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Parish of Murhaun

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The Nativity of The Lord (Christmas Day) 25th December 2022

Mon 5 p.m. (Convent) Patrick & Florrie Sheerin and deceased family.

Tue 12 noon. (Convent) Pat & Mai Beirne.

Wed 12 noon (Convent) Betty and Paddy McManus.

Thu 11 a.m. (Convent)

Fri. 7.00 p.m. (Convent) John Joe & Kathleen Mulvey, daughter Kathleen, son Noel.

Sat 10.00 a.m (Convent)

Sat 7.00 p.m (Church) Paddy Clarke (Month's Memory)

Sun 9.00 a.m (Convent) Pro Populo.

Sun 11.30 a.m. (Church) Sonny, Peggy, & Mary Mattimoe & deceased Mattimoe and Mullaney & Nangle families.

Eucharistic Ministers for next weekend: Group C

Ministers of the Word: Sat 7.00 p.m. :

Aidan, Ailise & Romy Dowler & Ciara McManus.

Sunday 11.30 a.m: Arlene Beirne & Adam Krupa **Convent:** Group C

Community Text Alert including Community Defibrillator : Church Gate collection this weekend 24th & 25th December. Recently there was need to use the defibrillator in town with a successful outcome. Your support is greatly appreciated for this worthy cause.

Drumshanbo Bingo: Next Monday @ 3 p.m. Community Centre.

An Tostal Monster Christmas Drive In Bingo Tues 27th December @ 3pm Mart car park Drumshanbo .



I love the photograph on the front of our Parish Magazine this year. I love our two placid swans of serenity but above all I love the picture of the bridge, our Blueway bridge that spans the two covers. As a teenager in the 60's I loved Simon and Garfunkel, "The Sound of Silence" but especially "Bridge Over Troubled Waters".

"When you are weary , feeling small, when tears are in your eyes, I will dry them all.

I'm on your side, when times get rough and friends just cant be found like a bridge over troubled waters..."

I always read those lovely lines as the lyric of God's Song in Jesus. I can think of no better image for "The Miracle of Bethlehem" than The Bridge.

Jesus came to build a bridge, to be that bridge between us and God our Father and between us and people of every colour, creed and country and so making all the people of the world our brothers and sisters.

I was never more aware than this Christmas of the pain that is conflict. We see it etched in the faces of our friends from Ukraine We see that same conflict at family level and between neighbours and between our affluent world and a world of want, hunger, and terrible famine. We need as never before to build bridges.

Jesus became a bridge of hope and forgiveness and reconciliation. A bridge, like Jesus, literally allows us to walk on water.

There is a saying; *"that is a bridge too far"* but in the lovely Face of Jesus there is no bridge too far. Every bridge is a connection, a reaching out, a bridge of hope connecting us with each other and with Our Father.

This is the Joy and the Promise of the Angels to the Shepherds of Bethlehem, a Joy to be shared by all people all over the world.

We are all family, *"Don't be a stranger"*.

When you walk the Blueway in the quiet days after Christmas and see the prayer of serenity that is the swans, remember you too can be the bridge of hope. There is no bridge too far. You too can walk on water. (Fr. Frankie)

