

Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

18th December, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent

No: 1317

MASS TIMES

Sunday

9.00, 10.30, 12.15
Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Weekdays

9.30am

Eve of Holydays

7.30pm

Holydays

9.00, 10.30 &
7.30pm

God's Word

Readings for **Sunday**
25th December, 2016

First Reading:

Is 52: 7-10

Psalm: 97

Second Reading:

3 Heb 1: 1-6

Gospel:

Jn 1: 1-18

CONTACT DETAILS

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CHRISTMAS AND THE HOLY LAND



Bethlehem and Nazareth are forever linked with Jesus and his birth. They are three days journey apart on foot. Nazareth is in Galilee and towards the north of the country - near Tiberius and the Sea of Galilee. Bethlehem is towards the south and near Jerusalem. Forty eight of us went there on an unforgettable Pilgrimage in the month of October. We visited the north first and on our second day having celebrated Mass on Mount Tabor, we visited Nazareth. There the angel Gabriel came to Mary to announce the birth of Jesus and receive Mary's reply: "**Be it done to me according to your word**". We meditate on what happened there when we pray the mystery of the Annunciation. There is a beautiful Basilica built over the house where Mary lived with Joseph and Jesus as he grew to manhood. There are images of Mary from all over the world adorning the Basilica including Our Lady of Knock at which we recited a Hail Mary in Irish for all at home.

We spent four nights in Bethlehem very close to Manger Square and were able to visit the Grotto where Jesus was born and the manger where He was placed in swaddling clothes. The word "Bethlehem" means "the house of bread", so it is very significant that Mary placed him in the manger and later He would say: "**I am the Bread of Life**". He is the one who sustains us and strengthens us by giving us his



very self in the Eucharist. You can imagine how emotional it can be to pray at and venerate the place where Jesus was born. The Basilica is being renovated by Italian artists at the moment and will be really beautiful when completed. We also visited the Shepherds Field where the angels sang to the shepherds on the first Christmas: "**Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to people of good will**". This is a most beautiful place and the peace there is palpable. The Christmas hymns were sung at all Masses. Our petitions, which were on the altar for all Masses, will be placed

in the Basilica by our guide, Louis, for midnight Mass.

The inhabitants of Bethlehem and Nazareth need our prayers that peace may succeed in the Holy Land. It is a sad fact that both towns are now surrounded by a 30ft. high wall. May they and all of us and our families have a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

Fr. Bertie.

Email: holyspiritparish@eircom.net Website: www.dennehycrossparish.ie

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASS TIMES



Sat.: Christmas Eve (Dec.24th) 9.30am,
6.15pm (Family Mass) and **9.00pm.**

Sun: Christmas Day (Dec.25th) ... 9.00am,
10.30am & 12.15pm

Mon: St. Stephen's Day (Dec. 26th) - 9.30am

Tues. to Fri. (Dec. 27th to Dec. 30th) - 9.30am

Sat.: (Dec. 31st) - 9.30am & Vigil Mass 6.15pm

Sun: (January 1st) - 9.00am, 10.30am &
12.15pm

Mon. to Wed. (Jan. 2nd to Jan. 4th) - 9.30am

Thurs: (Jan 5th) - 9.30am & Vigil for Epiphany at
7.30pm

Fri. (Jan. 6th) - Feast of the Epiphany: 9.00am,
10.30am & 7.30pm.

CONFESSIONS:

Christmas Eve (24th Dec.): 12 Noon to 1.00pm
and 3.00pm to 4.00pm

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION SERVICE

On TODAY

SUNDAY, 18TH DECEMBER 2016

at
5.00pm



THANK YOU:

Fr. Bertie and Fr. Tom would like to thank all those who contributed to the autumn dues. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

CHILDREN'S MASS ON CHRISTMAS EVE AT 6.15PM

There will be a practice in the Church on Monday, 19th December, 2016 at 3.00pm for schoolchildren who would like to take part in the Christmas Eve Mass at 6.15pm.

All children are more than welcome to take part.

Turkwell Christmas Campaign

Christmas Cards and Gift Certificates will be on sale in the Parish Office every morning next week and after all the Masses this weekend, 17th/18th December. Proceeds will be used to buy hospital beds and medical equipment for our sister parish in Turkwell, Kenya.



NOTICE BOARD

Don't be lonely this Christmas:

Senior Help Line, Ireland's only national listening service for older people, will be open every day over Christmas and the New Year from 10am to 10pm. We are here to take your call if you are on your own, feeling isolated, worried or would like someone to talk to. Senior Help Line volunteers are trained older people who understand the ups and downs of life, and are happy to listen, to keep company and to support. LoCall 1850 440444. All calls completely confidential.

Training for Parish Catechists:

The second two year training, the Maryvale Certificate in Catechesis, will begin in Cork in January 2017. Information packs and registration forms are available from the Pastoral Development Office tel: (021) 4537601 and must be returned at the latest by the 10th January. This course is also open to those wishing to enhance their understanding of the Catholic faith.

Fatima 2017:

100th Anniversary Pilgrimage departing from Cork on the 5th September, 2017 and returning on the 11th September, 2017 - cost €754.00. Spiritual Director: Fr. Marius O'Reilly. For more information contact: Antoinette (021) 4850540/086 3701731 or Damien 087 2049048.

World Meeting of Families 2018:

Pope Francis has chosen Ireland to host the next World Meeting of Families in August 2018. This is a graced moment for all families and for the Church in Ireland enhanced by the proposed visit of Pope Francis to coincide with this event. The diocese will be offering a programme of preparation for all ages over the coming months leading up to this event. To begin, your parish will be distributing prayer cards over the Christmas period to encourage families to pray together the special prayer.

Weekend Psalm:

Advent 4 - Year A

Patrick Killeen

