

St. John's Parish, Tralee

29th December 2024

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

EMERGENCY CALLS: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, will be covered by the priests of the Pastoral Area (St. John's, St. Brendan's, Spa/Fenit). The priest on duty can be contacted on 087 2069656. Priest on duty this weekend: Fr. Francis Nolan
Office hours for the coming week:

Monday to Saturday from 9.15am to 1.00pm and 2.00pm to 4.45pm
Telephone 066 7122522 E-mail office@stjohns.ie

Website: www.stjohns.ie Find us on Facebook: @StJohnsTralee

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS IN THE DIOCESE OF KERRY:
DESIGNATED LIAISON PERSON: 087 6362780

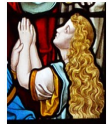
PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Who died recently:

✠ Eileen O'Flaherty (nee Spillane), Derrymore East and formerly of Inchaloughra, Castlegregory.

and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

PLEASE PRAY FOR



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH: SIDE CHAPEL
Fridays 10.30am to 6.10pm.

ST. BRENDAN'S CHURCH, CURRAHEEN:
Mondays from 11am to 12 noon.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Will be celebrated at 10am and 6.10pm in St. John's Church for Monday to Wednesday the coming week. The 8.30am Mass will resume on Thursday January 2nd.



PARISH CENTRE: The Parish Office will be closed on the Bank Holiday, Wednesday next, January 1st. It will reopen on Thursday, 2nd.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS in aid of the missions may be handed into the Parish Centre.

The Clergy of the Parish and the Parish Pastoral Council wish you, your families and your friends, God's blessing for the New Year.



PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love; to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen.

(Pope Francis, Amoris Laetitia, p.325)



PILGRIMAGE TO MEDGEGORIE

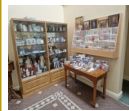
Group leader: Maura O'Keefe Harcksen
Spiritual Director: Fr. Francis Nolan

10th—17th September 2025
Cork to Dubrovnik—€899
Single supplement €175
Includes breakfast & dinner each day.

Further information contact Maura O'Keefe Harcksen 0871517696 or Fr. Francis Nolan. 0872100273



RELIGIOUS GOODS and gifts are available to purchase in St. John's Parish Centre, Monday to Saturday, 9.15am to 1.00pm and 2.00pm to 4.45pm.



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST MASS TIMES FOR THE COMING WEEK

ST JOHN'S CHURCH: Monday to Friday: 10.00am and 6.10pm
Saturday: 10.00am and 6.10pm
Sunday: 9.00am (as Gaeilge), 10.30am and 12 noon.

THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:
Saturday: 7.00pm. Sunday: 10.00am.

ST. BRENDAN'S, CURRAHEEN: Saturday: 7.30pm. Sunday: 11.00am.

CONFESSIONS: Every Saturday from 12 noon to 1.00pm in St. John's Church. In the event of a funeral, confessions will take place in the Parish Centre.

ALL MASSES FROM ST. JOHN'S CHURCH WILL BE LIVE-STREAMED

See www.stjohns.ie or www.churchservices.tv/tralee



ST. JOHN'S PARISH SILVER CIRCLE

The Silver Circle is our only fundraiser during the year and we will begin Tuesday 4th February with the first draw and every Tuesday there after for 10 weeks concluding on Tuesday 8th April.



Tickets are €30 that cover the 10 weeks of the draw. Tickets sold at the Parish centre, the sacristies and ticket sellers.

Prizes (each week)
1st Prize: €500
2nd Prize: €300
4 Prizes of: €100
4 Prizes of: €75

Please support our only Parish Fundraiser.
We invite parishioners to sell tickets.
Please contact the Parish Centre.

KERRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA



Led by Fr. Noel Spring.
11th—15th May 2025

Return coach included from Kerry to Shannon. Direct flight ex Shannon Airport to Porto. For further information please contact: Barter's Travel net Cork 0214851700.

NEWSLETTERS: Please take home the newsletter or leave them on the table at the back of the Church.

DONATE ONLINE

If you wish to make a donation to St. John's Parish you can do so through our website at www.stjohns.ie or you can scan this QR Code which will take you to the donations page.



2025 A JUBILEE YEAR IN THE CHURCH.



A Jubilee Year is held every twenty-five years. Pope Francis officially opened Jubilee 2025 at Christmas Eve Mass with the opening of the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica, in Rome.

The beginning of Jubilee 2025 will be celebrated worldwide this Sunday, 29th December, which is also the Feast of the Holy Family in every diocese worldwide, and thus at all our Masses this weekend.

Pope Francis has chosen the Jubilee theme 'Pilgrims of Hope' which he says should be a year of hope for all God's pilgrim people and that all would experience the great gift of God's grace which brings life and grace to all humanity.

We are asked to treat the year ahead as a year-long pilgrimage seeking together to become more aware that truly Jesus Christ Our Saviour is with us each day - as our help, strength and guide. When we speak of 'Hope' we mean 'Hope in Jesus Christ', Hope in our God, Father, Son and Spirit.

JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

"Dear sister, dear brother, even if in your heart you have buried hope, do not give up: God is greater. Darkness and death do not have the last word. Be strong, for with God nothing is lost! The first Christians depicted hope as an anchor. Hope was an anchor fixed to the shores beyond. ..."

The message of hope should not be confined to our sacred places but should be brought to everyone. For everyone is in need of reassurance, ... How beautiful it is to be Christians who offer consolation, who bear the burdens of others and who offer encouragement: messengers of life in a time of death!
In every Galilee, in every area of the human family to which we all belong and which is part of us – for we are all brothers and sisters – may we bring the song of life! Let us silence the cries of death, no more wars! May we stop the production and trade of weapons, since we need bread not guns. Let the abortion and killing of innocent lives end. May the hearts of those who have enough be open to filling the empty hands of those who do not have the bare necessities. ..." What loving, challenging words from Pope Francis.

Put the crib scene, the birth of Jesus, at the centre of your Christmas. Let it remind you of how God 'loved the world so much, that he gave his only Son' (Jn 3:16), and that all of us have so much to be grateful for. May God's goodness to us inspire in us goodness towards others.
 This Christmas carry in your heart the song of the angels to the shepherds:
*'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
 And peace to all people who enjoy his favour.'* (Lk: 2.14)
Our Lady, Queen of Peace, intercede for peace for the whole world.
 Le gach dea-ghnui, i gcomhair na Nollag.
 Every Christmas blessing on all in our communities.

+ Ray Browne

Diocese of Kerry
 Christmas 2024



Christmas Message Diocese of Kerry 2024

*The Word was made flesh, he lived among us,
 And we saw his glory,
 the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,
 full of grace and truth. Jn 1:14*



Dia dhíabh. Nollaig Shona dhíabh go léir. A happy and faith-filled Christmas to one and all. Christmas is a time to count our blessings and rejoice. Think of and give thanks for all that is good in all the communities and parishes of our diocese. Thank you to the priests and all in our parishes; thank you to all our school communities. Thank you to all involved in voluntary groups: in sport, in the arts, in social care, - so many wonderful things are happening everywhere. From the local media, print, radio and online, again and again we realize the wonderful voluntary bodies present in our communities. Long may it continue. Sincere thanks to all the volunteers involved.

It is wonderful that Christmas continues to be a family celebration in Ireland. Families celebrate together, family members love to 'be home for Christmas'. Children grow up with fond memories of Christmas at home. I encourage all families to share their faith with their children through the story of Christmas. The birth of Jesus both fulfilled and revealed the loving plans of God the Father for all peoples. Jesus reveals that God is love, Jesus has offered us the gift of eternal life. May a simple family crib have a special place in your home.

This year we cannot ignore the fact that many families in Ireland lack the basics required to have a happy Christmas. Thousands of individuals, couples and families are spending another Christmas without a home of their own. Many adults are exhausted by the year-round struggle to earn sufficient money to pay the ordinary bills that arise for a family. Many living among us find themselves far from their families and homeland this Christmas. For those struggling and almost despairing, may the scene in the stable of Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus give hope and comfort.

In the Church, in tune with the ancient biblical tradition, 2025 will be a Jubilee Year, a Holy Year. A Jubilee year is held every twenty-five years in celebration of the Christmas event, the Incarnation, the Birth of Jesus Christ. In all our parishes we will celebrate the opening of the Jubilee year on Sunday 29th of December, the Feast of the Holy Family. For Jubilee 2025 Pope Francis has chosen the theme, 'Pilgrims of Hope'. Pilgrimage points to life as a journey, a journey in search of meaning and fulfillment, a fulfillment that is to be found in our relationship with Jesus Christ. The following from the writings of Pope Francis speaks to us all of Christian hope: