

Christmas 2021

Ferrybank & Slieverue Parishes



A Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our Parishioners & Friends
May your hearts be filled with Hope & Peace ...

Christmas Message



Dear parishioners and Friends

I want to take this opportunity to wish all of you the blessings of Hope and Love as once again we celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ. God Loved the world so much that he gave his only Son. Why? So that as he became one with us we too could become one with him and become who we are truly called to be - a people of faith who blossom into a people of Hope and Love, a people of Mercy and Forgiveness, a people of Peace. Where people have Faith in God and in his Son Jesus Christ it changes everything. Faith is really knowing that we are Loved by God & celebrating that with thanksgiving and Joy.

I know that there are many people sick at this time, people at home, in hospital, and care facilities. Others are bereaved & missing loved ones who died during the year, others alone, worried, afraid or angry. There are people who find the going tough right now for many reasons, overwhelmed by pressures of one kind or another and influenced by a spirit of doom and gloom promoted by some media and others. Many people in our world have unfortunately forgotten God.

The message of Christmas speaks to all of us today. There is no need to be afraid! Have Faith in God and his Son Jesus Christ! That faith will sustain you and bring Hope! Faith in Christ does not mean we will escape suffering and death. The Child of Bethlehem from the moment of his birth did not escape any of these things either. He entered into our human condition so that he could save us, raise us up from the power of sin and death, so that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

How often do we hear that Christmas is a very difficult time for the lonely, the sick, the poor. If that is true then there is something wrong with how we understand and celebrate Christmas. The fact is that what happened in Bethlehem all those centuries ago was all about saving the lonely, the sick and the poor, it was about saving all of us. It was God's answer to the brokenness of our lives and all creation.

Wherever acts of kindness and compassion born of faith are witnessed Christmas is truly understood and celebrated. Wherever simplicity is at the heart of living, smiling faces are to be found even in the midst of life's challenges, the gifts of the earth are cherished with thanksgiving, the poor & sick are cared for, human life cherished from conception to natural end and hearts that are burdened are freed and lives that are broken are raised up there Christmas is celebrated truly.

Our annual celebration of Christmas reminds us that we have been given a wonderful Gift, Jesus the Son of God wrapped in simplicity and presented to each and every human being. How do we receive this Gift? The only way is to receive him with faith and unwrap the treasures he offers us. Then each day will become for us a Christmas Day, a true Day of the Lord, a Day of Joy when we know how much we are Loved by God no matter what this world can throw at us, and a Day when we realise that we are called to bring the Gift of the Good News of great Joy to all who need to hear it 'Today a Saviour has been born for us. He is Christ the Lord.' (Luke 2:11).

Fr Kieran



Thank You!

As we come to the end of 2021 and look forward with hope to 2022 it provides an opportunity to express a word of thanks to so many people who have contributed voluntarily to the life of our faith communities of Ferrybank and Slieverue in so many ways during the past year.

I thank those who bring the Eucharist to the sick, care for the poor, our Collectors & Envelope Distributors during the year. To the Brothers of Charity and the Sisters of the Sacred heart of Mary and the Little Sisters of the Poor for your support and witness in the community.

To our Flower Arrangers & Providers & those who look after our Church and also all our Cleaners. To all our CE Scheme workers and all involved in maintenance & care of Church property including management our Cemeteries & Parish Halls. Thank you to the Catering & Hospitality groups who provide refreshments at parish celebrations & organise various events for charity. Thank you to our Altar Servers (and their parents too!), great to have them back for Christmas! Thank you to the Principals, and all staff of all our schools. to Boards of Management & Parents Associations for their great work for our children and young people.

Thank you to parents who make up our Sacramental Preparation Groups. To our Parish Choirs & Musicians a sincere thank you for enriching our Liturgies. To our Sacristans in both Parishes & our Covid Ushers, our Pastoral Councils & Finance Committees our Safeguarding Representatives, our Ministers of the Word and Eucharist, our Baptism team, Adoration Groups, and those who coordinate the various ministry rotas thank you to all. And a big thank you to each and every one of you our Parishioners for your faithfulness and to all of you who contribute financially to the upkeep of both Parishes during the year. I know you won't mind if I single out a few people for a special mention. I am sure I speak for all of you when I thank Angela and Marie for their great work in the Parish Offices and Fr Jim and Fr Liam for their support and availability to help.

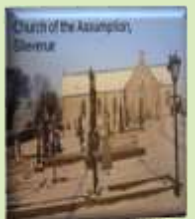
Once again, an example of great understanding was displayed by parents and children preparing for First Communion and Confirmation during the past year. We got there eventually and we celebrated simply and meaningfully. Your cooperation in bringing that about was remarkable.

To couples & who celebrated weddings and baptisms this past year, you showed great patience and we all pray every blessing on you as you spend your first Christmas together as married couples or as parents for the first time making Christmas extra special!

And so at this time of ending of a year and new beginnings, I pray that 2022 will be filled with new Hope and that we can continue the mission of renewing and celebrating our faith in new ways and reenergising our parish communities.

God bless all of you

Fr Kieran





**Christmas Mass Schedule Ferrybank & Slieverue
from 24th December - 9th January**



Friday 24th December Christmas Eve - No Morning Mass
Christmas Eve Slieverue 4 pm - ticket only / Ferrybank 5.30 pm - ticket only
Slieverue 7 pm / Ferrybank 8 pm

Saturday 25th December Christmas Day
Ferrybank 9.30am & 11.30am / Slieverue 10.30am

Sunday 26th December - Feast of the Holy Family
Slieverue 10.30am / Ferrybank 11.30am NO 9.30AM IN FERRYBANK

Monday 27th December Ferrybank & Slieverue 10 am

Tuesday 28th December Ferrybank & Slieverue 10 am

Wednesday 29th December Ferrybank & Slieverue 10 am

Thursday 30th December Ferrybank & Slieverue 10 am

Friday 31st December Ferrybank & Slieverue 10 am

**Saturday 1st January Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
World Day of Prayer for Peace / New Years Day**
Slieverue 6.00pm & Ferrybank 7.00pm

Sunday 2nd January
Ferrybank 9.30am & 11.30am / Slieverue 10.30am

Monday 3rd January Ferrybank 10 am

Tuesday 4th January Ferrybank 10 am

Wednesday 5th January Ferrybank 10 am

Thursday 6th January
Feast of the Epiphany (Holy Day) Slieverue 10.30 am / Ferrybank 11.30 am

Friday 7th January Slieverue 10 am

Saturday 8th January Slieverue 6.00pm & Ferrybank 7.00pm

Sunday 9th January Ferrybank 9.30am & 11.30am / Slieverue 10.30am

**From Christmas Eve until January 6th a Novena of Masses will be offered
for the intentions of those who purchased & received our Christmas
Novena Mass Cards & those on our Christmas list of the deceased.**



**Remembering Our Dead at
Christmas & The New Year**

Recently Deceased

Mary Lawlor (née Murphy) who died in Birmingham, England and late of Slieverue

Anniversaries

Eileen & Tom McGrath and their son Michael
Deceased members of the Conway Family. Christendom
Edward, Julia, Mary, Josie & Phil Murphy & Kay Cunningham
Jack, Jo & Gretta Butler
Julia & Patrick Bowes
Dorothy & Patrick Ryan
John & Bonnie Clarke
Nuala & Patricio Mingozzi
Deceased members of The Cuddy & Cassin Families
Eamonn O'Donovan (Slieverue – Fri. 31.01.21. 10am)
Patsy McGavock
Ellen & William Walsh
Nicholas Roche (Ferrybank – Sunday 02.01.2022. 9.30am)
Rose (Dolly) Tobin (Ferrybank – Sunday 02.01.2022. 9.30am)
Walter Mulcahy (50th Anniversary) (Ferrybank – Sunday 02.01.2022. 9.30am)
Brigid (Biddy) Shalloe (1st Anniversary) (Slieverue – Sunday 02.01.2022. 10.30am)
Murtagh Kearney, Gurteens, Slieverue (Slieverue – Sunday 02.01.2022. 10.30am)
Evelyn Hayes & Donal Costigan (Ferrybank – Sunday 02.01.2022. 11.30am)
Pat O'Brien (1st Anniv.) (Ferrybank – Sunday 02.01.2022. 11.30am)
Margaret (Peggy) Turner (Ferrybank – Sunday 02.01.22. 11.30am)
Robert, Anastatia, Dan & Daniel Lanigan (Ferrybank – Wed 05.01.2022. 10am)
Daniel, Margaret Mai, Debbie & John Daly (Ferrybank – Thurs. 06.01.2022. 11.30am)
John Foley (1st Anniversary), Rathpatrick (Slieverue – Fri. 07.01.2022. 10am)

May they rest in peace ...

Weekly Church Collections

Ferrybank 18th & 19th December 2021

Envelopes €1121.00/Offertory €333.00
Many thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly & yearly and to those who donate online and by Standing Order. Your support is very much appreciated!

Christmas Collection

The Christmas Offerings for the support of the Priests of the parish will be taken up at this time. Thank You.

Slieverue - Ministers of the Eucharist

24th, 25th & 26th December 2021
Christmas Eve 7pm Vigil Mass - Jim Doyle/Peter Dunne
Christmas Day 10.30am Eileen O'Donovan
St. Stephen's Day 10.30am – Mary Walsh

Ferrybank - Ministers of the Word

Christmas Eve 5.30pm Barbara Wells
Christmas Eve 8.00pm Sr. Patsy Butler
Christmas Day 9.30am Mary Griffin
Christmas Day 11.30am Bríd Fetton
St. Stephen's Day 11.30am Moira Meaney
Saturday 1st January 7.00pm Yvette Purdue
Sunday 2nd January 9.30am Mary Griffin
Sunday 2nd January 11.30am Bríd Fetton
Saturday 8th January 7.00pm Sr. Patsy Butler
Sunday 9th January 9.30am Julie Cummins Kelly
Sunday 9th January 11.30am Moira Meaney

**Ferrybank - Ministers of the Eucharist
January 2022**

Saturday Vigil 7.00pm Eileen Long & Br. Joe Killoran
Sunday 9.30am Ann Gleeson & Bessie Doherty
Sunday 11.30am Claire Devine & Paul Lyons

Safeguarding our Children

Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Ferrybank - Breda Freyne & Jerry Hughes
Slieverue - Mary Kenny. Ms. Kathleen Sherry is the Diocesan Director of Safeguarding and Designated Liaison Person.
Telephone: 085 802 1633 Email: safeguarding@ossory.ie

Slieverue Pastoral Council

Padraig Byrne, Maria Condon, Keira Doyle, Jerry Forrest, SileGrant, Breda Lynch (Chairperson), Tom O' Dwyer, Kieran O'hea, Martin Quilty (Secretary), Michael Shalloe, Maria Tobin & Mary Walsh.
Southern Deanery Reps: Keira Doyle & Jerry Forrest
Pastoral Area Reps: Breda Lynch & Sile Grant

Ferrybank Pastoral Council

Sr Patsy Butler, Jacinta Byrne, Bríd Fetton (Secretary), Eileen Fitzpatrick, Jerry Hughes, Mary Keane, Paschal Kennedy, Br Joe Killoran, Moira Meaney, Kieran O' Shea, Eileen Slattery & Barbara Wells Southern Deanery Reps: Eileen Slattery & Jacinta Byrne
Pastoral Area Rep: Jacinta Byrne

**Meal On Wheels Delivery Service in
Ferrybank & Slieverue**



Hot, nutritious meals delivered daily Monday to Friday and cold meals are available for weekends and bank holidays. You can receive meals for a day, a week a month or choose any combination of days that is convenient for you.

Please contact Lady Lane House on 051 874056.

**THE FERRYBANK/SLIEVERUE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM CHRISTMAS EVE UNTIL
TUESDAY 4TH JANUARY & AGAIN ON 6TH JANUARY FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY**

Very Rev. Kieran O'Shea P.P. Tel. 051-830813 Website www.ferrybankslieverueparishes.ie
Ferrybank/Slieverue Parish Office Tel. 830813 Mon. -Fri. 10am to 1pm Ms. Marie Cashin/Ms. Angela O'Brien