

MASS INTENTIONS for the week ahead:

Sat Vigil: Annie Gavigan

Sun 11.30am: Molly & Martin Doherty & Dec'd Family

Christmas Eve 7pm: Jim & Mary Foy

Christmas Eve 10pm: Billy & May Bryan

Christmas Day 11.30am: Bernard &

Margaret & Mary Monaghan

Tues 26th / Wed 27th / Thurs 28th 11am:

Triduum of Masses

Fri 11am: Thomas Maguire

Sat Vigil: Dec'd Holland Family Members

Sun 11.30am: John Carolan.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri at 11am, Sat at 10am.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD for next weekends' Masses are: Vigil (Dec 30th) Anne Leavy 11.30am (Dec 31st) L/E Bird

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST for next weekends' Masses are: Vigil (Dec 30th) Mary Holland, Elizabeth Gough, Paul Doherty & Clive Doherty. 11.30am: (Dec 31st) Catherine Mc Elhinney, Tony Barry & Tom Sheridan

COLLECTIONS: Athboy €1010, Rathmore €155, Rathcairn €245. Many thanks.

ADORATION OF BLESSED

SACRAMENT: commencing after 11am Mass on Friday and continuing throughout the day until late.

FEASTDAYS in the week ahead:

Mon Dec 25th – The Nativity of the Lord

Tues Dec 26th – St Stephen, first martyr

Wed Dec 27th – St John, apostle and evangelist

Thurs Dec 28th – The Holy Innocents

Fri Dec 29th – St Thomas a Becket

REST IN PEACE: Your prayers are requested for Carmel Smyth, Dublin wife of the late Peter, Rathmore and Ollie Mc Donnell, Lislogher who died in England.

WELCOME: We welcome with great joy our newly baptised – Luke Bailey and Aoibheann Conaty. Many congratulations to their parents and godparents also.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Sunday December 24th 2017****Advent is a time of waiting,
conversion and of hope.****CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

CHRISTMAS EVE: Mass in Athboy 7pm & 10pm

CHRISTMAS DAY: Mass in Rathmore at 9am, in Rathcairn at 10.15am, in Athboy at 11.30am.

Dec 26th, 27th & 28th Triduum of Masses at 11am

SUNDAY Dec 31st: The Feast of the Holy Family
Masses at the usual Sunday times

MONDAY JANUARY 1st 2018: The Feast of Mary, Mother of God
World Day of Prayer for Peace
Mass at 11am.

SATURDAY JANUARY 6th: The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord
Mass (Vigil) Friday at 7.30pm, Mass at 11.30am.

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.

OFFERING DAY: Christmas Day is an offering day for the support of the priests of the parish.

RADIO RECORDINGS: LMFM will record the Vigil Mass on Saturday Dec 30th for broadcast on Sunday December 31st. RADIO NA GAELTACHTA will broadcast the 10.15am Mass from Rathcairn on Sunday January 7th – the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

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.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAMME concludes this weekend. We thank all the children, their parents and teachers who have participated in our preparation programme. The Commitment ceremony for Confirmation will take place on Sunday January 14th at all Masses. Confirmation will be celebrated in Athboy on Friday Feb 23rd at 3pm.

WALK OFF THOSE MINCE PIES! The N51 Trekkers are hosting a 5KM charity walk/run on Saturday December 30th in aid of SVP and Special Hands. Starting at 1pm from the Convent Community Centre, with registration at 12.15pm. €10 per person or €20 for a family of 4.

We wish all our parishioners a Happy and Holy Christmas.

*This Christmas and throughout the New Year, may the Lord bless you,
May the Lord keep you. May he show his face to you and give you His Peace.*