

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday December 17th 2017

Advent is a time of waiting,
conversion and of hope.

MASS INTENTIONS for the week ahead:

Sat Vigil: Tommy O'Reilly, Kathleen

McDonagh, Eileen Daly.

Sun 9am: Nancy Smith

Sun 11.30am: Jim, Nellie & James Smyth,

Angela Haran, Elliot Grace

Thurs 9.30am: Christine Grall

Sat 10am: Con Kelly

Sat Vigil: Annie Gavigan

Sun 11.30am: Molly & Martin Doherty &

Dec'd family.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Mass on Mon at 8am, Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri at 9.30am, Sat at 10am.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD for next weekends' Masses are: Vigil (Dec 23rd) Teresa Doherty 11.30am (Dec 24th) Jim Brogan

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST for next weekends' Masses are: Vigil (Dec 23rd) Deirdre Mc Anarney, Madeline Bracken. 11.30am: (Dec 24th) Frances Walsh, Kathleen Nee, Rose Leavy, Paul Farrell & Don O'Doherty.

COLLECTIONS: Athboy €1225, (includes Holyday) Rathmore €140, Rathcairn €175. Many thanks.

ADORATION OF BLESSED

SACRAMENT: commencing after morning Mass on Friday and continuing throughout the day until late.

FEASTDAYS in the week ahead:

Mon Dec 18th – St Flannan

Wed Dec 20th – St Fachanan

Thurs Dec 21st – St Peter Canisius SJ

Sat Dec 23rd – St John of Kanty

REST IN PEACE: Your prayers are requested for Cornelius O'Riordan, Dublin (Veronica O'Reilly's father) and Darren Rogers, Kells (Kathleen Cumiskey's nephew).

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAMME continues at all Masses in the parish this weekend. We welcome the children who are preparing for their Confirmation together with their families. Candidates are invited to participate in the Offertory procession and offer the Prayers of the Faithful at Masses until Christmas. Confirmation will be celebrated in Athboy on Friday Feb 23rd at 3pm.

CHRISTMAS BINGO in aid of Church funds takes place today Sunday December 17th at 3pm in the Darnley Lodge Hotel. Raffle tickets are now on sale.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE takes place on Mon Dec 18th at 7.30pm with a number of visiting priests available for Confession.

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES: Masses on Christmas Eve at 7pm & 10pm. On Christmas Day Masses are at 9am in Rathmore, 10.15am in Rathcairn and 11.30am in Athboy.

CHRISTMAS TRIDUUM OF MASSES takes place this year on Dec 26th, 27th & 28th December at 11am. Triduum cards are available from the Parochial House and from the sacristy after all Masses.

INTRODUCTION TO THE ICON OF THE HOLY FAMILY for the World Meeting of Families: Pope Francis encourages families to look or gaze at the icon of the Holy Family. Why? The word icon means an image. But it is more than a picture or photograph. When we read the bible with reverence we are not just reading words, we already are praying. It is the same with an icon. When we look on it with reverence – when we "gaze" on it- we are praying. God is speaking to us through the images and we are responding. A copy of the icon will be distributed at the Christmas Masses.

LMFM will record the Vigil Mass on Saturday Dec 30th for broadcast on Sunday December 31st.

BAPTISMAL MEETING: The next baptismal meeting for parents who wish to have their babies' baptised takes place on Monday January 8th 2018 at 8pm in the Parochial House. Please enrol in advance to the Parochial House.

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FREE 5 WEEK BASIC laptop, iPhone, iPad, Smart phone or Tablet classes available in all areas. If you would like to book a place please phone Angela on 046 9280790 – Meath Partnership.

Learning our Prayers – Preparing for Confirmation

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus, I love and adore you,

You're a special friend to me.

Welcome, Lord Jesus, O welcome!

Thank you, Lord Jesus, O thank you

For giving yourself to me.

Make me strong to show your love
wherever I may be.

I'm ready now, Lord Jesus,

to show how much I care.

I'm ready now to give your love

at home and everywhere.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay
close by me for ever, and love me I pray.

Bless all of us children in your loving care
and bring us to heaven to live with there.