

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Sunday December 10th 2017

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

#### MASS INTENTIONS for the week ahead:

Sat Vigil: Eugene & Lillie Sheridan, Laurence & Annie Cusack, Mary Fagan.

Sun 9am: Ellen & Edward Wallace

Sun 11.30am: John & Rose Sullivan, Maureen Doherty & Dec'd Feeney Family Members, Lilly O'Brien

Mon 8am: Jim Devine

Tues 7.30pm: Patrick, Marjorie & Kevin Mc Guinness

Wed 9.30am: Jerry Renehan

Thurs 7.30pm: Christy & Nancy Tuite & William Vickers.

Sat 10am: Irene Colgan

Sat Vigil: Tommy O'Reilly, Kathleen

McDonagh, Eileen Daly.

Sun 9am: Nancy Smith

Sun 11.30am: Jim, Nellie & James Smyth, Angela Haran, Elliot Grace

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** Mass on Mon at 8am, Tues & Thurs at 7.30pm, Wed & Fri 9.30am, Sat at 10am.

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD** for next weekends' Masses are: Vigil (Dec 16th) Ita McGuigan 11.30am (Dec 17th) Nancy Dardis

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST** for next weekends' Masses are: Vigil (Dec 16th) Jacinta Farrell, Mary Kearney & Siobhan Kelly 11.30am: (Dec 17th) Rita Ennis, Mary Finnegan, Jackie Leavy, Robert Gath & Anne Leavy.

**COLLECTIONS:** Athboy €735, Rathmore €130, Rathcairn €225. Thank you.

#### ADORATION OF BLESSED

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

#### FEASTDAYS in the week ahead:

Mon Dec 11<sup>th</sup> – St Damasus I

Tues Dec 12<sup>th</sup> – Our Lady of Guadalupe, St Jane Frances de Chantal, St Finnian

Wed Dec 13<sup>th</sup> – St Lucy

Thurs Dec 14<sup>th</sup> – St John of the Cross

**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 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3pm.

**THE ANNUAL ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH GATE COLLECTION** takes place this weekend at all Masses.

**OUR PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE** takes place on Saturday Dec 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in St. James' Church, Athboy. Nine choirs will participate in this event including all the church choirs, school choirs and the Community Gospel Choir. The programme includes a great variety of Christmas carols, and seasonal music as well as prayer and scripture readings. Everyone welcome.

**CHRISTMAS BINGO** in aid of Church funds takes place on Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> at 3pm in the Darnley Hotel. Raffle tickets are now on sale.

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

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE** takes place on Mon Dec 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.

**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.

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

**ATHBOY MEN'S SHED:** Retired: Want something to do: Drop in to the Men's Shed Wednesday morning 10am – 12.30pm Convent Community Centre, Kildalkey Rd.

**ATHBOY ACTIVE RETIREMENT GROUP:** Last meeting of 2017 to take place on Wed Dec 13<sup>th</sup> 2-5pm. Kurling and Boccia on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2.30-5pm in St. James' Hall.

**CHARITY TABLE QUIZ** in the Sadler's Well on Fri Dec 15<sup>th</sup> at 9pm. €40 Table of 4. It is a fundraiser in aid of Athboy native and Maynooth student Ciaran Murray who heads to Fiji in July 2018 to do community and charity work.

**THE BLUE JEAN COUNTRY FESTIVAL** and Meath Macra na Feirme are hosting their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "A Night at the Oscars" on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018. The organizers are now accepting applications from community groups around Athboy who would be interested in taking part and creating their own 5-minute masterpiece. Entries cost €50 and assistance in production is available. Contact [bluejeanfest@gmail.com](mailto:bluejeanfest@gmail.com) or 087 215 4729 or find us on Facebook.

**SANTY IS COMING.....** to Pairc Pobal Rathcairn Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Dec at 5pm. Admission €5 Live crib. Refreshments.

#### Learning our Prayers – Preparing for Confirmation

The Angelus

V. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit

Hail Mary .....

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word

Hail Mary.....

V. And the Word was made flesh.

R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary.....

V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ.

Lord, fill our hearts with love, and as you revealed to us by an angel the coming of your Son as man, so lead us through his suffering and death to the glory of his resurrection, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

