



**Happy Christmas to all in Fossa and to all visitors to our Parish during the Christmas season from the Parish Liturgy Group, the Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish Clerk and the Parish Priest.**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**Priest:** As we prepare our hearts and our world for the joyful coming of the Saviour let us turn our hearts in prayer to the Father.

- For the Church, that all who follow Christ will heed his call to repentance and be found ready to greet him when he returns in glory. *Lord, hear us.*
- For our world, that humanity may be more willing to share and care for the earth's resources so that the basic needs of all will be met. *Lord, hear us.*
- For ourselves during Advent that the gift of Christ's presence in the Eucharist may be a constant reminder to share our lives with those we meet each day. *Lord, hear us.*
- For all gathered here: that we, who recognise Christ as our Saviour, may follow him in our lives. *Lord, hear us.*
- For all our dead, especially John Dineen, Barleymount and late of Killarney, that God may keep them in his care, those we have loved, and those no one remembers. *Lord, hear us.*

**Priest:** Lord our God, make us know your ways and keep us in your friendship as we prepare to celebrate the birth of your Son the Incarnate Word who lives and reigns with you in the union of the Holy Spirit. God forever. Amen.

**MASS IN THE CHURCH THIS WEEK.**

Tuesday	<i>Christmas Eve Vigil</i>	-	7.30pm
Wednesday	<i>Christmas Day</i>	-	10.00am
Friday		-	7.30pm
Saturday	<i>Vigil</i>	-	7.30pm
Sunday		-	10.00am

The Irish Catholic is available at the back of the church. Price €3.00

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** Fossa Finance Committee thank you for your contribution of €1,887.78 in support of our Parish for the last two weeks.

**The Kerry Youth Service** came to €166.68 *Míle Buíochas.*

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING.** You may return your Christmas Offering Envelopes over these weekends. The priests salary is reached through the envelope donations during the year - Spring, Easter, Autumn, November and Christmas Offerings. Sincere thanks to all of you who support the Parish Priest.

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS.** We wish all our parishioners a Happy Christmas. Special thanks to our Parish Council, our Finance Committee, Liturgy Group, Choir, and those who help in our parish during the year. *Míle Buíochas.*

**PARISH MASSES /ANNIVERSARIES**

Maureen Boyle	-	Sat 21st Dec 7.30pm
Donie Kissane	-	Sun 22nd Dec 10.00am
Bill Costelloe	-	Sat 28th Dec 7.30pm
Cian Long (Month's Mind)	-	Sun 29th Dec 10.00am

**OUR PARISH CRIB 2024** This year's designated charity will aid the Autism Unit in Fossa National School and relief of famine in Sudan.

**BLESSING FOR A CHRISTMAS TREE**

Bless this tree, this sign of life and freshness and perseverance in creation. It is a reminder that you are born anew in us each day. Bless our family and friends as we celebrate this joyful season. Keep us safe in our travels, kind in our conversations, and gracious in our giving and receiving. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**BLESSING FOR A CHRISTMAS CRIB**

O God, out of your love for us you sent your dearly beloved Son to become man. You willed that that he be born in a humble stable in order to give us an example of humility. We pray you now to bless this crib, a representation of the scene of his birth; may it draw us closer to him. By imitating his humility may we become a worthy dwelling place for his rebirth, Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord.

**THE SAMARITANS** will be holding their Church gate collection on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

**2025, A JUBILEE YEAR IN THE CHURCH.**

A Jubilee Year is held every twenty-five years. Pope Francis will officially open the year by opening a Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica, Rome on Christmas Eve. The beginning will be celebrated worldwide on the following Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> December Feast Day of the Holy Family in every diocese worldwide, and thus at all our Masses that weekend. Pope Francis has chosen the Jubilee theme "Pilgrims of Hope". We are asked to treat the year ahead as a year-long pilgrimage.

**REFLECTION**

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
 when the star in the sky is gone.  
 When the shepherds are back with their flocks.  
 The work of Christmas begins:  
 To find the lost; to heal the broken;  
 To feed the hungry, to release the prisoner;  
 To rebuild the nations.  
 To bring peace among people;  
 To make music in the heart. *(Howard Thurman)*

**FINAL BLESSING**

Through the grace of his coming, may the Lord dispel your sorrows and banish your fears.

May you never doubt that God will fulfil the promises he has made to us in Christ. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts and in your homes this Christmas.







