



BANTRY FAMILY OF PARISHES NEWSLETTER

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

Fr. Myles McSweeney: 086-1623031 (Bantry) Fr. Chris O'Donovan: 083 4374304 (Schull)

Fr. Anthony Buckley: 087-2744617 (Goleen) Fr. Ben Hodnett: 089-4308735 (Bantry) Fr. John C. O'Donovan: 028-52985 (Dromore)

To contact Priest on duty (Bantry): 087-7999886 Parish office: Tel: 027-56398

email: bantryparishoffice@gmail.com Website: www.bantryfamilyofparishes.ie

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8TH DECEMBER 2024 VOL.21. NO.48

SOME CHANGES FOR 2025

December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is traditionally associated with putting up Christmas decorations. It is one of five Holydays that we observe in the Liturgical year. This year the 8th of December falls on a Sunday and the second Sunday of Advent will take precedence over the feast. However, the feast will be transferred to Monday the 9th. Once a feast is transferred it loses its obligation. During the past few years attendance at Holydays has declined considerably. In our Family of Parishes, we have 12 Masses on Holydays. 2025 will see some changes to this schedule. At a recent meeting, the clergy of Bantry Family of Parishes discussed arrangements for Holydays. The meeting agreed to have two Masses in Bantry and one Mass in each of the other four parishes. The schedule will be as follows:

Vigil Masses: Bantry at 6.15pm and Lowertown at 8.00pm.

Masses on the Holyday will be: Schull at 10.30am, Kilcrohane at 11.30am, Bantry at 12noon & Caheragh at 7.00pm on the evening of the Feast Day.

This schedule will come into operation on Jan 5th /6th, the Feast of The Epiphany.

Next year will see the introduction of Station Masses at weekend Masses. The parish of Schull has had this tradition for many years and has worked well. Therefore, we are introducing it to the other four parishes in our Family. Spring Station Masses will be on the weekend of March 22nd /23rd and Autumn Station Masses will be on the weekend of 27th /28th September.

A complete list of second collections for 2025 will be printed in the newsletter at the end of the month.

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 and the Muintir Bhaire Parishes. The conference endeavours to help and support people and families within this area whom for many and varied reasons find themselves struggling to cope with their situation. It could be financial, living conditions, food, health, education to name some of those reasons. We look at every request on its merits and our voluntary committee makes a decision based on the information provided by the applicant. Our aim as a Conference for 2025 and heading into 2026 is to continue with improvements to our social housing stock and to make life comfortable for our tenants. In tandem with that we continue with our visitations, providing food and fuel vouchers to those in need in this time of increasing cost of living and giving educational supports to those who require it. You the people of Bantry and Muintir Bhaire made that possible by your generosity. St Finbarr's Conference thanks you very much for any donation you can make at this time. 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 the church or any of the Muintir Bhaire Churches. Thank you for, continuing support and generosity. Should you wish to donate directly, our Bank Account Details are: **AIB Bank Wolfe Tone Square Bantry Co Cork. Account: St Vincent de Paul / BIC: AIBKIE2D / IBAN: IE91 AIBK 9360 1436 2520 53**

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

James O'Sullivan – Reenrou East, Bantry
Jim Lothian- Brooklyn, N.Y. & Dunkelly, Goleen.
Maura Gallagher-McGirr – Bishopstown, Cork
Rest in Peace

CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES:

The Christmas Offerings envelopes are available at all church porches this weekend. These offerings go towards the income of the priests. We thank you for your support.

Colaiste Pobail Bheanntraí is doing a non-perishable foods collection for SVP in the school from Monday, Dec 2nd. We are also collecting adult socks as requested by Cork Penny Dinners. They do not have to be new, just clean. We will collect donations in school up to Wednesday December 18th. Thank you .

Offertory Collection 24th Nov: Bantry: €1875 Caheragh:€ Schull: €740 Muintir Bhaire:€690 Goleen€405
Church Repair Fund 1st Dec: Bantry: €1665 Caheragh:€ Schull: €841 Muintir Bhaire:€465 Goleen€346

St. Colum's GAA: Upcoming Christmas Events: Visit Santa Event & Christmas Market on 13th, 14th, & 15th December at St. Colum's Hall & Grounds. *Visit Santa Experience: Families will need tickets, which can be booked via Eventbrite. *Christmas Market: all welcome, free of charge, from 4pm-8pm daily,



Community Notices:

Kealkil Community Coffee Morning: Christmas Social Gathering on 15th December after Mass at 11am in Kealkil Community Hall (The Old Creamery). Cup of tea & Christmas chat. Light refreshments served. All welcome.

Come see McGee's Christmas Lights in Kealkill. All proceeds this year will go to Cancer Connect

The **Wednesday Gathering at Gortalassa Old School House** on the Sheeps Head P75 C589 will be having their Christmas celebration morning on Wednesday next the 11th Dec. from 11 am to 1 pm. Everybody is welcome to attend this free morning gathering. Donations are appreciated to help cover the running costs and keep the events going for the community.

Bantry Active Retirement: "Bantry & Beyond Calendar 2025" is on sale in many outlets around Bantry. Price €10. The proceeds will be donated to Cancer Connect who provide free transport to Cork Hospitals for people affected by cancer.

Mealagh Valley Community Hall : Jackport Bingo on Thursday 12th December Jackpot Bingo at 8pm

Skibbereen Geriatric Society fundraising draw will take place on Friday December 13th in Cara House, Skibbereen. The Society respectfully asks that tickets be returned to Cara House, Skibbereen or to any member of the Society.

Caheragh NS will hold their enrolment day this Wednesday, December 11th from 2-3pm in the school. Come see the school, meet the staff and make some new friends! Enrolment packs will be available on the day or can be requested by emailing Marv-T Minehane at caheraghns@gmail.com

Calendar: Mass Times and Intentions :-

Sat. 7th Dec: 1st week of Advent:

Bantry: 6.15pm: Máire & Cáit Holland – Kealanine, Coomhola
Jerry & Mary Holland – Limerick

Con O'Sullivan – late of Blackrock Road – Months Mind
Kathleen Cronin – Coomanore North

Dromore: 8pm: Mick Ward - Dromourneen

Lowertown: 8pm: Bridget and William Palmer - Kilgarvan.
Annie & Jeremiah O'Callaghan - Beakeen.

Sun. 8th Dec: Second Sunday of Advent:

Bantry: 9am: Michael Connolly – Cahernacrin

John Keane – Caheradaniel – 10th anniv.

Ray Mullan – Glengarriff – 1st anniv

Special Intention for a person who is sick & his family

Ballydehob: 9.00am: Kitty Duggn, her parents Nora & Timothy
Duggan & family – Derreenard, Ballydehob

Eileen O'Sullivan – Shountellig, Dunbeacon – Birthday Remembrnce

John Hegarty – Cappamore, Ballydehob – 2nd anniv.

Durrus: 10am: Joe & Mary Scully - Ahakista

Comhola: 10.30am: May & Peg Murphy - Drombdubh

Schull: 10.30am: Joseph & Josephine Arundel – Main Street, Schull

Kitty Arundel – Main Street, Schull

Martha Quinlan – Coorydorrigan, Schull – 1st anniv.

Special Intention

Caheragh: 11.15am: VeraMcCarthy – Caheragh & Skibbereen

Billy & Joan Glanville – Gurrans

Brian O'Donovan – Clohane

Mikey Lynch - Bauravilla

Kilcrohane: 11.30am: Joan O

'Mahony – Kilcrohane – 1st anniv.

Ann Marie O'Sullivan – Fawnmore

Patricia Daly (née Foley) – Ahakista & Coppeen

Goleen: 12noon: Michael O'Leary – Oughmina

Jim Lothian – Brooklyn, New York & Dunkelly

Bantry: 12noon: Special Intention

Con & Elizabeth McSweeney – Bantry & Ballincollig

Kirsty Miller - Scotland

Donnacha O'Donoghue – Caheradaniel – Birthday Remembrance

Eileen O'Regan – Ardnathrush – Birthday Remembrance

Monday 9th Dec:

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Bantry: 10am: Mary McCarthy – Parade Field, Bantry &

San Diego, California – 2nd anniv.

Schull: 10am: NO MASS

Tues 10th Dec: 2nd week of Advent:

Bantry: 10am: The Cussen Family – Cork, Canada & England

Goleen: 10am: NO MASS

Wed. 11th Dec: 2nd week of Advent:

Durrus: 9am: People of the Family of Parishes

Ballydehob: 10am: Timothy Nyhan – The Terrace, Ballydehob -

Eileen O'Sullivan – Shountellig, Dunbeacon – Birthday Remembrance

Bantry: 10am: Mary Kate Desmond – Gloun South, Dunmanway

Thurs. 12th Dec: 2nd week of Advent:

Bantry: 10am: Seán Hurley – Shanacrane, Dunmanway – 1st anniv.

Goleen: 10am: No booking

Friday 13th Dec: 2nd week of Advent:

Bantry : 10am: Special Intention

Schull: 10am: Shane Cadogan – Gubbeen, Schull

Sat. 14th Dec: 2nd week of Advent: