



Saturday 9th Jan 7.00 p.m. Michael Casserly
 Sunday 10th Jan 9.00 a.m. Pro Populo.
 Sunday 10th Jan 11.30 a.m. Peter, Michael Tom & Elizabeth Dolan.

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The Baptism of the Lord.

Mon. 9.00 a.m. (Convent) Peggy Carpenter
 Tue. 7.00 p.m. (Convent) Mike Joe & Bridge Brogan.
 Wed 9.00 a.m. (Convent)
 Wed 7.00 p.m. (Parish Church) Denise Elliott
 Thu. 9.00 a.m. (Convent)
 Fri. 9.00 a.m. (Convent)
 Fri 7.00 p.m. (Parish Church) Hugh & Bridget McGovern.
 Sat. 10.00 a.m. (Convent) Michael McDonagh
 Sat 7.00 p.m. (Parish Church) Peggy McTigue
 Sun 9.00 a.m. (Convent) Pro Populo
 Sun 11.30 a.m. (Parish Church) John Fitzgerald.

Recently Deceased: We remember in our prayers Maureen Mulvey, Cornashamsogue and Chicago and Noel Kiernan, London and Aughavas, brother to Mary Logan, who both passed away during the week. May they now have come home for good in the house of God's kindness forever. Amen.

Age Action's Getting Started KIT programme : provides free remote tutoring to older people to use the internet on their device. Please see the following link for further information or contact me : <https://www.ageaction.ie/how-we-can-help/getting-started-kit>. Oisín 091 527831

Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme 2020/2021: Leitrim County Council invites Applications for the Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme Application Forms available from www.leitrimcoco.ie or at 071 9620005 Ext. No. 617. E-mail – roads@leitrimcoco.ie.

Despite all the sadness of 2020, empty Churches and restricted movement, the life of our people continues to be the heartbeat of our Parish. We laid to rest 21 of our parish family last year in a year that made it so much more difficult for the bereaved families. We ask God to continue to bring them comfort and strength.

Not surprisingly we had only the one Wedding in our Church of David and Sinead. My heart goes out to all the couples who have to change or postpone their plans for the special day of their lives. We welcomed 19 children for baptism and this beautiful gift for their parents and for all of us is our greatest reason for hope and belief in the future.

Thank you all who join us each week via webcam for Mass. It a great support for me personally. I hope for each one who gathers to pray with each other and for each other it continues to remind us all that although our Church is empty we are not alone.

Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering "it will be happier"

A.L. Tennyson.

Hope and Prayer for 2021

Acres Lake is frozen this week. I watched the swans walk uncertainty on it . It reminded me of ourselves as we set out on this New Year walking tentatively sometimes nervously on the frozen lake of the future, afraid of that thin ice that is the Covid virus.

"Everyone is a bit scared"

said the horse

"but we are less scared together"

Many things in our world, Climate Change, Human Trafficking and World Poverty, we feel helpless to change. The thing is with the present pandemic, the experts tell us again and again , **it is in our own hands**. What I do today, tomorrow and in the coming week is what will make all the difference and is already flattening the curve ever so slightly.

We can do it. We will do it together, encouraging, helping, praying and inspiring each other to walk on the ice of our present fears, scrupulously staying away from that thin ice of social gatherings, negativity and despair and personal irresponsibility.

We have done it before, because we have done it together. We are a team of the world. Our greatest strength is our faith in, our hope for, and most of all our courageous love that sacrifices meeting and coming together as families.

This is not like last March. We now have the vaccines. We have great hope. We have extraordinary brave and caring medical people, scientists and leaders who have had many sleepless nights and haunted dreams as they fight this virus on our behalf.

Many people have suffered; no one more than the bereaved families of those who have died. To honour their memory, to celebrate that their life, death and suffering has not been in vain, let us begin again with renewed determination to flatten that curve to defeat this enemy of Covid—19 and to be free at last from this present fear and forever.

Our greatest hope is in our belief in the One born in Bethlehem , who is the Son of God and our Light in all darkness.

"Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever"

(Fr. Frankie)