



Local Priest: Fr. Jim Lenihan, P.P. **OFFICE:** Reopens Tuesday 7th Jan.
Parish Office: St. Agatha's Parish Centre, Headford, Killarney. V93 X0C2.
Office Hours : Mon/Tues 10am to 3pm to book Masses, Baptisms, Weddings.
Email: glenflesk@dioceseofkerry.ie **Phone:** 064 7754008 **Mobile:** 087 108 1588.
GBC Radio: 98.6fm for all Masses from Glenflesk Church.

Masses: Saturday 4th to Sunday 12th January

St. Agatha's, Glenflesk:

Saturday 4th	6.00pm	Noel O'Connell, Garries (Anni) Johnny O'Brien, Droumaharee (Anni) & Mary & John
Monday 6th	9.30am	FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY
Saturday 11th	6.00pm	Patrick & Catherine Moynihan, Headford, sons Tim & Jim & daughter-in-law Hannah

Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonkeen:

Sunday 5th	9.30am	Mass
Sunday 12th	9.30am	Mass

Sacred Heart, Barraduff:

Sunday 5th	11.00am	Memorial Mass for all those on the Memory Tree, Barraduff
Monday 6th	7.30pm	FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY
Sunday 12th	11.00am	Bridie Healy, Old Bridge, Headford (Anni) Catherine O'Leary, Currow (Anni)

PRIEST ON DUTY THIS WEEKEND: Fr. Jim Lenihan 087 1081588
PRIEST ON DUTY WEEKDAYS: Monday Fr. Kieran O'Brien 087 6501998
 Tuesday to Friday Fr. Jim Lenihan 087 1081588

NOTICES

COLLECTIONS: Offertory Christmas Eve/Day: €3,887; (28th/29th) €1,435.
Renovation December: €4,100. Thank you for your continued generosity.
DIOCESAN COLLECTION: on 11th/12th January for the Needs of the Holy Land.
ADORATION: Every Monday in the Sacred Heart Church from 10 am to 1 p.m.
St. Agathas 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Our Lady of the Wayside 7 p.m - 8 p.m.
DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP: on Thursday 9th January at 3pm in The
 Church of the Sacred Heart, Barraduff. All welcome.
MEMORY TREE BARRADUFF: Mass for those named on the Memory Tree in
 Barraduff Church will take place this Sunday 5th January at 11am. Memory Hearts
 can be purchased in O'Donoghue's Shop, Barraduff.

'IRELAND LIGHTS UP': Glenflesk GAA are proud to be participants in the upcoming Ireland Lights Up initiative. The hugely popular 'Ireland Lights Up' returns on January 8th meet at 7.00pm at Glenflesk GAA Pitch. Walk, Stroll or Jog. Free entry. All welcome.

A NOTE OF THANKS: I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family every blessing for the new year. I pray through the intercession of the Holy Family that God will bless and protect all of us for 2025. And as we look forward I'd also like to look back in gratitude on 2024 sincerely thank you for all the love and support I received over the year. I'd like to thank you in particular for the recent Christmas Priest collection which amounted to €9,500. This will go towards my annual income. For this and for all your contributions throughout 2024 I'm most grateful. Fr. Jim.

A NOTE FROM FR JIM...

The Gospel this weekend is the prologue of John's Gospel. It's a very popular Christmas reading because it features all of Christian distinctiveness and as Bishop Robert Barron puts it, 'It's a theological masterpieces in our tradition and also one of the great literary gems of the whole Western tradition'. The opening words of the prologue are, 'In the beginning', every first century Jew wouldn't have miss this. In the beginning are the opening words of the actual Bible, the story of God's creation. Well the baby Jesus is here to institute a 'New Creation'. In the baptismal ceremony while the white garment is being wrapped around the baby the priest says: Name: You have become a new creation, and have clothed yourself in Christ. See in this white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity'. The Fathers of the Church said 'God became human that humans might become God' that's how they summed up the Christian faith. God condescended to take our nature to himself that our human nature might be elevated and raised up to a higher level. Archbishop Fulton sheen spoke about the hierarchy of being, beginning with chemicals being absorbed by plants, plants being digesting by animals, and eventually humans consuming animals. At all times being raised up to a higher state. Fulton Sheen sees the incarnation as God uniting Himself with our nature. A higher life-form condescends to assimilate humanity to himself. Sometimes we totally forget the story and the true meaning of Christmas, perhaps too good to be true and in forgetting the true meaning of Christmas it causes us to forget our true identity and dignity. So let us avail of these days between now and January 12 (the end of the Christmas season) to meditate on the amazing love of God to allow us lowly creatures to share in His divinity.

