

RATHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

A Happy and Grace filled Christmas to you all.

May the humility of the Shepherds, the perseverance of the Wise Men,
the Joy of the Angels,
and the peace of the Christ Child,
be God's Gift to you and yours this Christmas time and always.
Happy and safe celebrations.



WEEKEND MASSES FOR SAT. DECEMBER 23rd & SUN. DECEMBER 24th (4th Sunday of Advent)

RATHMORE	Sat	23rd	6.00pm	<u>MULTI-INTENTIONAL MASS</u> Tim & Nell Reen, Moulagow
KNOCKNAGREE	Sat	23rd	7.30pm	<u>MULTI-INTENTIONAL MASS</u> Nellie & Timmie Twomey, Umeraboy Richard & Michael Murphy, Shanballa
SHRONE	Sun	24th	9.00am	Donors Intention
GNEEVEGUILLA	Sun	24th	10.00am	Frank Sanderson, Liverpool Nora & Tim Cronin, l/o Chertsey, England, Goulane & Annaghbeg
RATHMORE	Sun	24th	<u>PLEASE NOTE NO 11.30AM MASS</u>	

CHRISTMAS EVE, CHRISTMAS DAY & ST. STEPHEN'S DAY

CHRISTMAS EVE	Sun. 24th	RATHMORE	7.00 pm	Mass	
(Special welcome to all children who will be going to bed early for Santa's visit.)					
		KNOCKNAGREE	7.30 pm	Mass	
		GNEEVEGUILLA	8.30 pm	Mass	
CHRISTMAS DAY	Mon. 25th	SHRONE	9.00 am	Mass	
		GNEEVEGUILLA	10.00 am	Mass	
		KNOCKNAGREE	11.00 am	Mass	
		RATHMORE	11.30 am	Mass	
ST. STEPHEN'S DAY	Tues 26th	RATHMORE	11.00 am	Mass	George & Elizabeth O'Keeffe, their daughter Eileen & son Con, West End Tim & Kathleen Collins, Gneeveguilla Village

Rathmore

Wed 27th	7.30pm	Tommy Kelleher l/o Star Bar, Rathmore Deceased of Kelleher family, Star Bar Joe Kelleher, Scrahanaveal Denny Cronin, Quarry Cross (2nd Anniv.)
Fri. 29th	7.30pm	Johnny Kelly, Ard Mhuire (1st Anniv.)
Sat 30th	6.00pm	Denis O'Sullivan, Knocknaloman Andrew & Elizabeth Sheahan, Nohovaldaly
Sun 31st	11.30am	Shared Christmas Mass Intentions

Gneeveguilla

Sun 31st 10.00am Donors Intention

Knocknagree

Thurs 28th 9.30am Donors Intention

Sat 30th 7.30pm Donors Intention

Shrone

Sun 31st 9.00am Donal O'Donoghue, Brú na Sinsear & Shronemore



Jesus is the reason for the season



Fr. Tom Leane P.P. (087)2300565 is the priest on duty on this SUNDAY for emergency and sick calls

Fr. Pat O'Donnell P.P. 086 8351732

CHILD PROTECTION REPRESENTATIVES

Han Donnelly 0871249461 (Gneeveguilla) Margaret McGrath (089)4182683 (Rathmore)
Ber Murphy 087 6468620 (Shrone) Betty Moynihan 087 6186091(Knocknagree)

PARISH OFFICE-064 7761669: Opening hours: Closed during Christmas Re-opening Thursday 28th Dec. 4-7pm Friday 29th 11am to 2pm COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER: Resumes weekend 6th/7th Jan. Email correspondence relating to the Community Newsletter to communitynewsletter@rathmoreparish.ie or telephone Janice 064 7758219

PRAYERS & SYMPATHY: To Mary Brosnan, Lacka on the death of her sister **Nellie Noonan**, Broadford & I/o Ballydesmond and sympathy also to her sister-in-law Noreen Collins, Knocknagree. Her funeral took place during the week in Broadford. To Gerard Murphy, Corran and also to his brothers and sisters on the death of their mother **Joan Murphy** whose funeral took place on Friday in Rathmore. May **Nellie and Joan** rest in peace and may all who mourn their loss be comforted.

ANNIVERSARY: Please remember in your prayers, Peter Leader, Tureenglanahoe, whose anniversary occurs on Christmas Day and also his wife Peggy R.I.P.



The Holy Rosary is being recited before all weekend Masses in each church in the parish. We thank those who are on rotas in each church for agreeing to lead the rosary. It will commence 20 minutes before Mass. "The Rosary will cause virtue and good works to flourish" (Promise of Our Lady)

FR. PAT WRITES OUR CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Dear Parishioners & Friends of Rathmore Parish

Christmas and the Family

"A crib is silent, nothing moves. But even as we allow ourselves to be drawn into its silence, it speaks to our hearts. It takes time for a crib to address us. Clearly the crib speaks to us of that peace which the world cannot give, and which is at the heart of the Christmas message. The very stillness of the crib breathes a peace that can still the anxieties and cares of our hearts, and draw us upwards towards a new vision of ourselves enveloped by the love of the God who came to us as a baby"



Being drawn into the heart of the Holy Family, our thoughts invariably turn to our own family, and longing for the togetherness that is part of the Nativity Scene. Many things lift our spirits over the Christmas time, but nothing nothing brings greater joy than the warm hug of a loved ones homecoming.

Equally, the empty chair of our departed loved ones pulls severely on the heart strings.

This Christmas we focus our thoughts on family life, as part of our ongoing preparations for the World Meeting of Families 2018 in Dublin next August (21st to 26th). Pope Francis has described the family as "the first school, the nearest hospital and the best place to grow old".

During this Christmas season my prayer is that your family gathering may be all that you wish it to be. I ask you to join hands around the Christmas table and invoke the infant Jesus in prayer.

Dear Lord,

Thank you for all my loved ones who are seated around this table.

Thank you for the food that you have provided for us this day.

*Thank you for this Christmas season when we can find **JOY** in the birth of Jesus*

We are also thankful for the joy of being with our family and the blessings of sharing a festive meal.

Lord, we ask that you bless this food and bless our gathering today.

Amen

On behalf of all Parishioners we wish to acknowledge the many of you have served so generously this past year. Whether it's participating in ministries, parish committees, parish collectors, leading groups; shepherding children; playing music; attending to the church environment, acting as area contacts; or any one of the countless other (usually unseen) tasks that keep our Parish warm and vibrant. Our thanks too to our Secretaries and Sacristans who are so wholehearted in their giving. Thank you so much for all you do.

Fr Pat

2018 PARISH CALENDAR: Our annual Parish Calendar was delivered to all houses during the week.

Unfortunately there is an error in the Vigil and Sunday Masses for the months of **January, March, May and July for Knocknagree and Gneeveguilla churches.** For these months

January, March, May & July – Vigil Mass – Gneeveguilla 7.30pm Sunday Mass – Knocknagree 10 am