

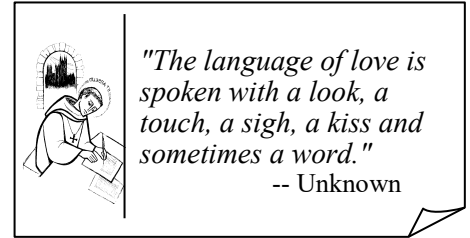
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Parish Newsletter

Drumlish & Ballinamuck



Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A—18th December 2016

Mass Intentions—St. Mary's Drumlish

Sat 8.00: Philomena Gray
Brady Dfm, Moyne
Sun 11.00: Maureen Courtney, Drumlish Hill
James/Mary Dunleavy, Cartron
Mon 9.30: Misa Pro Populo
Fri 8.00: John/Agnes/James/Joseph Kenny & Dfm
Michael/John/Bridgie Cronin
Sat 8.00: George/Anny/Peggy Mallon, Kilmahon
Patrick Gordon & McNeill/Gordon Dfm
Peter Wallace, Church View Drive
Sun 9.30: Christmas Day
11.00: John Davis

Mass Intentions—St. Patrick's Ballinamuck

Sun 10.00: No Intention
Mon 7.00: Babs/Tommy Joe McLoughlin
Sat 9.00 pm: Brian/Marilyn McDermott, Gaigue
Sun 10.00: Patrick Ginty, Kiltycreevagh

Ministries—St. Mary's Drumlish

Readers Sat: Billy Kelleher
Sun: Annette Kane
Communion Sat: Irene McNally
Sun: Sr. Kathleen Duffy

Ministries—St. Patrick's Ballinamuck

Readers Sat: Adrian Lennon
Sun: Ryan Forde
Communion Sat: Mary Breslin
Sun: Kieran Duffy

Offertory Collections

Drumlish €1119, Heating €86; Ballinamuck €557
Priests Dues €145. Thank you.

Death

Pray for the repose of the soul of Irene Collum,
Lettergullion whose funeral took place during the
week. May she rest in peace



- **Ballinamuck Childrens' Christmas Party** will take place in the 98 Hall on Sunday 18th Dec from 3 to 5 pm. Lots of fun for all children on the day and of course Santa will be there to meet everyone. Admission optional.
- **Drumlish Cemetery Fund Christmas Draw:** winners of the draw were: Darragh Quinn, Bernard Quinn, Mary Hagan and Shawnagh Linnane. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who supported the draw.
- **Longford County Choir** present their annual Christmas Celebration Concert at St. Mel's Cathedral, Longford on Sunday evening the 18th December 7.30 pm. Tickets are € 10 and can be obtained from any choir member or at the door.
- **Drumlish Senior citizens Christmas party** is on January 8th in the Old Village Inn. 4 o'clock starting time. All welcome.
- **Bingo every Tuesday** night in 98 Hall at 8.30pm. Extra prizes for Christmas will be given on each page with a luxury hamper this Tuesday 20th. There will be **no bingo** on Tue 27th. We would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas & thank you for your support during the year.
- **98 Hall Committee** would like to inform everyone we now have the facility of a wheelchair accessible toilet.

St. Vincent de Paul



Those who have brought envelopes for the St. Vincent de Paul Collection should drop them in the offertory basket and they will be forwarded to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Thank you.

When people begin to ignore human dignity it will not be long before they will begin to ignore human rights

G. K. Chesterton

Christmas Arrangements

- Vigil Mass in Drumlish on Saturday night at 8 p.m. and in Ballinamuck at 9 p.m. Masses on Christmas Day in Drumlish at 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. and in Ballinamuck at 10 a.m.
- Confessions for Christmas follow the now familiar pattern of a short communal preparation followed by each penitent making his/her confession to one of the number of priests attending.
Ennybegs & Cullyfad—Monday at 7.30 p.m.
Newtownforbes—Tuesday at 7.00 p.m.
Drumlish—Wednesday at 7.30 p.m.
I ask all penitents to come for the short preparation and wait for the prayer of thanksgiving afterwards. All told the whole service shouldn't take more than 20 minutes. It is also an opportunity to pray for family, especially family members who are away from home.

Envelopes for 2017

Envelopes for the new year 2017 are now available. Please take your packet and that of your neighbour, if you know that they pray elsewhere. Contributing through the envelope system has an extra benefit for the parish because the parish, as a charitable institution, can reclaim tax on your contribution, provided your total for the year reaches €250 or more. The envelope system is necessary for a paper trail and as evidence that you have contributed. Note also that your number may change from year to year. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Introduction of Ministry of Parish Catechist and of Permanent Deacons

- ✠ Further information on the Ministry of Parish Catechist is available from Fr Nigel Charles, Boherquill, Lismacaffrey, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath. 043 6685847, Email: nigelcharles2003@yahoo.co.uk
- ✠ Further information on the Order of Deacon is available from Fr Aidan Ryan, Ballinahown, Athlone, Co. Westmeath. 090 643 0124. Email: aidanfryan@eircom.net
- ✠ Also at the following website: www.vocations.ie

The Gospel Tree

There once was a shining Christmas tree
Standing out where all could see.
Its brilliance captured every eye
And seemed to cheer each passer by.

"The lights are so bright," they would say
And hesitate to walk away.
The tree stood proud ablaze with light
For every light was burning bright.

Then one bulb was heard to say
"I'm tired of burning night and day;
I think I'll just go out and take a rest
For I'm too tired to do my best;

Besides I am so very small
I doubt if I'd be missed at all."
Then a child lovingly touched the light,
"Look, mother, this one shines so very bright.

I think of all the lights upon the tree
This one looks the best to me."
"Oh my goodness," said the light
"I almost dimmed right out of sight.

I thought perhaps no one would care
If I failed to shine my share."
With that a glorious brilliance came
For every light had felt the same.

Our Gospel, like this Christmas tree,
With little lights which are you and me,
We each have a space that we must fill
With love, and lessons and good will.

Let's keep our tree ablaze with light,
With testimonies burning bright.
For our Gospel is a living tree
That lights the way to eternity.