

## WEEKEND MASSES

ARDCATH: 6:30PM (SAT VIGIL)

CLONALVY: 10:00AM (SUNDAY)

CURRAHA: 11:30AM (SUNDAY)

CURATE: FR. KEVIN HEERY CC



## PARISH OFFICE

TUES & FRI: 1.00PM - 3.00PM

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PARISHES OF ST MARY'S ARDCATH, ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CLONALVY, ST ANDREW'S CURRAHA

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022



Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<u>MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST</u>	<u>MINISTERS OF THE WORD</u>
Ardcath	6.30pm	Geraldine Wall	Eilish Behan & Ann McNally
Curraha	8.00pm	Amy Battersby	Lorna Battersby/Daniel Keohane
Clonalvy	10.00am	Margaret Andrews	Kevin Geoghegan
Curraha	11.30am	Liz Byrne	Patricia Smith/Paul O'Connor

#### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December Fourth Sunday of Advent

Vigil Ardcath	6.30pm	Deceased Members of the Moore Family Rolestown
Sunday Clonalvy	10.00am	A.V. Sean Whyte
Sunday Curraha	11.30am	A.V. Pat Devany & Remembering his wife Maura A.V. Seamus, Maureen & Paul Muldowney & DM of the Muldowney & Gough Family A.V. Nancy Roche A.V. Alfie Tolan Remembering son Liam & Sister Joan A.V. Marie O'Sullivan A.V. Margaret & Tommy Bissett

Monday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Curraha	7.30pm	Teresa Joyce
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Clonalvy	9.30am	Teresa Joyce
Thursday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Curraha	9.30am	Joost Hofmans
Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Ardcath	9.30am	Special Intention

#### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December The Nativity of The Lord

Christmas Eve Ardcath	6.30pm	Christmas Card Intentions
Christmas Eve Curraha	8.00pm	Christmas Card Intentions
Christmas Day Clonalvy	10.00am	Christmas Card Intentions
Christmas Day Curraha	11.30am	Christmas Card Intentions

#### Parish Sunday Collection Weekly

	Ardcath	Clonalvy	Curraha
Offertory	237.19	141.40	409.05
Envelopes	10.00	0.00	55.00
Offerings	60.00	25.00	95.00

*Thank you for your generous support with the running costs of our parish.*

# Christmas Schedule 2022

## Sacrament of Confession:

St Mary's, Ardcath: After 6:30pm Mass on Saturday - 17<sup>th</sup> December  
St Andrew's Curraha: After 11:30am Mass on Sunday - 18<sup>th</sup> December  
And 7:30pm Mass on Monday - 19<sup>th</sup> December

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available in nearby parishes:  
After 9:45am Mass in Ratoath Church on Mon & Tues 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> Dec.  
Between 7pm-8pm in Ashbourne Church on Wed, 21<sup>st</sup> Dec.  
Between 11am -12Noon in Duleek Church on Christmas Eve.

## Holy Mass of the Nativity of our Lord

### **24<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Eve**

St Mary's Church, Ardcath 6:00pm  
St Andrew's Church, Curraha 8:00pm

### **25<sup>th</sup> Dec - The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Christmas Day**

St John the Baptist Church, Clonalvy 10:00am  
St Andrew's Church, Curraha 11:30am

*Masses will be offered for the intentions of all those who receive a Parish Christmas Card*



From the 17<sup>th</sup> December the prayers and readings of the Mass take on a different nature. In the first half of Advent we count forwards: first week, second week, and so on, paying attention to each Advent Sunday, the day when Advent started. Now the second half of Advent has begun, and Advent Sunday is forgotten: it is Christmas Day that matters.

We begin from the 17<sup>th</sup> December, the eighth day before Christmas, then the seventh day, and so on. The prayers follow this countdown, and the final readings from Isaiah build up to their climax. A wonderful feature of this part of Advent is the "O' Antiphons" that are part of the prayers of the Divine Office - each day taking a different understanding, invocation and title of Christ's coming to prepare us for His birth. It has been popularized by the hymn "O come, o come Emmanuel". The titles are:

Dec 17<sup>th</sup> - *O Sapientia* - **O Wisdom** - Wisdom is the foundation of fear of the Lord, of holiness, or right living, because it's the glass through which we glimpse the mind of the Lord.

Dec 18<sup>th</sup> - *O Adonai* - **O Lord of Might** - "Adonai" is Hebrew for "my Lord" and points towards His omnipotence and His coming to free His people.

Dec 19<sup>th</sup> - *O Rex Jesse* - **O Root of Jesse** - Isaiah prophesied a restoration of David's throne through a new branch budding out of the old root - as adopted son of Joseph, Jesus is part of Jesse's line.

Dec 20<sup>th</sup> - *O Clavis David* - **O Key of David** The key and scepter are traditional symbols of kingly power and authority, and these symbolic keys are shared by Jesus with St Peter.

Dec 21<sup>st</sup> - *O Oriens* - **O Day Star** - Jesus said "I am the light of the world", celebrated on this day as the daylight begins to increase, as we pray that Jesus will shine upon us.

Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> - *O Rex Gentium* - **O King of the Nations** - Jesus is the answer to the longing of every human heart, hence the missionary command to go to all nations and peoples with the Gospel.

Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> - *O Emmanuel* - **God with us** - We recall that in his birth from the Virgin Mary God takes on our very flesh and human nature: God coming nearer to us than we could have ever imagined!

The titles make an acrostic, in reverse with the first letter of each title - ERO CRAS - translating from latin as "**Tomorrow I will come**"! Let us welcome the Lord Jesus with readied hearts!