathering in the Church of schoolchildren who wish to take part in the Christmas Eve Mass.

All children are more than welcome to take part.

Please contact Mercedes at 4544113.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to the family, relatives and friends of **Noreen Downey** late of Highfield who died recently.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam dilis.

Christmas Campaign in aid of Turkwell Parish, 2014

Christmas cards and gift vouchers will be available in the Parish Office after Masses this weekend November, 6th/7th/8th and 20th/21st December and also after the 9.30am Mass on weekdays.

MIDNIGHT MASS:

Please note that there will be Midnight Mass at 12 midnight on Christmas Eve, 24th December, 2014. in this Church.

RECONCILIATION SERVICES:

Dennehy's Cross:	Sunday, 21st Dec @ 5pm
S.M.A. Wilton:	Tuesday, 16th Dec @ 7.30pm
Curraheen Church:	Wednesday, 17th Dec @ 7.30pm
Sacred Heart:	Wednesday, 17th Dec @ 7.30pm

God's Word

Readings for **Sunday 14th December, 2014**

First Reading:
Is 61: 1-2, 10-11

Psalm: Lk 1

Second Reading:
1 Th 5: 16-24

Gospel:
Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28

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Weekend Psalm:

Nineteenth Sunday in ordinary time - Year A

Patrick Killeen

