

DOORA BAREFIELD PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mass Times

Church of Our Lady, Roslevan	
Daily Mass Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri	9.30am
Saturday Vigil Mass	6pm
St. Breacan's Church, Doora	
Sunday	9.45am
Immaculate Conception, Barefield	
Sunday	11.15am
Tuesday	9.30am



Contacts

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Opening Hours:
Mon & Tues: 9am-5pm; Wed: 9am-1pm
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<http://www.facebook.com/doorabarefieldparish>.

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B) 24th December 2023

So Happy Christmas!

The moment has arrived after a prolonged lead-in, Christmas has arrived!! The Pogues' song 'Fairytale Of New York' has been aired countless times these past few weeks -

**'So Happy Christmas
I Love you baby.
I can see a better time
When all our dreams come true.'**

We all have dreams both whilst asleep and awake!!! We share dreams with one another and sometimes they come true. The lyrics of 'Fairytale of New York' wish each one a Happy Christmas, shares an expression of love, holds out for better times ahead and even tells us that dreams come true.

The dream shared by Mary and Joseph comes true at the birth of their child, Jesus. Their dream stayed alive even within unimaginable circumstances. Beginning with Mary explaining the visit of the Angel Gabriel, Joseph receiving his role in a dream, acceptance of each other and then the upheaval. Having to travel to Joseph's homeplace for the census meant that a heavily pregnant Mary had to endure much discomfort and then the social rejection of no place to stay in Bethlehem. But the welcome to stay, do we call it in a cave or a shed, meant that the new born baby was welcomed by Mary, Joseph and the shepherds who really were at the bottom rung of society. But the dream came true.

**'Glory to God in the highest heavens,
And peace to people who enjoy his favour.'**

Christmas is a dream come true. The birth of a child brings so much into a family. Life is never the same again with the arrival of the new born. Never does this hold so true as when Jesus Christ is born. A dream comes true. The dream shared by the angel Gabriel with Mary comes true!!

*'Mary, do not be afraid;
you have won God's favour.
Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son,
and you must name him Jesus.
He will be great and will be called
Son of the Most High.'*

**'So Happy Christmas!
I Love you baby.
I can see a better time
When all our dreams come true.'**



Priest on Duty: 24th December , 2023
Contact Fr. Tom Ryan Tel. 065 6869098

Remembered in Masses this week
CHURCH OF OUR LADY
ROSLEVAN

23rd Dec: Mary Cabey, Lios Ard, Tulla Rd.
 Vincent Gardner, Roslevan.

24th Dec: 6pm: Earnan Barron, Newpark.

30th Dec: Mary & Noel Murphy, Dublin & Ennis.

ST. BRECAN'S CHURCH, DOORA

24th Dec: 9pm John & Teresa Carolan, Spencilhill.

31st Dec: No intention booked.

Church of the Immaculate
Conception, Barefield

24th Dec: 7.30pm: Peggy & Dan Murray, Killarney.

31st Dec: Johnny Cunningham, Drumconora.

Margaret Quinn & Aoife Loughnane, Ballycarroll.

9.30am Mass each Tuesday in Barefield Church.

Novena Mass in Church of Our Lady each Monday 9.30am

Finance Development Fund

17th December

Barefield: €165

Doora: €172

Church of Our Lady: €146

Development: €2,641



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Sunday: St. Brecans, Doora: 9.45am
 Immaculate Conception, Barefield: 11.15am

Christmas Eve Vigil Masses

Church of Our Lady, Roslevan 6pm
 Immaculate Conception, Barefield 7.30pm
 St. Brecan's, Doora 9pm

Christmas Day Masses

Church of Our Lady, Roslevan 9am
 St. Brecan's, Doora 10am
 Immaculate Conception, Barefield: 11.15pm



Ministers of Eucharist
& Readers



Church of Our Lady:

24th Vigil TBohannon/MOCallaghan/KMorris

Joe Dilleen

25th TBohannon/MOCallaghan/KMorris

Bridget Hoey

Immaculate Conception, Barefield

24th NKennedy/LCorcoran

Michael Clohessy

24th Vigil CLeamy/MDowling

David Culligan

25th MWhyte/JDevitt

Bernard Casey

St. Brecan's, Doora

24th Martha Neylon

Patricia Clune

25th Owen O'Mahony

Mary Corry

Next week:

COur Lady: TBohannon/MOCallaghan/KMorris

Bridget Hoey

Doora: Mary Barry

Patricia Clune

Barefield: MRowland/MHassett

Nuala Galvin

Doora Sacristan Rota

24th Dec: Owen O'Mahony

31st Dec: Mary Hallinan.

Church of Our Lady Basket Collector

23rd/30th Dec: Michael Williams & Paul Mockler

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO DAILY MASS ON THURSDAY & FRIDAY 28th & 29th DECEMBER.

PLEASE NOTE

Our Parish Calendar is now available for collection in the porches of our Church.

Please also take for family, neighbours and friends.

With best wishes.

PRIESTS' CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Priests' Christmas Collection takes place on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day in our parish. This is one of four collections in the year for our priests. Envelope in parish donation box or now available in porches of our three churches.

You can also donate on line on



www.doorabarefieldparish.ie/donate using the Priests' Collections tab or by scanning the QR code.

Many thanks to all for your continued generosity to our parish.

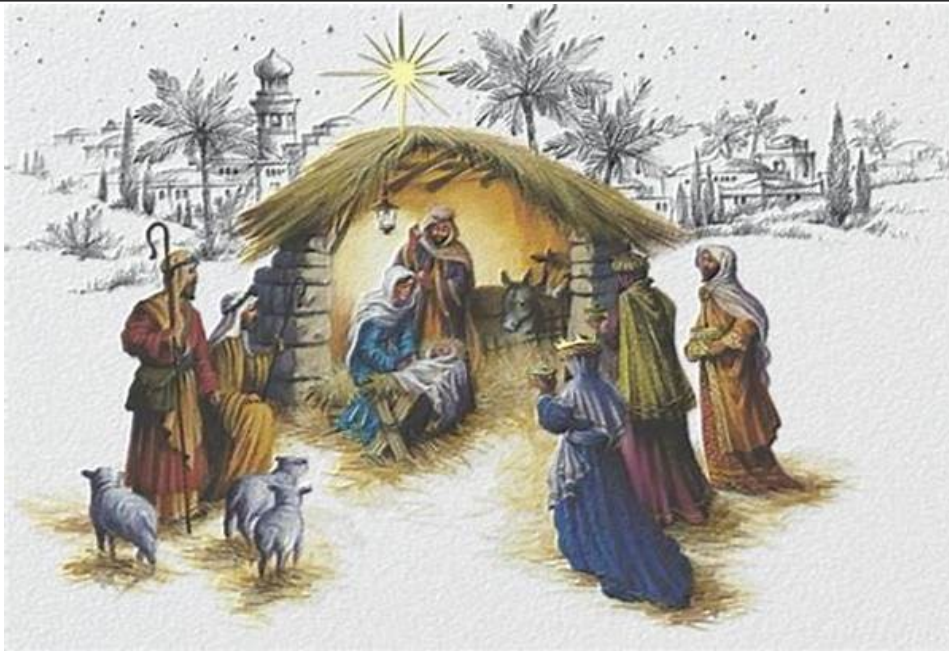
Our Thanks Joan & Tom O'Connor for the gift of the Christmas Tree for Church of Our Lady, Roslevan.

Parish Office Christmas Holidays

The Parish Office will close on Wednesday 20th Dec. at 12pm and will re-open on Tuesday 2nd January at 9am.

If urgent, kindly contact the Priest on duty Tel. 065 686 9098.





Emmanuel - God with us

Christmas 2023 is upon us and what a joy it brings; the joy of being together, grandparents, parents, children and grandchildren, all sharing, giving, and receiving. It is important that we take time out to celebrate what we have and to give thanks for those who are dear to us. We live in the sure and certain hope that when we gaze on the light of Christ, the Son of God, the star of Bethlehem, all our dreams will come true.

The true spirit of Christmas must always remain with us because it speaks to us of love and peace, forgiveness and reconciliation, sharing richness and bearing burdens. The human heart needs Christmas. Indeed, the human mind would probably have created it had he not come. But isn't it great! He has come! He, the Son of God, in the person of an infant Child, came to a cold, dark stable to satisfy the needs of the human heart and to draw us all to the brightness and warmth of his Father's home. And so we celebrate, we give thanks, we share. We thank Jesus, for lighting up our Christmases, for giving warmth to our homes, for bringing us together as a family to celebrate. Stay with us, Lord Jesus, always!

May every home in our parish experience the joy of Christ's coming among us and may that joy be shared with all the members of our families, especially with those who come home for Christmas. May the light of Christ shine in your hearts and home and may the warmth of His love heal any wounds or hurts. May those of your dear ones who cannot make it home for Christmas hear from us a word of love and an assurance of prayer. We will keep those who are grieving the loss of a loved one this Christmas very much in our thoughts and prayers. Be assured that the merciful love of the Infant of Bethlehem envelopes your dear ones in an embrace of peace. We remember too all of you who are sick and in the hospital. May you experience the love of Jesus as your dear ones visit you over the Christmas period.

And so as we enter the Christmas period may we discover the surprises that God's love has in store for us and the warmth of his welcome. May those blessed days allow us to see the love of God shining through the windowed hearts of all of God's people. The message of Christmas is one of Hope and a better way. The one who lays in the crib also knows the pain of the cross. He is Emmanuel, God with us. He welcomes us. May we welcome Him.

In a few weeks from now the decorations will come down and we will pull the plug on the Christmas lights. The toys will be forgotten - but the light and love of Jesus Christ will continue to brighten our pathway as we enter a New Year, confident that He will make all things new and fulfil our desires.

A Happy and Blessed Christmas to all of you and every blessing and good wish for 2024.

Jon Fitzpatrick

*Nollaig shona daoibh go léir
agus
Athbhliain faoi mhaise*



Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

**Drop down dew from above,
you heavens, and let the clouds rain
down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a
Saviour.**

PENITENTIAL RITE

P. Have mercy on us, O Lord

C. For we have sinned against you.

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

C. And grant us your salvation.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

C. Amen.

A reading from the second book of Samuel 2Sm 7:1-5.8-12.14.16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response:

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all the ages my mouth
will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love
lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established
as the heaven. **R**

'I have made a covenant
with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' **R**

He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure. **R**

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans Rom 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans every where to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the handmaid of the Lord:

let what you have said be done to me.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. Lk 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the

Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not
made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came
down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and be-
came man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in
accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at
the right hand of the Father. He will come
again in glory to judge the living and the
dead and his kingdom will have no end. I
believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver
of life, who proceeds from the Father and
the Son, who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified, who has spoken
through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic
Church. I confess one Baptism for the for-
giveness of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead and the life of the
world to come. Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive
and bear a son'

And his name will be called Emmanuel.