

St Mary's Church



Ballyheigue

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024



**For emergencies only please 'phone: During the week**  
**Fr Gerard Finucane (087) 0554874**  
**Fr Pat Crean-Lynch (087) 2200114**  
**Fr Jerry Keane (087) 2844649**  
**From 1pm Sunday –9am Monday this weekend only**  
**Fr Sean Hanafin (087) 8341083**

**Anniversaries**  
Nora Higgins, William O'Halloran  
Mary Murphy (nee) Kirby, David & Annie Bowler.  
**Mass intentions for this weekend**  
*Saturday Vigil*.....Kitty Reidy (21<sup>st</sup> Ann.)  
*Sunday Mass 10am*..... Mary Hobbins (2<sup>nd</sup> Ann.)  
**The Season of Christmas**  
**Christmas Eve.8.00pm** Edeen Lucid.  
Nora & John O Hara & Eamon Timmins  
**Christmas Day....10am** Jack & Bridie Casey  
Donal & Noreen Leane & Mary Murphy  
**Next weekend**  
Sat.... 8.00pm .... Ned Casey  
Sun...10.00am .... Annie O'Hanlon (months mind)


**Address: Chapel Rd., Ballyheigue, Tralee Co Kerry**  
**Eircode: V92 HY57**  
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**Live streaming of masses on:** www.dioceseofkerry.ie-  
Parishes - Ballyheigue –click on picture of the Church.  
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**Under GDPR, the recording of Requiem/Funeral Masses**, is a decision for the next-of-kin of the deceased and must be requested via the undertaker. The undertaker will make the family aware of this.  
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**Church Open:** 11am –4.30pm Tuesday to Sunday  
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**The Parish Office is open in the Presbytery**, 9.40am-1.00pm Wednesday & Thursday mornings (*closed on Holy Days*). All bookings for Masses, Baptisms and Weddings to go through the Parish office Mass cards also available. Email: [ballyheigue@dioceseofkerry.ie](mailto:ballyheigue@dioceseofkerry.ie)  
Telephone (066) 7133110.  
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**Baptisms:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month.  
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**Celebration of The Sacrament of Reconciliation** takes place on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month at 7pm.  
\*Individual Confessions available on request.

**Offertory Collection:** €1,098.15 thank you for your support and generosity to our Parish. You may continue to hand in your Parish Envelopes to the Post office and we thank the Post Office for continuing to provide this facility to us. Their assistance is greatly appreciated

**Christmas Dues** for the Priests of the Pastoral Area are now due in the pink envelopes in your box of envelopes. *Pink Christmas Offering* envelopes are available on the table at both exits for people who do not pay through the parish envelope system. *"We thank you all for your continuous support to us throughout the year and may the Lord bless you and keep you safe at Christmas and the coming year, Fr Gerard, Fr Pat and Fr Jerry"*  
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**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje** 10th to 17th Sept 2025 Cork to Dubrovnik €899. Please see notice board for details.

**The Jubilee Prayer 2025**  
Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.  
May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the  
Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within  
both humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.  
May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.  
Amen  
*Pope Francis*

**Excerpts from Bishop Ray's Christmas letter.** *"It is wonderful that Christmas continues to be a family celebration in Ireland. Families celebrate together, family members love to be home for Christmas. The birth of Jesus both fulfilled and revealed the loving plan of God for all peoples. In the Church, 2025 will be a Jubilee Year, a Holy Year. On Sunday, the 29th December, the feast of the Holy Family, the Jubilee Year will open. Pope Francis has chosen the theme 'Pilgrims of Hope'. This points to the reality that life is a journey, a journey in search of meaning and fulfilment, a fulfilment that is to be found in our relationship with Jesus Christ. This Christmas carry in your heart the song of the angels to the shepherds: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven. Peace to all people who enjoy his favour.'"*  


**Blessed and graced by Christ's presence in our midst.** The meeting of Mary and Elizabeth can help to remind us that it is our presence to each other that is important at this time of the year, rather than any presents we might purchase. Celebrating Christmas well is about being present to others in ways that leave them blessed and graced. May each of us this Christmas be a bearer of the Lord to others as Mary was a bearer of the Lord to Elizabeth. **A blessed and holy Christmas to all.** –Fr Gerard