

BANTRY FAMILY OF PARISHES NEWSLETTER

BANTRY PARISH, CAHERAGH PARISH, GOLEEN PARISH, MUINTIR BHAIRE PARISH, SCHULL PARISH

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT **29th November 2026 Vol. 48 No.48**

Graveyard Prayers for the faithful departed:

Sunday 29th November: Schull at 3.00pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in Schull Church on Monday 30th of November after 10am Mass. There will be Exposition on the last Monday of each month in Schull Church.

SVP APPEAL: The local conference of St Vincent De Paul,

St Finbarr's Conference will hold its Annual Appeal for the month of December. Our conference's geographical area is extensive taking in Bantry & the Muintir Bhaire Parishes. St Finbarr's Conference thanks you. All our funds are raised locally and spent locally. Donations can be made at the local SVP office: 5 Main Street or you might like to put your donation in an SVP envelope available at all Church Doors and drop it into the Parish Office/Sacristy at the back of Bantry church or any of the Muintir Bhaire Churches. Thank you for your continuing support & generosity. Should you wish to donate directly, our Bank Account Details are:Bank: AIB Bank Bantry Co Cork.
Account: St Vincent de Paul. BIC: AIBKIE2D
IBAN: IE91 AIBK 9360 1436 2520 53

Ms.O'Connor in CPB is once again doing a non-perishable food drive for SVP Bantry, this Christmas time. This is a difficult time of year for so many and it's important we reach out the hand of care to others. All non-perishable food types are welcome, unopened gift sets and/or toys also and can be dropped into reception of CPB. Ms. O'Connor thanks you for your kindness and generosity in advance.

Ballydehob Community Christmas Dinner: With just over two weeks to go until the Annual Christmas Dinner and Party in the Community Hall on Sunday December 13th, supporters are encouraged to book their tickets without delay. The committee is happy to be in a position to maintain ticket prices for another year at €30 for the three course dinner, refreshments and entertainment. Dinner will be served from 1.30 p.m. Contact Breda Rodgers, 086-8250183 / breda.rodgers@hotmail.com or Noel Coakley, 087-6367121 / noelcoaklev@icloud.com

Christmas Craft Fair: Carrigboy National School:
Monday November 30th from 7 to 9pm in Durrus Community Hall. Wheel of fortune, Cakes, Raffles for great prizes, Bric a Brac, lucky Dip & much more. Teas served. All are welcome.

Bantry Flower & Garden Club Christmas Dinner & Demonstration in the Westlodge Hotel Bantry on Monday the 7th of December at 6.30pm. Demonstration by Eileen O' Brien, Kinsale "Festive Christmas Designs" Tickets €35 each must be booked before the 1st of December from 027 61022 or 027 50985.

Offertory Collection 22nd Nov: Bantry: €2260 Caheragh:€672
Schull:€875 Muintir Bhaire: €620 Goleen: €375

Church Maintenance Fund collection will be taken up in all churches next weekend, 5th/6th December

Prayer for Lighting the First Advent Candle - *The Candle of Hope*



Heavenly Father, As we light this first candle of Advent, we light the candle of hope.
In the darkness of the world, may its gentle flame remind us of Your everlasting love and the promise of Your Son, Jesus Christ.
As we begin our journey towards Christmas, fill our hearts with hope, our homes with peace, and our lives with kindness and compassion. Help us to trust in Your promises, to shine Your light wherever there is darkness, and to share Your love with those who need it most.
May this little flame remind us that no darkness is greater than Your light, and no heart is beyond Your love. Come, Lord Jesus, and fill our hearts with hope as we prepare to welcome You. Amen.

***Died Recently*:We extend prayers & sympathy to the families, relatives & friends of:**

Mary McCarthy (née Murphy) – Reenrour East, & formerly of Borlin, Bantry
Margaret (Peggy) Henry (née Coughlan) – Cheltenham & late of Glenruin, Kilcrohane
Patrick Thomas – Dromaclarig, Bantry & Lisheens, Kealkill
Margaret (Mags) Gilligan (née Lynch) – Ahakista, Durrus / Ballintemple, Cork

A Charity Christmas Concert will be held in The Holy Family Church, Caheragh on Friday 4th December at 7.30pm. Tickets can be purchased from Wild Ways in Skibbereen Anne 086 8741660 Bernadette 086 8384815 Kay 087 2611492. We will also sell them after Mass in Dromore on Saturday night and again on Sunday after Mass in Caheragh. Tickets €20. All the proceeds are going to Vietnamese Orphanage fund, Caheragh NS and Skibbereen Hospital. Please support this event, it promises to be a magical evening.

Gentle Mass' Workshop 6th December: Drimoleague: During the COVID pandemic Barryroe parishioner Denis O'Regan composed a new setting of the liturgy of the Mass. Thanks to the help of Bishop Fintan the liturgical text in this setting of the Mass was recently approved by the Advisory Committee on Church Music on behalf of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference in August 2026. All singers (choir members or not in any choir) are welcome to a free workshop to learn it at 3:00pm on Sunday 6 December at Drimoleague Parish Hall. To help with planning could each singer please register at GentleMass.ie/register

The next meeting of the **Bantry and surrounding areas Cardiac Support Group** will take place on Tuesday 1st December 2026 at 8pm. Venue is the Meeting room in the Bantry Primary Care Centre (SouthDoc building) P75 T611. At our meeting this meeting we will have a presentation by Regina Moore, West Cork - Support Co-Ordinator, ALONE. Refreshments and discussion after.

Ballydehob Christmas Fair takes place on November 29th from 11 to 4pm. Local crafts, art and food, raffle and children's art competition.Hall cafe open.Free entry to the fair, a small fee to visit Santa's grotto, as part of a fundraiser for Scoil Bhríde.

Kilcrohane Bazaar & Lighting of the Village Christmas Tree: Sunday 29th November – Kilcrohane Community Hall from 3pm. All welcome. Something for everyone. The bazaar will be immediately followed by the lighting of the village Christmas Tree at sundown (approx.4.30pm) on the Church Green where carols will be sung & Santa may appear too!

***Date for the diaries: Bantry Community Choir** in collaboration with Kenmare Community Choir & Kenmare Community Orchestra invite you to an afternoon of music & carols on Sat, Dec. 12th at 2.00pm in St. Brendan's Church, Bantry. Free admission – donations welcome.*

Durrus Bingo: There will not be Bingo in Durrus on this Sunday, November 29th. The next Bingo in Durrus will be on next Sunday, December 6th.

Bantry Memory Café: (1st Weds of every month). Next Café will be next Wednesday 2nd Dec. (11am-1pm) in the Maritime Hotel, Bantry, Christmas Party with Liz Clark, Music Facilitator. CONTACT: GEMMA ON 087-910 3036 if you would like further information.

Calendar: Mass Times and Intentions :-

Sat 28th Nov: 34th Week in Ordinary Time:
Bantry: 6.15pm: Michael, Eileen, Noreen & Brendan O'Sullivan – London & Bantry
Michael Downey – Reendonegan
Phil Spillane – Doiregrenagh
Agnes O'Leary – Bantry – 3rd anniv.
Michael Moloney - Ards

Dromore:8pm: Jerry Horgan - Aughaville & Dromore.
Lowertown:8pm: Corney and May Cotter.

Sun 29th Nov:First Sunday of Advent:
Bantry:9am: Intentions of the People of Bantry Family of Parishes
John O'Brien – Reenrour East
Margaret Creagh – Glengarriff
Michael O'Donoghue - Shandrum

Ballydehob:9am: Nora Fletcher (née O'Brien) - Ballycumisk & UK and her husband Leslie
Jeremiah McCarthy - Ballycumisk & Horse Island

Durrus: 10am: Frances Daly - Moulnaskeha - Months Mind.
John Deasy Crottees - Durrus.
Peter & Ellie Farrelly - Monaghan.

Schull:10.30am:
Edward Herlihy – Cork City & Ardmanagh – 4th anniv.
Mary Herlihy -Dudney – Staffordshire & Ardmanagh – 3rd anniv.

Kealkil:10.30am: John & Bernadette Lynch (Ahil & Breenybeg) & John's sister Maura (30th anniv.)
Deceased members of the O'Grady & Lynch Families

Caheragh:11.15am:
Fr. Michael O'Donovan – former P.P. of Caheragh Parish
Deceased pupils, parents & staff of Caheragh, Killeenleigh, Gurranes & Dreeny National Schools

Kilcrohane:11.30am:
Pat O'Donovan – The forge Kilcrohane – Months Mind
Frances Shinnick – Ballydehob – 3rd anniv.

Goleen:12noon: John & Ellen Goggin – Crookhaven

Bantry:12noon: Patrick Cadogan – Market St. & Dromore
Terry O'Neill
Cornelius & Peg O'Brien – Dúnoir
Alan Trafford – Westmeath
Special Intention

Monday 30th Nov: St. Andrew, Apostle:
Bantry:10am: Mary O'Mahony – Ardnathrush
Schull: 10am: No Booking

Tuesday 1st Dec: 1st Week of Advent:
Bantry:10am: Denis O'Mahony - Glandore

Wed. 2nd Dec: 1st Week of Advent:
Ballydehob:10am: No Booking
Bantry:10am: Marian Reilly – Snave – 1st anniv.

Thurs 3rd Dec: 1st Week of Advent
Bantry:10am: Diarmuid O'Mahony
Goleen: 10am: Donor's Intentions

Fri 4th Dec: 1st Week of Advent:
Bantry:10am: First Friday Shared Mass
Schull:10am: No Booking

Sat 5th Dec: 1st Week of Advent:
Bantry Hospital: 10am: Liam Coakley – Blackrock Road

Please Note: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in Bantry Church next Friday 4th December from 2.30pm – 5pm due to a wedding.