



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

Christmas Day, 25th December 2011

Special Intentions for Holy Mass



Toovahera

Saturday 31st 5.00pm

Jack and Mick O'Loughlin, Cahermene (A)
Jack Moylan, Ballycanoe (A)

Kilshanny

Saturday 24th 7.00pm

Missa Pro Populo - Mass for all the people of the parish

Doolin

Saturday 24th 7.00pm

Missa Pro Populo - Mass for all the people of the parish

Sunday 25th 10.00am

Lala Shannon (A)

LISDOONVARNA

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 (A)

Catherine O'Callaghan, Ballinahon (A)

Monday 26th 7.00pm

Tom and Judy McKeen, Avondale (A)
Seamus McGillicuddy and Dan O'Brien (RIP)

Tuesday 27th 10.00am

Vincent Gibbons and deceased of family (A)

Sunday 1st 11.30am

Mary-Ann Connolly, Burren Flora (A)

Pap Fitzpatrick, Doolin Road (A)

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 we would all celebrate the birth of Jesus with real faith, hope and love.

Father Conon's intention for this week: That all the children of our parish would know the true joy of Christmas, knowing that they are loved by God with an infinite love.

Feasts this week...

Monday 26th - St. Stephen
Tuesday 27th - St. John the Apostle
Wednesday 28th - The Holy Innocents
Friday 30th - The Holy Family

From the Pastor's Desk...

a chairde,

The Word of God, this holy Feast of the Lord's Nativity, calls us to be humble, loving and trustful enough to allow ourselves to be found by Christ and to be brought 'home'.

Christmas is a time for coming home. All over the world families that have been separated by work, worries and hurts make a special effort to put time and tasks and grudges aside to come home. Isn't it amazing that in spite of the commercialisation of Christmas that people still know deep down in their hearts that the birth of our Saviour in Bethlehem is an occasion to be celebrated with loved ones in unity and peace?

Our Parish of Lisdoonvarna and Kilshanny is also a family. Together we are sons and daughters of God the Father, sisters and brothers of the Lord Jesus and bound together by the love of the Holy Spirit. I guess that some among us here for the Christmas Liturgies may have been away from Church for some time, but now you have decided to come 'home' for Christmas. Whatever kept you away - whether it was hurt, anger or shame caused by scandals or bad leadership, or Catholic beliefs that are widely misunderstood and nonpopulist in the secular culture, or that you felt unloved by the Church, or just plain old busyness, distraction or spiritual laziness - you were sorely missed and no-one judges you. It's great to have you back where you belong at Christmas and we warmly welcome you. You are unique and vital to the Church, the Lord Jesus loves you and invites you afresh to be part of his great 'called-together', the Church.

Your parish too loves you and needs you. Your parish is the local part of Christ's body that rejoiced at your birth and baptism, that prepared you for communion and confirmation, and that prays for you every week at Mass. Your parish will probably one day hand you back to God with sorrow in our hearts and a mountain of prayer to accompany you and to help you towards heaven.

In the meantime the parish needs your particular talents, your active participation, your prayers and your practical support. Most of all we need to have you with us at the Eucharist every Sunday.

May the Lord Jesus grant you deep peace and inner joy this Christmas as he seeks to be reborn in your heart. May this Christmas see the beginning of a new personal relationship with him for us all as we celebrate the great mysteries of Christmas and Easter at every Holy Mass of every Sunday throughout the year.

Welcome home. If I can help you in any way to continue on this spiritual journey into deeper communion with Christ's Church please contact me anytime.

I rely on your prayers and assure you of mine. A truly blessed happy and whole Christmas to you and to all your loved ones!



Conor

Parish Announcements...

The 'Christmas Dues' Collection

takes place as a second collection after Holy Communion at all of the Masses of Christmas this weekend.



The 'dues' are of vital importance in forming the fund from which your priest's diocesan standardised pre-tax monthly stipend of €1492 is paid. Surplus balances are sent to the bishop for retired and sick priests. Special envelopes are available at the back of the Church for this collection. Please use the pens provided to fill in your details so that your generosity can be properly honoured and recorded. This sign of your support for your parish, and for your priest's ministry, is deeply appreciated.

Carol singing before Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses:

Before each of our Christmas Masses in the Church of Corpus Christi, Lisdoonvarna, the Midnight Mass of the Nativity of the Lord on the 24th at midnight, and the Mass of the Nativity of the Lord on the 25th at 11.30am, Christmas Carols will be sung. Donations to the choir would be gratefully received in aid of Stella Maris Day Care Centre for the senior citizens.

Celebrating all babies baptised in our parish over the past year.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord takes place on Sunday 8th January. All families in the parish who had a baby baptised during the past year are invited to be our special guests of honour at 11.30pm Mass in Lisdoonvarna on that day. Our worshipping community want to celebrate our joy at your baby's safe arrival and the baptism that made them God's children. We will bless and pray for your family and offer each of you a little gift as a sign of our support for you in the promise you made to pass on a living, joyful and life-giving faith to your little Christian. A community gathering with refreshments will follow Mass. Please come, and please invite your wider network of family and friends too!



The Parish Calendar for 2012 is available at the church door this weekend free of charge. Please take one for your home. It announces the important dates in the life of our parish in the coming year: First Communion, Confirmation, Cemetery Prayers etc.

Community and Sport Announcements...

The 'People of the Year' Awards will take place at the Pavilion, Lisdoonvarna, on the evening of Friday 30th December. The awards are a night of celebration in recognition of the many people of the Parish of Lisdoonvarna, Doolin and Kilshanny who donate their time to various community groups or have achieved substantial rewards in sporting and personal endeavours.

There will be eight award categories on the night: Senior Citizen of the Year, Young Person of the Year, Senior Sports Person of the Year, Junior Sports Person of the Year, Team of the Year, Community Awards, Hall of Fame Award and Parish Person of the Year.

While the Awards Night is primarily about recognising the great achievements of the individuals it will also be a night for the community to come together for this social event and help raise funds towards the reduction of the outstanding debt on the facilities at the North Clare Sports and Amenity Park.

Tickets are €10 and are available throughout the parish - from members of the fundraising committee, Lisdoonvarna Fáilte, Jordan's Supermarket, Lisdoonvarna, and Mac's DayBreak, Doolin. Tickets include a buffet, and live music followed by a disco. Please come along and support your local community. For further information, contact AM PM Promotions at 087 9577761.



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 this way! The newsletter can also be downloaded from www.lisdoon.ie

Have you community news to share?

All suggestions for inclusion in the parish newsletter can be sent to news@lisdoon.ie before 6.00pm Wednesdays.



Christmas Carols...

Please join with our choirs in singing these well-loved songs of Christmas.



Adeste fideles,
laeti triumphantes;
venite, venite in Bethlehem;
natum videte regem angelorum:
Venite adoremus, Dominum!

Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,
gestant puellae viscera:
Deum verum,
genitum, non factum:

Cantet nunc io
Chorus angelorum;
cantet nunc aula caelestium:
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Hark, the herald angels sing,
glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled;
joyful all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies,
with the angelic host proclaim.
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark, the herald angels sing,
glory to the new-born King!

Christ, by highest heav'n adored.
Christ, the ever lasting Lord.
Late in time behold him come.
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see.
Hail th'incarnate deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hark the herald angels sing,
Glory to the new born King!

Hail the heaven-born
Prince of peace!
Hail the Son of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings
risen with healing in his wings;
mild he lays his glory by;
born that we no more may die,
born to give us second birth.

Away in a manger,

no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus
laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing,
the baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus
no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus,
look down from the sky,
And stay by my bedside
till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,
I ask you to stay
close by me forever
and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven
to live with thee there.

The first Nowell
the angel did say
was to certain poor
shepherds
in fields as they lay:
in fields where they lay
keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night
that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel!

The looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued
both day and night.

And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came
from country afar,
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star
wherever it went.

This star drew nigh
to the north-west,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest.
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

See, amid the winter's snow
Born for us on earth below.
See the tender Lamb appears
Promised from eternal years!

Lo, within a manger lies,
He who built the starry skies,
He who throned in height sublime,
Sits amid the Cherubim.

Hail, thou ever blessed morn!
Hail, Redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem:
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Sacred infant, all divine,
What a tender love was thine
Thus to come from highest bliss,
Down to such a world as this.

Hail, thou ever blessed morn!
Hail, Redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem:
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright,
round yon virgin mother
and child;
holy infant so tender and mild;
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia:
Christ, the Saviour is born!

