

**Saturday 23rd December 10am**

Paddy O'Toole (Anniv)
Gavin O'Reilly (1st Anniv)
Special Intention

**6.30pm**

Elizabeth Kenny (1st Anniv)
Eileen Bentley (1st Anniv)
Betty Breen (16th Anniv)
Charles & Christine Lennon (Anniv)
Mary Hannigan (Anniv)
Edward, Lizzie, Ned & Peg McLoughlin (Anniv)
Kathleen Walsh (Recently Deceased)

**Tuesday 26th December St Stephen's Day 10am**

Michael Tyrrell (1st Anniv)
Kathleen Peterson (46th Anniv)
Helena & Peter Murphy (Anniv)
Tommy Ryan (Anniv)
Berni, Tom & Leonard O'Brien (Anniv)
Jadwiga Crekas (Anniv)
Omar Cowan(Anniv)

**Wed 27th December 10am**

Marie Synnott (Christmas Remembrance)
Eugene Kane (Anniv)
David Jeffreys (Anniv)

**Thursday 28th December 10am**

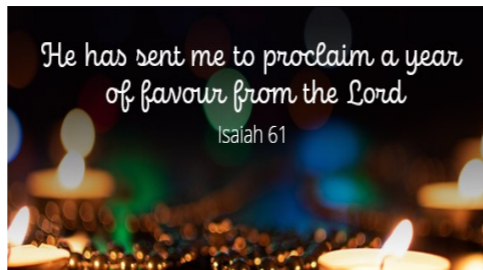
Sylvester (Vestie) Burke (3rd Anniv)
Tommy Cullen (4th Anniv)
Mary Keating (Birthday Remembrance)

Parish of Sts. Mary & Peter, Arklow with St David's Johnstown 24th December 2023 Fourth Sunday of Advent

The fourth candle represents peace and is called the "Angel's Candle."

The Angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace, He came to bring people close to God and to each other again.

The fifth candle represents light and purity and is called "Christ's candle." The white candle is placed in the middle and is lit on Christmas Day to mark the birth of our Saviour.



Liturgical Calendar December



Monday 25th The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Tuesday 26th St Stephen
Wed 27th St John
Thursday 28th Holy Innocents
Saturday 29th St Thomas Becket

24th December The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they shall call him Emmanuel.



St Stephen 26th December

The first Christian martyr, was one of those in charge of the poor and needy. He is outstanding for his forgiveness of his enemies. Patron of deacons, stonemasons and bricklayers.

Arklow Parish had their Annual Carol Service on Sunday 17th December. Thanks to all the Choirs, Groups, Soloists and Musicians who took Part in the Service it was a beautiful service enjoyed by all. Thanks to Denise for organizing the event.

A word of Thanks to all the Volunteers who volunteer to look after our Church throughout the year. Their help is invaluable in maintaining and keeping our Church looking so well.

Thanks to the Volunteers who help out in the Church Services and assist the Priests.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers and helps throughout the year.

All these Volunteers are very important and the Church needs Volunteers to help, if you have time and would like to help, please contact the Parish Office or either of the Priests.

With Sympathy

Sympathies are extended to the family and friends Martin (Jento) Kenny John (Tayto) Roche May they rest in peace

Dear friends,

We are about to celebrate the great Christian feast of Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Son of Mary. The word Jesus means Saviour because he came to save us from our sins.

If we look at our world today we see many signs of sin: War which kills and displaces the innocent. Corruption which robs us of integrity, Selfishness which makes a god of myself and neglects those who are in need, greed which grabs every thing for the self and doesn't share with others.

The weekend before Christmas we had our annual Christmas Carol Concert here in the Church. It was a wonderful event. The church was full with singers and people who came to celebrate Christmas. It was a very uplifting occasion. Every choir praising God, the Silver Band adding their weight to the concert.

I thought to myself What if everyone gathered together each week to give the same glory to God.

Because at the end of the day that is what really matters. Am I a friend of God.? Do I come each week to celebrate all that he did for me?

Give Jesus your heart this Christmas, Make a good Confession, receive Jesus in Holy Communion and be kind to everyone you meet.

Happy Christmas!



Merry Christmas

Christmas Blessings to all from Fr Pádraig & Fr David

Archdiocese of Dublin Ard-Deoise Atha Cliath
CHRISTMAS MASSES IN IRISH IN THE ARCHDIOCESE, 2023
SUNDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE 9 PM, UCD UNIVERSITY CHAPEL, BELFIELD, DUBLIN 4
MONDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY Dé Luain, Lá Nollag
Ardeaglais Chartres: Muire na Fúinneige Áille Notre Dame de la Belle Verrière

Mass times for Christmas
Christmas Eve
Arklow 8.30am, 11.30am, 5pm, 7pm & 9pm.
Johnstown 10am
Christmas Day
Arklow 8.30am & 11.30am
Polish Mass 10am
St Stephen's Day
Arklow 10am
Adoration & Quiet times
Sunday 3pm to 5pm
Tuesday & Friday 5pm to 6pm

The Church will be open every day over Christmas call in light a candle and take time out for yourself, we have a beautiful Crib and our Church is looking very festive.

Gathering Hymn

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born

Recessional Hymn

Adeste Fideles

Adeste Fideles Laeti triumphantes
Venite,venite in Bethlehem
Natum videte, Regem Angelorum;
Venite Adoremus, venite adoremus
Venite adoremus Dominium!
Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,
gestant puellae viscera.
Deum veru, gentium non factum

Venite Adoremus, venite adoremus
Venite adoremus Dominium!

Cantet nunc io chorus Angelorum
Cantet nunc aula caelstium:
Gloria in excelsis Deo!