



NEWSLETTER *THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B*

DONORE PARISH WITH DULEEK PARISH

PARISHES OF THE DULEEK DEANERY

Fr. Mark English Adm.

Fr. Declan Kelly C.C.

Fr. Francis Musoke A.P.

Parochial House

Duleek

Co. Meath



SCAN ME

Email: duleekparish@gmail.com www.donorerossnareeparish.com

17TH DECEMBER 2023

Caroline Doyle

The Parish Office

C/o Parochial House

Duleek

Tel: 041-9823205

Tuesday – Thursday 10am-5pm

MASS INTENTIONS

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LADY, DONORE

Sunday 11am Patrick & Rita McLoone; Rosaleen Sheerin.

Tuesday 9am William, Ita & Frank Gibney; Betty Somerville *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

Wednesday 9am Missa pro populo

Thursday 9am Thomas & Ita Knight; Anne Walker.

Friday 9am Missa pro populo

Sunday 11am Missa pro populo.

Christmas Eve 8pm *Missa pro populo (Mass for the people)*

Christmas Day 11am *Missa pro populo (Mass for the people)*

St Stephen's Day *No Mass (10am in Duleek)*

Communion Calls for Christmas

Fr. Mark will visit the sick and housebound in Donore this Tuesday 19th December

Confessions for Christmas in St. Cianán's Duleek Saturday 23rd Dec. 12-1pm and 6-7pm

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LADY, ROSSNAREE

Saturday 6:30pm Tom, Kathleen, & Sr Patricia Everard; John & Fiona Martin & dec Martin & Reilly families; Maisie & Pat McGauran; Peter, Margaret, John & Anne McDermott ; Paddy Shiels ; Mary Tully.

Saturday 6:30pm Margaret Holt; Joe & Agnes McWeeney; Joe Jnr, Bernard & Liam McWeeney; Dec Murphy & Pentony families.

Christmas Eve 6pm *Missa pro populo (Mass for the people)*

MASS OFFERTORY COLLECTION (Basket Collection): € 387
PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND (Weekly Envelopes): € 413
Donore Fund Account:
IBAN IE38 AIBK 9320 9446 7323 44



If you have no cash you can just scan your phone over this QR code to contribute to the basket collection.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Lotto: 11, 18, 20, 25 No Jackpot winner
Consolation prizes €25 Smasher & Frankie Gogarty
Voucher winner Pat Fogarty
Next week's jackpot €3,720.

VESTMENTS FOR MASS If anyone would like to make a donation for the purchase of new vestments, linen cloths, etc. it is always appreciated, as over time such items are purchased for the liturgical celebrations in our churches. Thanks to parishioners who assist our sacristans with the laundering and preparing things for our weekly liturgies.

PARISH INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C YE 2022 Today we publish the Income & Expenditure for the parish for Year End 2022. Please see attached Statement with this weeks newsletter. May thanks to everyone again for your continued support.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
Helpline 1800 677 777 or
Contact 087-0931068

ACCORD

For Marriage Preparation Courses or for marriage and relationship counselling www.accord.ie

CHILD SAFEGUARDING

See the church notice boards and diocesan website

VOCATIONS

Ever think about becoming a priest for the Diocese of Meath? Contact Fr. Mark



LAST WEEK OF ADVENT During this week amid all the Christmas excitement at home, in school and at work take time to ponder the real reason for Christmas – that God came to reconcile humanity with their God! Christ Jesus came among us to free us from our sins; to show us a way of mercy, of unconditional love, of healing and grace! How much the world needs this gift of God! How perhaps may I or my family need this precious gift of Jesus! Next weekend you are welcome to seek the grace of this Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is not necessary about saying anything, as God knows all, but humbly receiving the merciful love of God who unconditionally pardons our sins and rejoices in our being renewed in His abundant grace! *Let's stop what we are doing and be reconciled with God and one another! Please encourage family and friends to come back to God with all their hearts as we prepare for Christmas.*

Confessions for Christmas in St. Cianán's Duleek Saturday 23rd Dec. 12-1pm & 6-7pm

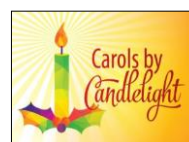
On Christmas Eve gather the family for prayer at the family crib, then light a candle or use the “safer battery one” and place it in the window or porch of the house as a sign of welcome to Our Lady & St. Joseph and a symbol of hospitality to those in need in our world of Christmas 2023.



BABY JESUS IN THE CRIB As we bring the figure of the Baby Jesus from our family cribs for a blessing at our Masses, let us focus on the reality of how Jesus was born in a stable! As we do so let us count our blessings for the comforts we have in the place we call home! Let us also remember in our thoughts and prayers those who have no such comforts in so many parts of our world this Christmas Season, especially in the land where Jesus, Saviour of the World was born!

JESSE TREE Thanks to the children who took the time to make brilliant symbols for the Jesse Tress which has helped us all to understand better the family tree of Jesus. It is interesting to realise the background to the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem and to comprehend that his ancestors weren't so perfect but lived lives marked with sin and wrong doing no different to any of us or our families. Yet as God worked His divine plan through them, He continues to do so through us with his abundant grace and mercy. *“Prepare you a way for the Lord”*.

Pope Francis' reflection at the Angelus, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, St. Peter's Square 8th December 2023 Dear brothers and sisters, Today, the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the Gospel presents us with the scene of the Annunciation. It demonstrates two of Mary's attitudes that help us understand how she may have guarded the unique gift she received – a heart completely free from sin. These two attitudes are *amazement* regarding the works of God and *fidelity* in the simple things. Let's look at the first: *amazement*. The Angel says to Mary, “Rejoice, full of grace: the Lord is with you”. And the Evangelist Luke notes that the Virgin “was greatly troubled...and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be”. She remains surprised, struck, troubled: she is amazed when she hears herself called “full of grace” – Our Lady is humble – that is, filled with God's love. This is a very noble attitude: to be amazed before the Lord's gifts, never taking them for granted, appreciating their value, rejoicing in the trust and tenderness they bring with them. And it is also important to demonstrate this amazement before others, speaking humbly about God's gifts, about the good received, and not only about daily problems. To be more positive. We can ask ourselves: Do I know how to be amazed regarding God's works? Does it happen at times that I am filled with wonder and share it with someone? Or am I always focused on the bad things, sad things? And now the second attitude: *fidelity in simple things*. Prior to the Annunciation, the Gospel says nothing about Mary. She is presented as a simple girl, apparently equal to so many others who were living in her village. A young girl who, precisely because of her simplicity, kept pure that Immaculate Heart with which, by God's grace, she had been conceived. And this too is important, for to welcome God's great gifts, it is necessary to know how to treasure those that are more everyday and less apparent. It is precisely with her *daily fidelity in goodness* that Our Lady allowed God's gift to grow within her. This is how she trained herself to respond to the Lord, to say “yes” to him with her entire life. So, let us ask ourselves: Do I believe that fidelity to God is important both in everyday situations as well as in my spiritual journey? And if I believe this, do I find the time to read the Gospel, to pray, to participate in the Eucharist and to receive Sacramental forgiveness, to perform some tangible act of disinterested service? These are the small everyday choices, choices necessary to welcome the Lord's presence. May Mary Immaculate help us be amazed at God's gifts and respond to them with faithful generosity each day.



CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT takes place in St. Theresé's, Bellewstown Sunday 17th December at 7pm. An evening of sacred music and reflection to lead us to the celebration of Christmas.

