

ST MANMANS NEWSLETTER

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday 13th December 2015

Fr. Thomas O'Reilly, P.P.

Phone: 057-864-8030

Parish Website: www.clonasleeparish.com

Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 8 pm Sunday 10 am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 9 am

CONFESSIONS

Every 1st Friday before 7:30 pm Mass.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms available on Saturdays. To arrange a date contact 057-864-8030.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

It is advisable to give 6 months' notice of your intention to marry to the Church and the Registrar. Contact 057-864-8030 to book the church. All couples getting married must attend a pre-marriage course. Contact ACCORD on 057-934-1831 or www.accord.ie

ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday 13th December – 10 am

Fonsie Downey, his mother Dora & all deceased members of Downey, Dunne & O'Meara Families
Thomas & Mary Smith, Chapel Street

Saturday 19th December – 8 pm

Months Mind, Annie O'Donovan, Main Streer
Derry Keating, Ashbrook
Patrick Hogan, Chapel Street
Evelyn Molloy & Molloy Family, Church View
& Fennell Family, Portlaoise

Sunday 20th December – 10 am

John & Jane Dunne, Glenkeen
Michael Culleton & deceased members of the
Culleton Family, Brittas
Pray for Helen Hilliard, Shraduff/Glebe who died during the week.

VISITATION OF THE SICK

The sick and invalids of the parish will be visited for Christmas on Thurs Dec 17th and Friday Dec 18th in the morning.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

The tradition of placing Poinsettias around the altar will continue this year. If you wish to have one on the altar in memory of your beloved dead, there is an envelope in your monthly box for this purpose. Cost €10 each.

SVP CHRISTMAS CARDS

Saint Vincent de Paul Christmas cards are on sale before and after both masses. Pkg 10/€5.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Reach Out candles and a letter from Bishop Nulty with the Christmas mass times are available at all the church doors this weekend.

SENIOR CITIZEN PARTY

The annual senior citizen party will be on Sun Dec 13th at 1 pm sharp in the Community Centre. A great day is promised. Looking forward to seeing you all there for dinner and Rock On Paddy. Hampers have been donated so tickets will be on sale at 50 cent per strip. Our thanks to the donator of the cake each year.

CAROL SERVICE

Christmas Carol service will be on today Sunday Dec 13th at 5 pm in the church. The Sacred Heart College Tullamore Choir, children from the local national school and Tom Conroy will be performing. Mulled wine and light refreshments will be served. All welcome to join the festivities.

RECONCILIATION CEREMONIES

Mon 21st Dec: **Tullamore & Portarlington**
7:30 pm. Tues 22nd Dec: **Rosenallis** 7 pm/
Clonaslee 8 pm. Wed 23rd Dec: **Mountmellick**
7:30 pm, **Ballinagar** 8:30 pm.

CCDA

The monthly Clonaslee Community Development Association meeting is on Mon Dec 14th at 8:30 pm in the Community Centre.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Scoil Bhríde Christmas concert is on Thurs Dec 17th at 8 pm in the school.

NATIVITY PLAY

Scoil Bhríde will perform the Nativity play during 8 pm mass on Sat Dec 19th.

CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS

Almas Christmas Mass bouquets are now available. Contact Dolores Murray, 087-414-8093.

ST STEPHENS DAY HOSPICE WALK

We will be setting up the Centre on Wed Dec 23rd at 6 pm. All help for this would be appreciated. Donations of Christmas cakes and fruit cakes are gratefully accepted. Sponsorship cards available by contacting Sheila Bourke on 087-633-9540.

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CHRISTMAS SINGING AND MUSIC SESSION

CCE Christmas singing and music session will be on Fri Dec 18th at 8:30 pm in the Parochial Hall. Singers and musicians are welcome.

COMMUNITY ALERT

Be vigilant as the dark evenings are here and a lot of unwelcome visitors calling to our doors. Use your peep holes and ask for ID. Press your panic button if you're worried, help is at hand. You may sign up to text alert by calling Matt Barrett on 087-672-6290. Call Teresa if you require help with alarm on 089-413-4679 or 087-970-56514. A lot of farm places were entered, leaving gates open. Call on your neighbour and see if they are ok or require anything.

DONATE A DINNER

Clonaslee Pharmacy in conjunction with Focus Ireland are organising a "Donate A Dinner" campaign. €4 will provide dinner, dessert and tea/coffee for one day over the Christmas period. Please call in if you would like to donate.

SANTA'S VISIT

Santa will be arriving to Clonaslee Pharmacy on Saturday December 19th from 2-4pm. Please ring or call in to confirm your place.

CONGRATS

Well done to Elaine Conway on being chosen Laois County Finalist in the National Primary School Essay competition titled "Someone Like Me". Congrats to Joseph Conroy on winning a prize in the Health & Safety Competition for Primary Schools 2015. He read his essay in Croke Park and was chosen from over 6000 children.

CREDIT UNION

Opening hours for Christmas: Clonaslee Office open Mon 28th Dec 3 pm- 5 pm. Friday Jan 1st Closed. Mountmellick Office: Mon 21st & Tues 22nd Dec 10 am- 5 pm; 23rd – 26th Dec Closed; 28th/29th Dec 10 am – 5 pm; Jan 1st Closed; Mon 4th Jan open as usual.

BRONZE MEDAL

Congrats to Clonaslee Tidy Towns on receiving their Bronze medal and framed certificate. They are on display in Fallon's window. Thank you to all who made this happen; CES employees,

Caitriona Ryan, Pat Fenlon who did trojan works litter picking. Environment section at Laois Co Council and Anne Marie Kelly who was so helpful, Ger O'Mahoney & staff, Councillors Paddy Bracken & Seamus McDonald and to Laois Partnership. Thanks to Coilte, we wish Richard Tack well in his new position and welcome to Arthur Buckley. Also the Clonaslee community for your support and to our young workers who were brilliant and to all who helped in any way. A lot of work went into putting this year's entry together and many new projects were taken on. We aim for Silver next year. We really require more people to get involved for this to happen. Well done to all the committee members and thanks to Patricia Costello for running bonus ball each week for us.

PATCHWORK QUILTING

Beginner patchwork and quilting classes will start January 12th/13th. Why not treat that special person, who says they would like to try it out, to a voucher for a beginner course. Contact Annette Doolan on 087-988-1046 for more information.

SING FOR JOY CHOIR

Wed Dec 16th in the Parish Centre, Portlaoise at 11 am. All are welcome to come along.

RAMBLING HOUSE

All are welcome to AnSean Chistin, Ire, Ballyfin on Sun Dec 20th at 7:30 pm for a wonderful evening of music, song, dance, poems, stories, cuppa and chat.

CÉILÍ

The final céilí of the year will take place in the Community Centre, Ballyfin on Sunday Dec 20th from 4-7 pm. Music by the popular Glenside Céilí Band. All are welcome.

CLONASLEE PARISH LOTTO

Jackpot not won. Winning no: 21-11-13. €30 winners: Patsy Byrne, Cadamstown; Sarah Conroy, Clonaslee; Eamon Sammon, Clonaslee; Rossa Bracken, c/o Bracken; Patricia Barrett, Clonaslee; Áine Condon, Ballykaneen. Voucher: Síle Fitzpatrick, Brittas. Bottle: Jimmy McEvoy, Slieve Bloom Park. Promoter's prize: Nickey Dunne, Larry Costello, Ger Kelly. Voucher: Kathleen Blake. Bottle: N Dunne. Next week's Jackpot: €800.