



## Prayer Corner

### Advent Prayer

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Saviour's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time.

Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever.

Amen.

### Church Collection Envelopes

The boxes of Church Collection Envelopes for 2017 are now available in the sacristy. If you haven't already received your box, you might collect it from the sacristy or contact Fr. O'Brien or the parish office.

### GREENVILLE CHRISTMAS SALE

A Christmas Sale will take place in aid of the Cork Association for Autism at their Greenville Campus in Carrigtwohill on Thursday December 15th from 10.00am - 5.00pm. The Greenville Service Users are busy preparing some lovely pieces for the sale. Plants, pottery and handcrafted Christmas decorations will be available to buy on the day. Everyone is welcome to attend on the day. For directions or more information please log on to [www.corkautism.ie](http://www.corkautism.ie) or call Carol on 021 453 3642.

### SAMARITANS

Talk to us any time you like, in your own way, and off the record – about whatever's getting to you. You don't have to be suicidal. **Call Freephone 116 123**

## Christmas Ceremonies 2016

### Parish Carol Service

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>. Dec.  
at 7.30pm



### Penitential Service

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 7.30pm.

### Masses

#### Christmas Eve

10.00am.  
6.00pm., 8.00pm., & 10.00pm

#### Christmas Day

8.30am., 10.30am., & 12.30pm.

#### St Stephen's Day

Mass at 10am. Only.

### Confessions

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>.

10.30am - 12.00 noon

Also before and after 6.00pm. Mass

#### Christmas Eve

10.30 - 11.00am. & 12.00 - 1.00pm.  
Also 5.00 - 6.00pm & 7.00 - 8.00pm.

**We invite you to join with us as we  
prepare to celebrate the Birth of Jesus.**

### Training for Parish Catechists

The second two year training, the Maryvale Certificate in Catechesis, will begin in Cork in January 2017. Information packs and registration forms are available from the Cork and Ross Pastoral Development Office tel: 021 4537601 and must be returned at the latest by 10<sup>th</sup> January. This course is also open to those wishing to enhance their understanding of the Catholic faith.

## Carrigtwohill Parish Newsletter

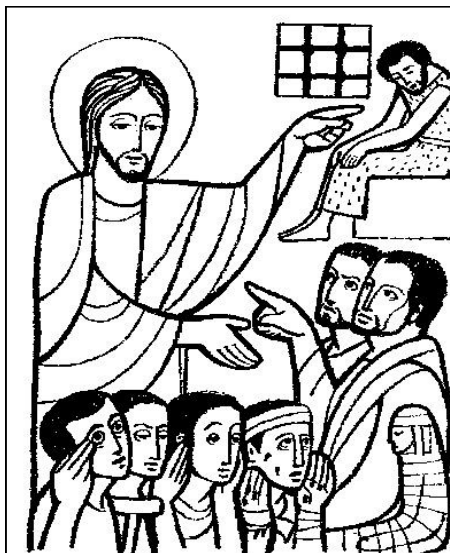
[www.carrigtwohillparish.ie](http://www.carrigtwohillparish.ie)

11th. December 2016 - 3rd. Sunday of Advent

### TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Is. 35: 1-6  
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm; 145  
Second Reading: Jas. 5: 7-10  
Gospel: Matt. 11: 2-11

"Greater than John the Baptist has never been seen, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is."



### Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels

Jesus asks the crowd in today's Gospel why they ran to see John the Baptist. Sometimes when we go to hear a famous speaker or go to someone we admire we are looking for answers. Our expectations are often not grounded in reality. Jesus asks the people what did they expect when they went to see John.



Were they looking for someone nicely dressed? No, they were looking for a prophet and John was the greatest of these. Jesus's words are almost like a eulogy for John.

John announces and makes way for Jesus, marking the end of one era and the beginning of another. John announces a new time. John names the question we so often ask when a new exciting leader comes on the scene: Is this the one? Is this the person we've been waiting for? And if it is, how will we know? Our expectations can often be so great because we are constantly in need of renewal. Where in your life today do you need to experience fresh hope and newness?

The Gospel ends with a paradox: John is the greatest that has ever been born; yet the people who are considered the 'lowest' or the 'least' in this world are considered even greater than John by God. A statement that no doubt would have left a few people scratching their heads.

'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, come forth from deep within me with Christmas luminous beauty. For my heart has become the sacred crib, the birthing place of God among us.' Edward Hays

Jane Mellet

### Christmas Carol Concert

St. Aloysius' College will hold their annual Carol Concert in St. Mary's Parish Church, Carrigtwohill on Tuesday next 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm. This is an opportunity to prayerfully engage with the spiritual essence of Christmas.

All welcome.

## Parish Contacts

### Parish Priest -

Canon Anthony O'Brien,  
Parochial House, Station Road,  
Tel: 4883236, 087 6834193  
Email aob79@icloud.com

**Curate** - Fr. Jim Greene,  
Presbytery, 4 Carrig Downs  
Tel: 4853925, 085 8471249

**In Residence** - Msgr. Denis Reidy  
Teach an tSagairt, Carrigtwohill.

**Parish Website** -  
www.carrigtwohillparish.ie

**Parish Email** -  
office@carrigtwohillparish.ie

**Parish Office** -  
Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thurs-  
days - 9.00am to 1.00pm.  
Phone - Orla at 4533806

## Mass Times

**Sunday** - 6.00pm, (Sat. Eve.)  
- 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.30pm.

### Weekdays

Mon. - 10.00am., & 7.30pm.  
Tues. - Fri. - 7.30am. & 10.00am.  
Saturday - 10.00am. & 6.00pm.

**Rosary** Mon. to Sat. after 10am. Mass,  
Sunday 10.10am.

### Confession

Saturday - after 10.00am Mass until 10.45.  
- after 6.00pm Mass until 7.00pm.

## Monday

Mass and adoration at 7.30pm.

### Christian Meditation - Next Meeting

Wed. 4th. January in the Sacristy at 6.30pm.  
For information contact - 087 6380388

**Legion of Mary** - Meet in the Sacristy  
on Tuesdays at 7.30pm.

## Weekend 17th. - 18th. December

### Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm	Anne Murphy	David O'Gorman
8.30am	John Sheehan	
10.30am	James Roche	Jim O'Brien
	Mary Barry	
12.30pm	Margot Hartnett	Ann Cotter
	Miriam Curtin	

### Ministers of the Word.

6.00pm	Mary McCarthy
8.30am	Eileen Ahern
10.30am	Tadhg O'Donovan
12.30pm	John Weldon

### We welcome to our Parish Community

Jackson Seamus O'Toole  
Lauren Gracie Parker  
Shay Christopher Conneely  
Gráinne Máire Ryan  
Oisín Colm Pádraig O'Dea  
Róisín Marie Foley  
james anthony quinn

**who were baptised last recently.**

## Parish Carol Service

Sunday 18th. December

At 7.30pm.

**St. Mary's Church,**

Performances from our local choirs -  
Carrigtwohill Parish Choir, Gospel Choir  
Folk choir and Youth Choir

### With Special Guests

Dervla O'Connor (Crystal Swing)  
Ram Gregorio  
Kiltha Tones - Male Voice Choir  
Cellist - Carol O'Connor

### Advent Devotions

Sunday 11th December at 5.30pm.  
A time to pray and prepare for Christmas.

## Community Page

### Carrigtwohill GAA

www.carrigtwohillgaa.com

Lotto results for Monday 5th of December.  
Jackpot €11,200, numbers drawn 1, 6, 15, 24.  
No jackpot winner. €50 winners, Saturday night  
Club c/o Dá and Anne Marie Hegarty. Next  
week's jackpot €11,400, draw in Guilders Bar.

### Christmas Gift Mass

A big thank you to all who  
brought gifts for the homeless to  
last Sunday's Gift Masses.



## Bambinelli Sunday

**At all Masses next weekend  
17th and 18th December**

For the past several  
decades, each year on a  
Sunday during Advent,  
children (and adults)  
bring their Baby Jesus  
figures from the crib at  
their homes to St. Peter's  
Square where the Pope will bless both the  
people and the figurines during the  
Angelus.



**We are asking families to bring their  
Baby Jesus figure to any of the Masses  
next weekend, for a blessing and also a  
blessing for the family.**

**A suggestion is, that following the  
blessing, take your "bambinelli" home  
and place it in a gift box, wrap it, and  
save it for Christmas. Let this be the  
first gift your family opens at  
Christmas, when together you place  
your Baby Jesus figure in the crib.**

### Christmas Offerings

For security reasons, we would appreciate,  
if you would consider bringing your  
"Christmas Offerings to the Priests"  
envelope to Mass on next week-end  
17th./ 18th. December.

## Carrigtwohill SVP Annual Appeal



Our annual Christmas Church gate  
collection is taking place after all  
Masses this weekend and donations  
can also be handed into the Family  
Resource Centre at any time.

### DON'T BE LONELY THIS CHRISTMAS

Senior Help Line, Ireland's only national  
listening service for older people, will be  
open every day over Christmas and the  
New Year from 10.00am to 10.00pm. We  
are here to take your call if you are on your  
own, feeling isolated, worried or would  
like someone to talk to. Senior Help Line  
volunteers are trained older people who  
understand the ups and downs of life, and  
are happy to listen, to keep company and  
to support.

**So let us put the companionship into  
Christmas this year.**

**LoCall 1850 440 444,**

**All calls completely confidential.**

## Cope Foundation Coffee Morning

Cope Foundation holding Coffee Morning  
on Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. 11.00am -1.00pm in  
Broomfield. Raffle, Christmas Puddings,  
Cakes for sale. Proceeds going towards the  
purchase of new people carrier.

### Axel Foley Mass at Knock

The 8<sup>th</sup> Mass for Axel Foley will be  
celebrated at Knock Basilica Sunday  
18<sup>th</sup> Dec. at 12 Noon. This initiative of  
saying eight Masses for Mr. Foley was  
instigated by his son and has proved a huge  
success, we would encourage you to con-  
tinue to offer Masses and light candles for  
your deceased loved ones.