Tr. Ber Hogan

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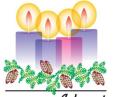






Drumlish & Ballinamuck Parish Newsletter





The hinge of history is on the door of a Bethlehem stable.

- Ralph W. Sockman



4th Sunday of Advent Year B —24th December 2023

Mass Intentions

Drumlish

Sun 11am: McCormack/Cosgrove/Black Dfm 8.30 pm: Christmas Eve Mass: Peter Wallace

Mon 11.00: Christmas Day Mass: John Davis

Sun 11.00: Rita Crowe

Ballinamuck

Sun 9.30: Misa Pro Populo

7pm: Christmas Eve Vigil Mon 9.30: Christmas Day Mass

Fri 7.00: Babs/Tommy Joe McLoughlin & Dfm

Note: Mass streamed Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10 a.m. Friday & Saturday 8 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m.

Ministries for Next Week

Drumlish

Word of God Sat Aaron Smith

Sun Sr. Kathleen Duffy

Communion Sat Kathleen McNally Sun Mary Gillooley

Ballinamuck

Word of God Sun Helen McKenna Communion Sun Olive Donnelly



Offertory €1092, Dues €1803, Heating €15. Thank you for your financial support. You can also support using electronic transfer if it is more convenient. Bank details are:

Account Name: Drumlish Church

BIC: AIBKIE2D:

IBAN: IE 15 AIBK 9321 4006 6850 07

Please write <u>your name</u> on your docket when making a transfer because Box numbers change from year to year. Thank you for your support.





- Drumlish Senior Citizens Christmas party will take place in the Olde Village Inn on Sunday January 07th 2024 at 4pm. Everyone welcome.
- Fr Manning Gaels annual table Quiz will take place on Thursday night December 28th 2023 in Quinns Bar Drumlish at 9pm. Table of 4 is €40 and prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. There will also be a raffle on the Night and all proceeds from the night will be going to our minor club St. Vincent's. All support is greatly appreciated.
- Mohill Computer Training at the Mohill Enterprise Centre is now accepting registrations for its part-time 4-week QQI Level 4 Spreadsheet course, starting Monday, 8th January 2024. Register now by calling (071) 9632024 or emailing feargalodonaile@msletb.ie
- Vincent de Paul have left envelopes at the entrance to the Church for those who wish to support the wonderful work they do in helping out those who are finding it difficult to meet their needs, especially at this time. Please support.
- Fr Manning Gaels are holding a St Stephen's day walk/run in aid of St Christophers Longford for all the family. It will leave Monaduff at 12pm on December 26th. Refreshments served afterwards in the clubhouse. Donations on the day. All welcome.
- Drumlish Library will close for Christmas and will reopen on January 4th 2024 at 10 a.m. A very happy Christmas to you all.

Arrangements for Christmas

Vigil Masses for Christmas will take place on Sunday 24th in Ballinamuck at 7 p.m. and in Drumlish at 8.30 p.m. Masses on Christmas Day in Ballinamuck at 9.30 a.m. & Drumlish at 11 a.m. Note: No 9.30 Mass in Drumlish on Christmas Day

Copies of the Irish Catholic are available weekly inside front door St. Mary's Church, Drumlish.

Christmas Message from Bishop Paul Connell



We speak a great deal in Advent about the coming of the light. – as Isaiah puts it – for your light has come, the glory of the Lord has come upon you. What light? The light that has made itself visible in the flesh, in this tiny infant in the crib. We are attracted by the same

light that enveloped the shepherds and was the guide for the Magi on their journey. This is the light that was in the world from the beginning and by which the world was made. The message of Christmas as St John puts it – the true light which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. And elsewhere in St John - I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life. The feast of Christmas is full of Christian hope, the light will overcome the darkness in our lives.

And as we ponder on this message at this Christmas time we are all too conscious of how at times we feel surrounded by darkness. There is so much war and destruction in our world, in Ukraine, in Yemen, in Sudan, in Burma and especially in Gaza, the very heart of the Holy Land. Truly we are witnessing yet again the slaughter of the innocents. So much evil. And then there is the darkness in our own lives, the darkness of addiction of various kinds, the threat to human life at its beginning and now mooted for the end of life, the misery of loneliness and the hatred that comes from racism, misunderstanding and ignorance. So much darkness that we can feel overwhelmed. But the message of Christmas is a beacon of hope, the light will always overcome the darkness. Evil will not prevail. The Lord is near, have no fear. This Christmas we are invited yet again to welcome Jesus, the light of truth, hope and love into our lives. Let us make him this Christmas the Lord of our life and let us commit ourselves once again to walking the journey of life with Him.

Offertory Envelopes 2024



Offertory Envelopes for 2024, beginning on 7th January, are now available and will be distributed over the next week or so. If you don't receive a packet and would like to

support the Parish and clergy please contact 0868243422. Sincere thanks to the 'volunteers' who helped to distribute the packets.

Due to not being used and deaths, envelopes are updated each year and may result in your number being changed yearly. Deep appreciation for your generous and unflinching support.



Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and every blessing in the new year. Thank you for being part of our faith family. A special welcome to all who are home with family and those who may have drifted apart for different reasons and those who are joining us after the Covid –19 fall off. I invite you to experience the deep love of God in a more personal way and also to experience the blessings and support of our faith community which misses you when you are absent. In the words of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, may the infant Jesus "caress us with His tiny hands, embrace us with His tiny arms."

