



**ST AGNES' PARISH  
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**  
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**Priests of the Parish**

Fr. J. Deasy P.P. Ph. 4550955  
Fr. J. Foster Ph. 4650714  
Fr. P. Coffey Ph. 4650707  
Fr. P. Brewster Ph. 4650716  
Fr. M. Kelly Ph. 4542308

Family Offering: €2,965  
V. de Paul: €24,600

Many thanks for your continued support and generosity

**Recently Deceased**

Mary Fleming, Kimmage Rd.W.  
Joseph McNulty, St. Agnes' Rd  
Agnes Taylor, Dangan Drive  
Joseph Seale, Cherryfield Ave.

We express our deepest sympathies to their families at this time

May They Rest in Peace. Amen..

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday 20th December 2008**

7:00pm Shared Mass

**Sunday 21st December 2008**

9:00am Michael Martin {A}

10:00am Patrick & Brigid Redmond {A}

11:00am Deceased Members of Dowling & Conway families {A}

12:00pm Esther Walsh {A}

1:00pm Robert Glennon Remembrance

7:00pm Teresa Casey {3rd A}

**St Agnes Parish - Readers Roster**

**Thursday 24 / 12 / 08**

7.00pm

**Christmas Day 25 / 12 / 08**

9.00am V McDermott

10.00am Family Mass

11.00am M Finnegan

12.00pm Frances Healy

1.00pm Catherine Nagle

7.00pm

**Penitential Service.**

Our Pre- Christmas Service with Confessions will take place this year on Tuesday 23rd December at 7.30pm.

We will have the assistance of visiting priests. Hope you make an effort to be there to prepare for Christmas.



The arrangements for Christmas eve Confessions are on the notice board and in the sheet delivered to your home.

**Thought for the Week**

"The Virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and they will call him Emmanuel—a name which means God is with us." - Gospel acclamation from today's Mass

**The Candle of Hope**

The Four Candles burned slowly.

Their ambience was so soft you could almost hear them speak...

The first candle said, "I am Peace, but these days, nobody wants to keep me alight."

Then the candle of Peace went out completely.

The second candle said, "I am Faith, but these days, I am no longer indispensable.

It does not make any sense that I stay awake one moment longer"

Then a breeze softly blew out Faith's flame.

Sadly the third candle spoke, "I am Love. People don't understand my importance, so they put me aside.

They even forget to love those nearest to them. I haven't the strength to stay alight."

And waiting no longer, Love went out completely.

Suddenly...

A child entered the room where the candles were and saw that the three candles were unlit

The child began to cry.

"Why are you not burning? You are supposed to stay alight until the very end."

Then the Fourth Candle spoke gently to the child.

"Don't be afraid, for I am Hope, and while I still burn, we can re-light the other candles."

With shining eyes, the child took the Candle of Hope and lit the other candles.

The flame of Hope should never go out from your life.

And with Hope each of us can have a life with

Peace, Faith and Hope.

Author unknown.

**Christmas Cards**

In Aid of Lorcan O'Toole Day Centre are now available from Carmel (at the Back of the Church). A pack of 12 cards costs €4.00.



**Parish Book Shop—Why not get Mass Bouquets, Rosaries etc and little presents for the children here, before and after all Masses. The staff of the Parish Shop wish you all a Happy Christmas**

**Thank You—We would like to thank the volunteers from St Michael's House who regularly help with folding the Newsletter.**

**Welcome Back.**

Fr. John Foster has returned to the Parish after his recent illness. According to the Dr. he is allowed to resume 'light duties'.

The meaning of that phrase has yet to be determined. We are delighted to have him back among us.

**"Cool Yule, Kids".**

The special Christmas edition of the GAA Magazine published for this Christmas I am told has on the front the greeting

"Have a Cool Yule, Kids".

I am sure it is an effort to keep in touch with their young supporters and be "With it". However what does it say about the memory of Christmas?

I would say that Archbishop Croke would turn in his grave.

**Society of St Vincent de Paul**

The Society would like to thank the people of St. Agnes' Parish for their wonderful generosity last week end in donating the sum of €24,600.

**Advent Day Retreats.**

**Avila Carmelite Centre.**

Saturday December 20th. 11.00am – 4.00pm 'We have seen His star as it Rose.' Michael Fitzgerald OCD.

CHURCH ART CALENDERS ARE AVAILABLE FROM CARMEL AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH AND ARE PRICED AT €1.50 EACH

**Bereavement.**

Our thoughts go out this Christmas to those who have lost loved ones during the year. This will be their first Christmas without them. It can be a lonely time.

Our parish have lost some familiar faces too and the Parish family will miss them also. The priests of the parish offer Mass on Christmas day for our parishioners living and dead.

**Christmas Eve Masses.**

There will be no 8.00am Mass on Christmas Eve. Morning Mass will be at 9.00, & 10.00 only.

The Vigil Masses will be at 7.00 and 9.00 pm.

Remember there is always more room at the 9.00pm Vigil Mass.

The first Mass on Christmas morning will be at 9.00am and on the hour until and including 1.00pm.

There is no evening Mass in St. Agnes' Christmas Day.

However Francis St. Church will have an evening Mass on Christmas Day at 8.00pm.

**Parish Office.**

The Office will be closed on Christmas Eve and will be open again on Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th of December from 10.30-12 noon only.

The Office will be closed on New Years Eve & will open on Friday January 2nd 9.45-12.45pm.

It will be closed in the afternoon. Normal office hours will resume on Monday January 5th 2009.

**Parish Centre.**

Christmas Arrangements.

Closed from Tuesday evening 23rd December and will reopen for meetings and gatherings including the Coffee Dock on Monday January 5th 2009.

**RECENTLY BAPTISED**

Zara Mari-Ann Cummins  
Sophia Lauren Whitty  
James Andrew Dowling



We welcome them into our Christian Community and wish them every blessing in their lives ahead.

**Eucharistic Adoration.**

The Adoration Oratory will close on Tuesday December 23rd at 7.00pm. It will reopen on Monday January 5th at 11.00am.

Wishing you a Holy and a Happy Christmas and New Year.



**1. Praise My Soul The King of Heaven**

1. Praise my soul the King of Heaven, To his feet your tribute bring. Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Who am I his praise to sing? Praise him. Praise him, Praise him. Praise the everlasting King.

2. Praise him for his grace and favour, To our fathers in distress: Praise him still the same forever, Slow to chide and swift to bless. Praise him. Praise him. Praise him. Praise him. Glorious in his faithfulness.

**2. Receive O Father in Thy Love**

1. Receive O Father in thy love, These humble gifts of bread and wine; That with ourselves we offer thee, Returning gifts already thine.

2. Behold this host and chalice, Lord, to thee on high the gifts we raise: through them may we our honour pay, our adoration and our praise



**3. Sweet Sacrament Divine**

1. Sweet Sacrament Divine, hid in thy earthly home, lo Round thy lonely shrine, with suppliant hearts we come; Jesus, to thee our voice we raise, in songs of love and heartfelt praise, Sweet Sacrament Divine.

2. Sweet Sacrament of Peace, dear home of every heart, were restless yearnings cease, and sorrows all depart, there in thine ear all trustfully we tell our tale of misery, Sweet Sacrament of Peace.

**4. O Come Emmanuel**

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, to free your captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, until the son of God appear.

**Refrain:** Rejoice, rejoice, O Israel, to you shall come Emmanuel.

2. O Royal branch of Jesse's tree, Redeem us all from tyranny; from pain of hell your people free, and over death win victory **Refrain**