



Jesus and Mary Window, Toovahera

THE PARISH OF

LISDOONVARNA and KILSHANNY

Serving the Churches of

Corpus Christi, Lisdoonvarna; St. Augustine, Kilshanny; Holy Rosary, Doolin; and Our Lady of Lourdes, Toovahera.

www.lisdoon.ie

4th Sunday of Advent, 18th December 2011

Parish Priest
Father Conor Cunningham
☎ 065 - 7074142
parishoffice@lisdoon.ie

Parish Clerk
Mary Mooney (9.00am-5.00pm)
☎ 086 - 4084728

Newsletter Items before 6.00pm
Wednesdays to news@lisdoon.ie

Mass Times
Sunday Mass:
Toovahera Church
Vigil Mass Saturday 5.00pm

Kilshanny Church
Vigil Mass Saturday 7.00pm

Doolin Church
Sunday 10.00am

Lisdoonvarna Church
Sunday 11.30am

Weekday Mass:
Lisdoonvarna Church
Monday 7.00pm
Tuesday 10.00am
Thursday 7.00pm
Friday 10.00am

Confession: After all weekday Masses, or at any time by request.

Eucharistic Adoration
Monday and Wednesday
6.00pm to 7.00pm
in Lisdoonvarna Church.

Rosary at 6.00pm.
Solemn Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Mondays at 6.50pm

Vocations corner...
"O come, O come Emmanuel!" Does your heart yearn for the coming of the Jesus' kingdom into this world? Maybe you feel called to dedicate your life entirely to service as a priest? If so, Father Conor would be happy to meet with you anytime for a confidential chat and spiritual guidance.

Holy Hour to pray for priests and for vocations, hosted by the parish branch of the St. Joseph's Young Priests Society: third Wednesday of every month from 6.00pm to 7.00pm in Lisdoonvarna Church.

Supporting your Church:
Sunday 4th December Offertory: €1,000. Second collection next weekend for Christmas Dues.

Sincerest thanks for all you contribute to support the life and missions of our parish!



Special Intentions for Holy Mass

Toovahera
Saturday 17th 5.00pm
Missa Pro Populo - Mass for all the people of the parish

Kilshanny
Saturday 17th 7.00pm
Jack Nestor, Carrowkeal (A)
Willie Nestor, Ballyalla (A)
Gussie, Cissie and Barney Doherty, Caherkinalla (A)

Doolin
Sunday 18th 10.00am
Paddy Donoghue, Ballyvoe (A)
Michael Donoghue, Lurragha (A)
Sunday 25th 10.00am
Lala Shannon (A)

LISDOONVARNA
Sunday 18th 11.30am
Nonie Howley, Ballytigue (A)
Bridie Sammon, Rooska (A)
Paul Davoren, Glasha (A)
Anna Ryan, Bog Road (A)
Baby Seán Kelly, St. Brendan's Road (A)
John Petty, St. Brendan's Road (RIP)
Monday 19th 7.00pm

Jeremiah and Delia Griffin, deceased of family, Ballyvara (A)
Paddy and Molly Fitzgerald, deceased of family (A)
John and Bridget Donnellan, deceased of family, O'Callaghan's Mills (A)
Thursday 22nd 7.00pm
All parishioners who died in the past year
Michael and Anna Drony, deceased of family, Knockagulla (A)
Gus and Bridget Drony (A)

Saturday 24th 5.00pm
Maureen Petty, Loretto (A)
Sheila Tilly (née Petty) (A)
Jerry, Nancy and Cathryn O'Brien, Waterford. (A)
Midnight Mass 12.00
Micko Callaghan, Knockagulla (A)
Sunday 25th 11.30am
Tom Shannon, Gortaclob, Doolin. (A)
Catherine O'Callaghan, Ballinahuan (A)

✠
Please pray for
Sister Camillus O'Lughlin
Convent of Mercy, Ballina, and late of Cullane House, who passed away last Sunday.

Special Prayer Intentions this week...

The Pope's General Intention for December: That all peoples may grow in harmony and peace through mutual understanding and respect.

The Pope's Missionary Intention for December: That children and young people may be messengers of the Gospel and that they may be respected and preserved from all violence and exploitation.

Our parish's intention for this week: That the Lord might help us to open our hearts this Christmas to the lonely, the poor, and the broken-hearted, that they would experience through us the love of the Christ-child.

Father Conor's intention for this week: That all parishioners would be kept safe on the roads over Christmas, and that drivers will have concern for themselves and for the lives of others.

From the Pastor's Desk...

a chairde,

The Word of God this Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Advent, prepares us to make a home in our hearts for Jesus. In the first reading we hear how King David was inspired to prepare a worthy dwelling place for God so that God could come among his people to heal and liberate them. In the Gospel, and in the example of Mary, we are taught that the only home worthy of God is the human heart and soul which is created in his image. Mary's pure, humble, lovingly expansive 'Yes' to God's will is how we are called to bring the Lord into our lives and into the lives of those around us. Let God's will always be done in us and through us. Let our hearts be a Bethlehem of love to welcome him.

We welcome today families who are spiritually preparing for First Holy Communion Day in 2012. This Sunday is the first of this year's occasional 'Do This In Memory' Sundays where our worshipping community gets involved with preparing and encouraging the families of the First Holy Communion group for 2012. Please give these families a specially kind word of care and welcome today. *(The scripture readings in Lisdoonvarna, Kilshanny and Doolin this weekend will be the simpler versions from the Lectionary for Masses with Children, not the versions here overleaf.)*

The Sacrament of Confession is the very best spiritual preparation for a real Christmas. Christ cannot be born in us afresh if we do not clear our souls to receive him. In this parish there are extra times for confession this coming week. Parents of children who have made their First Holy Communion are asked to help their children grow spiritually by bringing them to Church for this sacrament. We only have one priest so please try not to leave your Christmas confession until the last minute! ☺

Special Prayer Requests: Please pray for our young parishioner Thomas Dowling of Doolin who was seriously injured in a road accident in the UK early on Friday morning. Also pray for Simeon, a newborn boy of our parish, who is very ill and facing serious surgery in the next few days. May the parents, family and friends of both Kieron and Simeon know the Lord's closeness, comfort and strength, and may their surgeons' and carers' hands and hearts be blessed.

Parish Christmas Cards, with prayers and blessings and a special and sincere invitation for all who have not been practicing the faith are now available at the back of the Church after Mass this weekend. May I suggest that you take a few and use them to offer a kind, non-judgemental, and cheerfully warm welcome to friends, family or neighbours to consider returning to the faith this Christmas? Perhaps you would even offer to accompany them to Mass if they are not comfortable returning by themselves? Christmas is a special time when Christ stretches out his arms again to welcome everyone back to new life with him.

The Christmas Dues Collection takes place at all of the Masses of Christmas next week. The dues are of vital importance in aiding the fund from which your priest's pre-tax monthly stipend of €1492 is paid. Surplus balances are sent to the bishop for retired and sick priests. I am very grateful for your support through these special collections at Christmas and Easter.



St. Enda's National School 'Story of Christmas'. The children of Lisdoonvarna School will perform the 'Story of Christmas' with Christmas Carols in the Church of *Corpus Christi*, Lisdoonvarna on Wednesday 21st December at 7.00pm. Everybody is welcome to come along and enjoy!

The Faith and Light Community will have a gathering with Christmas Mass this Sunday 18th December at 3.00pm in the Community Room in Lisdoonvarna Church. Afterwards our super Christmas party will take place in Lynch's Hotel Lisdoonvarna. Absolutely everyone is invited - please come and join in our festive fun!

Christmas Eve Mass for Children. A celebration of the Vigil Mass of the Nativity of the Lord especially for children of Lisdoonvarna, Kilshanny, Doolin and Toovahera will take place in Lisdoonvarna Church on Christmas Eve at 5.00pm. Friends and cousins from far and wide are invited too of course! There will be special scripture readings for children, a prayerful sing-along of the sacred carols, and a Christmas homily for children and big-kids alike. All babies - including the recently baptized - and young children - especially those who will make their First Holy Communion or Confirmation in the coming new year - will be the guests of special honour.

Gathering for practice and planning for the Christmas Mass for Children. Plenty of volunteers are needed to make this celebration really special. If you'd like to help by playing a musical instrument, or sing, or do a reading or lead a prayer, welcome people, help serve some treats afterwards, or help in some other way, please come along to 11.30 Mass this Sunday 18th December in Lisdoonvarna.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated this Monday 19th December at 7.00pm in Lisdoonvarna Church. There are many in our parish carrying heavy crosses: serious illness in body and mind; difficult ongoing medical treatments; or the burden of advanced years. All these are warmly invited to receive Christ's closeness and supportive strength through the Holy Spirit present in power through the laying on of hands and the holy anointing. May the Lord give to all who share his cross the help of his strong shoulder and his deepest blessings at Christmas and always.

Remembering our Beloved Departed at Christmas. The beautiful season of Christmas is a time to rediscover the joy and blessing of family and close friends. It can therefore be an exceptionally difficult time for all who have recently lost a loved one. As a sign that their local Church has not forgotten them, and that we continue to reach out to them in love by praying for their souls - and as a sign of our love for those who grieve them and are broken-hearted - there will be a Mass of remembrance, ongoing love, and prayers of intercession for parishioners whose funerals have taken place here over the past year on Thursday 22nd December at 7.00pm. All are welcome.

First Friday Pastoral Visits this week. The January visits to the unwell, elderly and homebound will not take place in early January, but will be replaced by a special Christmas visit for the sacraments of confession, anointing and Holy Communion later this week on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd of December. My hope is that the grace of these sacraments close to Christmas will bring the peace of Bethlehem to those who cannot join us for Christmas Mass.

Wishing you all a blessed and rewarding last few steps towards a spiritual nativity, and relying on your prayers and assuring you of mine,

Community and Sport Announcements...

Dig In For Doolin! A Tidy Town Group has been started in Doolin. The aim of the group is to enhance the uniqueness of Doolin village and to ignite the spirit of community in all individuals, organisations, and clubs in an effort to make Doolin village a better place to live, work and visit. As it is a community based project they endeavour to create a working-together attitude, all ideas are very welcome. To help do your village proud, contact Lorraine Fitzpatrick 086 2136416, or Teresa Shannon 087 9970872, or Anne Hughes 086 2491594.

Kilmurry Ibrickane/North Clare Athletic Club. Training sessions for athletes are cancelled for the Christmas season, and will recommence at the North Clare Sport and Amenity Park, Lisdoonvarna on Tuesday 10th January from 7.00pm to 8.00pm for all juvenile athletes U/6's to U/19's in the North Clare Area. If interested please attend. Info from James Sexton on 087 247 2623. The club wishes all our local athletes and supporters a very happy Christmas!

The Burren Cycling Club is holding the **2011 Burren Charity Challenge** (a 5/10km walk, or timed 10km race, or 42km cycle, plus a Duathlon with a 42k cycle and a 6k run), in aid of Doolin Rescue and Billy Riordan at 1.00pm on Tuesday 27th December. Registration is from 11.00am at Monks Pub Ballyvaughan, and full event information and sponsorship cards are available from the website www.burrencyclingclub.com



CHRISTMAS

III THE PARISH OF
LISDOONVARNA & KILSHANNY

MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER

Lisdoonvarna, Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.00pm to 6.50pm
Lisdoonvarna, Mass with Anointing of the Sick, 7.00pm

TUESDAY 20TH DECEMBER

Lisdoonvarna, Mass, 10.00am
Lisdoonvarna, Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 10.30am to 12.00 noon

THURSDAY 22ND DECEMBER

Lisdoonvarna, Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.00pm to 6.50pm
Lisdoonvarna, Mass for Recently Deceased of our Parish, 7.00pm

FRIDAY 23RD DECEMBER

Lisdoonvarna, Mass, 10.00am
Lisdoonvarna, Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 10.30am to 12.00 noon

SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS EVE

Lisdoonvarna, Christmas Eve Mass for Children, 5.00pm
Kilshanny, Confessions, 6.00pm - 6.45pm
Kilshanny, Vigil Mass of the Nativity of the Lord, 7.00pm
Doolin, Confessions, 6.00pm - 6.45pm
Doolin, Vigil Mass of the Nativity of the Lord, 7.00pm
Lisdoonvarna, Confessions, 11.00pm - 11.30pm
Lisdoonvarna, Christmas Carols by Candlelight, 11.30pm
Lisdoonvarna, Midnight Mass of the Nativity of the Lord, 12.00 Midnight

SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS DAY

Toovahera, Mass of the Nativity of the Lord, 10.00am
Doolin, Mass of the Nativity of the Lord, 10.00am
Lisdoonvarna, Christmas Carols, 11.00am
Lisdoonvarna, Mass of the Nativity of the Lord, 11.30am

MONDAY 26TH DECEMBER TO WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY
Regular parish schedule continues

FRIDAY 6TH JANUARY - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
Thursday 5th
Kilshanny, Vigil Mass of the Epiphany of the Lord, 7.00pm
Friday 6th
Lisdoonvarna, Mass of the Epiphany of the Lord, 11.30am
Doolin, Mass of the Epiphany of the Lord, 7.00pm

Find us on
Facebook

Parish of Lisdoonvarna and Kilshanny

The Parish Facebook Page can be found at 'Parish of Lisdoonvarna and Kilshanny'. Relatives and friends abroad might be glad to keep in touch in that way if you let them know! The newsletter can also be downloaded from www.lisdoon.ie

Have you community news to share?
All suggestions for inclusion in the parish newsletter, items of a community-building, sporting, voluntary, and non-commercial nature, should be sent to news@lisdoon.ie before deadline of 6.00pm on Wednesdays.

