

KILCOCK AND NEWTOWN PARISH BULLETIN

CHRISTMAS 2020

PARISH DIARY

Christmas Collection for Priests of the Parish will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Please use envelope in Development Box or take a white envelope from back of the Church. Many thanks for your continuing support.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to lockdown, all masses after Christmas will be via Webcam. Any mass intentions for weekend masses will be prayed for at 6pm Sat. & 12 noon Sun. Masses, which can be viewed on the webcam – www.kilcockandnewtownparish.ie.

A WORD OF GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION

No one ever imagined 2020 would be the year we have been through. At times we wondered and asked ourselves what was happening through this pandemic period? Where are we? Where are we heading towards? Will there be any solution or an end for it? These are the natural human thoughts hounding us as we head towards 2021. Perhaps the whole message of Christmas could be an answer to all our apprehensions. Because Christmas brings us Joy, Peace, Love and Hope. These gifts are given to us freely regardless of one's rank and state. Our good Lord stoops down to us where we are. Therefore, we Christians live in hope and peace amidst of all the uncertainties.

It is with great joy we acknowledge the goodness and the hard work of so many in different ways bringing life to our Parish. We sincerely thank our Sacristans, Secretaries, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Collectors and Counters, Stewards, Altar Servers, Organists, Choirs, Cantors and those who are involved in sacramental preparation, all those who help out with the day to day maintenance of the churches, grounds and hall, Lotto committee, helpers and Promoters and our Parish shop team, Principals, teachers and boards of management going an extra mile.

With immense joy and gratitude, we acknowledge all the members who willingly came forward to support our new project of Parish Centre. We also thank you, our Parishioners, for your great generosity and constant support during Covid-19, particularly we remember those whom we lost during this time. We look forward ministering with you in the coming year. May this Holy Season bring abundant blessings your way. We wish and pray that this coming new year, 2021 may bring new direction, every blessing, peace, happiness and prosperity to you all.

Fr. John & Fr. George

CHRISTMAS 2020

“Behold, I bring you news of great joy. Today a saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.” This is the message that was given by angels to the shepherds.

Today this marvelous message is announced to us. Let up open our hearts to receive the ‘great joy’. Christ is the ‘great joy’.

*Lord Jesus, you reveal to us the mystery of God's unconditional love for us. Lord, have mercy.
You reveal to us the mystery of our dignity as children of God. Christ, have mercy.
You reveal to us the splendor of our eternal destiny.
Lord, have mercy.*

In our times Christmas has become very commercialised. However, this mustn't blind us to the true meaning of Christmas. When thick smoke rises up, catches in your throat, and brings tears to your eyes, it is because a fire has been lit. At the coming of Christ, a fire was lit on our earth, a fire that will never die. At this fire, we experience the warmth of God's love, and the glow of human fellowship. Let us not be afraid to come in out of the cold and warm ourselves at this fire.

One of the greatest gifts you can give to anyone is the gift of your attention.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Due to COVID and number restrictions in our Churches, we are going to add an additional number of Christmas Masses to facilitate you, our Parishioners.

Masses in St. Coca's:

Christmas Eve

12 noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 7.30pm & 9pm

Christmas Day

8am, 9.30am, 11am & 12.30pm

Masses in Church of the Nativity, Newtown:

Christmas Eve

5pm & 7pm

Christmas Day

9am & 10.30am

We are NOT issuing tickets for our Masses on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day. We are, however, limited to the numbers we can have in the Church. Your safety is our main concern at all Masses so please respect and be guided by our Church Stewards.

PARISH LOTTO – Tue, 22nd Dec. 2020

Lotto Nos. 14 – 27 – 30 – 33

NO Winner

Next Jackpot: €12,200

(3x€50) Winners: Tom & Claire Simms, Dara Malone, Liam & Mary Gaffney.

Promoters (2x€50): Anne Devine, Peggy Cassidy.

Vouchers (3x€25): Margaret Nolan, Liz Durkan, Mary Forde.

Yearly/half-yearly lotto tickets make ideal gifts for any occasion.

Live life as a joyful contribution.

And once the storm is over, you won't remember how you made it through. How you managed to survive. You won't even be sure whether the storm is really over. But one thing is certain. When you come out of the storm, you won't be the same person who walked in. That's what the storm is all about.

Haruki Marakami

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

*The gifts I'd leave beneath your tree,
aren't those that you can touch or see,
not wrapped in Christmas tissue gay
but gifts to bless you every day.
The gift of friendship warm and true,
is one that I would leave for you.
Good health and happiness and cheer
to keep you smiling throughout the year.
The gift of peace that comes from God,
with prayer to guide each path you trod,
and when your heart has lost its song
the gift of hope to cheer you on.*

Life is a series of natural and spontaneous changes. Don't resist them – that only creates sorrow. Let reality be reality. Let things flow naturally forward in whatever way they like.

MASSES FOR THE FORTNIGHT 26 DEC 2020 TO 10 JAN 2021

St. Coca's, Kilcock

Sat, 26 th Dec	12 noon	St. Stephen's Day Bernard O'Shea (Anniv)	
	6pm		
Sun, 27 th Dec	9am		
	10.30am		
	12 noon	Rosie Cummins, Gragadder (8 th Anniv) & remembering her sons Michael & Dick Patrick Richardson (Anniv)	
Mon, 28 th Dec	10am	Shared Mass for the Living	<i>NO Adoration</i>
Tue, 29 th Dec	10am	Shared Mass for the Deceased	
Wed, 30 th Dec	10am	Ciara O'Brien, Branganstown (Christmas Remembrance) Pat McLoughlin & deceased family members (Christmas Remembrance) John Bermingham & deceased family members (Christmas Remembrance) Catherine & William Travers, The Mount (Anniv) Patrick Jennings, Grange (Anniv)	
Thu, 31st Dec	10am	New Year's Eve Ray Murray, Courtown Park (9 th Anniv) Christy Noonan, Highfield Park (20 th Anniv)	
Fri, 1st Jan	10am	New Year's Day	
Sat, 2 nd Jan	6pm	Billy Doyle, Highfield Park (Anniv)	
Sun, 3 rd Jan	12 noon	Eileen Speight, Village Green (M.M.)	
Mon, 4 th Jan	10am	Shared Mass for the Living	
Tue, 5 th Jan	10am	Shared Mass for the Deceased	
Wed, 6 th Jan	10am	Feast of the Epiphany Deceased members of the Kelly & Gorman families, Kilbrook	
Thu, 7 th Jan	10am	Tony Farrell (Recently Deceased)	
Fri, 8 th Jan	10am		
Sat, 9 th Jan	6pm	Eamonn Richardson (4 th Anniv) & remembering his dad, Gerry	
Sun, 10 th Jan	12 noon	Gwen Leavy, Parklands (Anniv) Kathleen Gannon, Courtown Road (Anniv) & remembering her husband William & daughters Maura & Eileen & great-grandson Adam. Jim Mallon, Hortland (Anniv) & Anna Behan & remembering all deceased members of the Mallon, Behan & Hopkins families	

Kilcock & Newtown Parish Development Fund: 20th Dec. 2020: €1,195.00; Offertory Collection: €752.00. Thanks to all who contributed, collected and counted. **Kilcock & Newtown Benevolent Fund:** A/C 4475: Kilcock Credit Union. All donations welcome!