St Agnes Parish Weekly Newsletter

Team Ministry of Clogher Rd, Crumlin & Mourne Rd
t: 01-455 5368|Child Protection Number 087 3155305
e:newsletter@crumlinparish.ie or info@crumlinparish.ie | This newsletter can be downloaded from our website:www.crumlinparish.ie or Visit us on
22nd & 25th December, 4th Sun in Advent & Christmas Day

Priests of the Parish

Fr Tony O'Shaughnessy: 561 1500
Fr Tom Clowe SDB; 455 5605
Fr John Deasy: 455 0955

Deacon

Rev Jimmy Fennell: 455 5368

Child Protection

Dublin Diocesan Office
836 0314
E-mail: cps@dublindiocese.ie
or contact St Agnes Parish Office at 455 5368

St Agnes Church Mass Times

Weekday Masses
9.00am, 10.00 am, 7.00pm
Saturday Vigil Mass
7.00pm
Sunday Masses
9.30am; 11.00 am *(Family)*; 12.30pm *(Choir)*; 7.00pm
Holy day Masses:-
7.00pm Vigil; 9.00am, 10.00am, 7.00pm

Confession Times

Saturdays from 10.30am to 11.00am & 6.45pm
Eve of First Fridays after 10.00am Mass & 6.45pm

COFFEE DOCK

The Coffee Dock in St Agnes Parish Centre is open Monday to Friday from 10.00am-12.00 noon. Call in any day to savour the friendly atmosphere, have a cuppa and some chat with neighbours and friends.

Last Weekend's Collections

1st Collection: € 2,164
Share: € 1,898
Family Offering: € 1,350

Many thanks for your continued support and generosity

Thought for the Week

"Wait for the Lord, his day is near; Wait for the Lord, be strong take heart" - Taize

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION.

Christmas has arrived so quickly, as if time is flying by faster and faster! Or maybe it's because we are racing around ***"doing"*** and ***"getting"*** that we are caught unawares. We find ourselves drawn into a drama, a story, a moment in our lives that is different. Or perhaps, we earnestly hope that our lives can be different and changed because of what we've been through in the past year. There's a poignancy about Christmas which may cast a shadow of sorrow over our lives. Memories surface that can be upsetting – loss, grief, failure, struggles, hurt, regrets, unresolved issues, vulnerabilities. We are more aware of the fragility of the human heart and that is why we wish for these dark days of winter to roll by quickly as we welcome the brightness and newness of springtime with its' emerging pageant of beauty, colour, light and blossoming of new life.

In these days let us not forget the truth at the heart of the Christmas story. I like the poetry of Zephaniah when he speaks of ***"the tender compassion of the heart of our God, visiting us like the dawn from on high, giving light to those in darkness and guiding us in the way of peace."*** The tender compassion of the heart of our God has a name: ***Jesus.***

The beautiful prayers of Christmas shimmer with the light which God brings into our world, as St. John says, ***"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overpower it".*** Yet, if we focus too much on the light we miss seeing one of the greatest gifts of the Christmas season: that the deepest darkness is the place where God comes to meet us: in the silence of pain, in the night, in the searching, in the hoping, when we are lost and alone, when our dreams are shattered, when we cannot see the next step on the path. Whatever life's unbearable burdens we may carry, God comes to meet us through Jesus, the light of his presence with us. The poet and philosopher, John O' Donoghue, speaks of Christmas as the ***"feast of the great presence....where the healing of heaven falls unto a wounded earth".***

Whatever words we use – light, grace, peace, hope, meaning, reconciliation, new vision – all express the ***"healing of heaven"*** and the ***"light of love"*** falling upon our wounded lives – all through the Incarnation, the Feast of Emmanuel, God-with-Us. ***Always. In Jesus.***

Let us allow the ***"little ones"*** invite us into the imaginative landscape of awe, wonder, mystery and magic. Their openness to God can draw us once again into the truth of God's faithful love for us in Jesus.

My prayer for all of you this Christmas is beautifully expressed by Sr. Joyce Rupp: ***"May the hope of this sacred season settle in your soul: may it be a foundation of courage when distress occupies your inner land: may the wonder and awe that fills the eyes of children awaken in you appreciation for what is often taken for granted: may the bonds of love be strengthened as you gather around festivity and nourishment: may you keep your eyes fixed on the Star within you and go often to the Bethlehem of your heart and find the One who offers peace ".***

Fr. Tony.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 21st December

7:00pm

MONTHS MIND
Mary Ellen Scott
ANNIVERSARIES
Helen Jordan 1st; Kathleen Keogh 4th
Ann Kilpatrick 4th; Patrick Connolly 5th
Lil Eustace 6th; Carmel Fox 8th also remembering Mary Fox Gika
Charlie Delaney 9th; Tommy Murray 23rd also Theresa & Michael Murray
Mary Collisson; The Holy Souls
Deceased Members of Nicholl family
Remembrance
Paddy Douglas, Jimmy Fogarty

Sunday 22nd December

9:30am

ANNIVERSARIES
Edward Whelan 1st Tess Callery 10th;
Larry Lynch
Mary & Samuel Hislop; Deceased of Keogh Family; Deceased of McDonnell Family
BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
Christina Farrell; Julia O'Dowd 90th

11:00am

MONTHS MIND
Esther Goucher
ANNIVERSARIES
Vera Dolan 1st; Mary Behan
Edward & Mary Eaton & family
Therese, Christina & Sean Byrne
Deceased of Byrne, Farren, Doyle, & Collins families; David Byrne
James & Cissy Minnock
Ann & Patrick Keogh; Bill Gerrard
Paddy Woodbyrne
Deceased of Cullen & Flynn families

12:30pm

ANNIVERSARIES
Michael O'Gorman 5th; Sean Walsh 13th
Jack Byrne 18th & parents Eddie & Margaret also Mary & Michael Brady
John Devlin also wife Anne, son George & daughter in law Delia
Deceased of Mulhall & Hickey families
Patrick McDonnell; Kathleen McDonnell
Julian Kinch; Tilly, Ger & Finola Harrington
Patrick Malone; Brian Malone
Deceased of Malone family
Gerty Brannigan; James Brannigan
Vincent & Aileen Gough
Michael & Margaret McArdle
Noirin Kelly; Pierce McCabe
Elizabeth Behan; Molly Mc Glynn
Richard Lamb; Michael & Florence Walsh
John Conroy; Michael John Walsh
Thomas Hudson Kathleen Walsh
Alan Weafer & deceased Weafer family members; Deceased of Cleary, O'Neill, Ward, Kemp & Miley families
Dessie & Teresa Dunne
James & Elizabeth O'Leary & son Seamus

7.00pm **Pro Populo**

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 23rd December

9.00am Edward Whelan 1st Anniv.

7.00pm Michael Wade

May their Souls and the Souls of all the Faithful departed Rest In Peace. Amen

All Mass Intentions should be booked in the Parish Office no later than midday on the Wednesday before the Sunday Masses.

Our Recently Deceased

Florence Keane, Cherryfield Avenue
Marcella Brock, Captains Road
Patrick Reilly, Ex Beechfield Road
Alice Callan, Bangor Road
Ellen Jewell, Captains Drive

We express our deepest sympathies to their families at this sad time.

May They Rest in Peace. Amen.

St Agnes Parish Reader's Roster

If you cannot make your scheduled Reading please contact John Green

Saturday, 28th December 2019

7:00pm Marie McGowan

Sunday, 29th December 2019

9:30am Valerie Collins

11:00am Children's Mass

12:30pm Delecta Fernandes

7:00pm William Elliott

CONFESSIONS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Confessions will be held on Tuesday 24th in St Agnes Church from 10.30am – 12.30pm and 3.00pm – 5.00pm. This is a great opportunity to make preparations for Christmas complete by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

"The Board, staff and members of Lorcan OToole day centre would like to acknowledge the very generous donation of €500 from Fr Tony and all who contribute to the collection during the year, it is very much appreciated by all involved in Care of the Elderly here. A very Happy and Peaceful Christmas to you all.

Altar Flowers

We would like to thank all parishioners who most generously donated Poinsettias to add to our altar flower display. We acknowledge with gratitude the very generous donation from Brian McElroy Undertakers which sponsored our Christmas Altar flower display. These flowers add to the beauty. Warmth and welcoming spirit in our Church at Christmas time.

THANK YOU

Since I came to the Parish of St. Agnes in early September I have been very touched by the warmth of welcome and hospitality from everyone I've met. There is a great sense of volunteerism within the Parish – a fruit of the wonderful spirit of co-operation between people and priests over the years. Beginning in a new parish is always a little overwhelming: you literally have to start all over again. But my new beginning in Crumlin has been made easier by the goodwill, co-operation and community spirit which is evident to all. So many people are involved in Parish Ministry and Activity Groups which gives a sense of people owning their parish. The many Community Groups who use the Parish Centre add to the sense of belonging to a caring, welcoming Parish. Underpinning all this is the long established ***"faith filled and prayerful"*** spirit among Parishioners, a faith and prayer nourished by the Eucharist. I have witnessed an immense commitment to caring for the more senior members of our Parish and an outreach to the children and young people. These are an essential component of a caring Christ-like Community. The celebration of Mass is beautifully enhanced by our Choir and musicians and Family Mass Group. On behalf of *Fr. Tom (Salesian), Fr, John, Deacon Jimmy* (the Parish Team), *Fr. Michael (Salesian)* who helps in our Parish along with *the Pastoral Council*, sincere thanks to ***all*** who are involved in our Church and Parish in a myriad of different ways. Your dedication ensures that our Parish remains a place where we feel we belong and where we strive to make it a more Christian, welcoming and caring place for all. It is a blessing for our Parish to have the presence of three Religious Communities – the *Missionary Sisters of St. Columban, the Franciscan Missionary of St. Joseph* and the *Salesians*. Thanks to them for their contribution to the up-building of our Parish.

Wishing you all God's many blessings for Christmas. *Fr. Tony.*

CHRISTMAS MASSES **Our Christmas Masses will be offered for the intentions of all our Parishioners. We remember especially the sick and housebound, those in nursing homes and hospitals, those who are seriously ill. We remember too those who cannot be with their families because of work commitments and those who are abroad. May God's blessing of peace be upon all of us as we celebrate the birth of Christ.**

PEACE TO HUMANKIND - The mystery of Christmas, which is light and joy, challenges and unsettles us, because it is at once a mystery of hope and of sadness. It has a taste of sadness, inasmuch as love is not accepted, and life discarded. Such was the case with Joseph and Mary, who met with closed doors, and placed Jesus in a manger, "because there was no place for them in the inn" (Lk2:7). Jesus was born rejected by some and regarded by many others with indifference. Today too, that same indifference can exist, whenever Christmas becomes a holiday with ourselves at the centre rather than Jesus; when the lights of shop windows push the light of God into the shadows; when we are enthused about gifts but indifferent to our neighbours in need. This worldliness has kidnapped Christmas; we need to liberate it! - *Pope Francis, Christmas Midnight Mass*

ST AGNES PARISH, CRUMLIN CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2019

Christmas Timetable Cards are available in the porch ways of the Church if you wish to take one.
We invite you to join with us for our Celebrations.
St Agnes Parish Calendars 2020 are available at all exits. Please take one home.

Masses for Christmas

Christmas Eve:	7.00pm and 9.00pm Vigil Mass
Christmas Day	9.30am; 11.00am and 12.30pm. **No Evening Mass**
St Stephen's Day	10.00am only. Church closes after Mass.
Friday 27th December	10.00am only. Church will remain open until 3.00pm
Saturday 28th December	10.00am & **7.00pm Sunday Vigil Mass. Church will remain open all day.**
Sunday 29th December	9.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm and 7.00pm
Monday 30th December to Friday 3rd January 2020.	10.00am Mass only. Church will remain open until 3.00pm.
Saturday 4th January	10.00am & **7.00pm Sunday Vigil Mass**
Sunday 5th January	9.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm and 7.00pm

Feast of the Epiphany

Monday 6th January	9.00am, 10.00am and 7.00pm

From Monday 6th normal Mass times fully resume

The Priests of the Parish, the Parish Pastoral Council and Area Pastoral Team wish all our parishioners and friends a Blessed and Happy Christmas.

Christmas Carols

Please Join with us in Singing Our Carols this Christmas and New Year

Adeste Fideles

1. Adeste fideles, laeti triumphantes, Venite, venite in Bethlehem. Natum videte, regem angelorum, Venite adoremus, venete adoremus, venete adoremus dominum.

2. Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, Gestant puellae viscera. Deum verum, genitum non factum, Venite adoremus, venete adoremus, venete adoremus dominum.

Away in a Manger

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head, the star in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes, I love thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky, And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3. Be near me Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

Silent Night

1. 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.

2. Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

3. Silent night, holy night, Son of God, loves pure light, Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus Lord at thy birth.

Angels We Have Heard on High

1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echo still their joyous strains
Refrain: Gloria in Excelsis Deo, Gloria in Excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your rapturous strain prolong? Say what may your tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song. ***Refrain***

3. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee, Christ our Lord the new born king. ***Refrain***

4. See within a manger laid, Jesus, Lord of Heaven and earth. Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise. ***Refrain***

The First Nowell

1. The first Nowell the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel!

2. They looked up and saw a star, shining in the east, beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. ***Refrain.***

O Come All ye Faithful

1. O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him born the King of Angels.
Refrain: O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above, Glory to God in the highest. ***Ref.***

3. Now Lord, we greet you, born this happy morning, Jesus to you be glory given, word of the Father now in flesh appearing. ***Ref.***

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the new born king, peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled; Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies, with angelic hosts proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Refrain: Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born King.

2. Christ by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb; veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity, pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. ***Refrain.***

Christmas Triduum Prayer

O Divine Jesus, the Heavenly message at your birth was "Peace on Earth and goodwill to all".

Bring your peace, your joy, your happiness into our home this Christmas.

Bless all the members of our family, those at home and those who will be absent this Christmas.

Inflame our hearts with your love.

Keep us close to you and each other, now and throughout the year ahead. **Amen.**

Divine Mercy Holy Hour will resume on Wednesday 8th January.

Eucharistic Ministers

Ten Eucharistic Ministers are required for the 7pm Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve and eight ministers for all other Christmas masses. Please connect in with Karen in the sacristy to advise if you are available.

Basket Collectors

Extra basket collectors are required for Christmas masses. Please connect in with Karen in the sacristy to advise what mass you are available to collect at.

Parish Office Christmas arrangements

The parish office will close at 5.45pm on Monday 23rd December and re-open as normal on Monday 30th December. It will be closed for bank holiday Wednesday 1st January.

Best wishes to all for a Happy and Holy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year from Mary, Colette and Teresa in the parish office.

St. Agnes's Church Mass Cards, The Intention of Donor will be remembered in all Masses on Christmas Day.

Christmas Dues

Envelopes are available at all the Church exits. Christmas dues help to support he Priests of the parish, of the Diocese including sick and retired priests. They are an important source of income for the Clergy. We thank you most sincerely for your