

Reflection:

There is a clear note of joy in today's liturgy. Joy is a blend of laughter and tears. It consists in having a love affair with life. It is having a heart aglow with warmth for all one's companions on the road of life. It is looking for the happiness that comes in small packages, knowing that big packages are few and far between. It is making the most of the present, enjoying what is at hand right now. Joy is love bubbling over into life. And it can coexist with pain. Joy is the flag we fly when Christ, the Prince of Peace, has taken up residence in our hearts.

Sunday 13th December, 2015

St Mary's

Sat 12th 7.30 Martin, Maura Clinton & Gerard Keegan AM
Tues 15th 7.30 Dan O'Connor (Birth. Rem.)
Wed 16th 7.30 Maureen Kelly AM
Thurs 17th 10.00
7.00 Sacrament of Reconciliation
Fri 18th 10.00
Sat 19th 12.00 Patsy Conlon MM
1pm Christening
7.30 James & Brigid Cosgrove AM
(Holy Hour every Sunday 3-4pm)

St Therese's

Sun 13th 11.30 Pro Populo Mass
6pm Roscommon Solstice Choir/Kids from St. Therese's
Mon 14th 7.30 Sonny Burns AM
Tues 15th 10.00 Mark and Brigid Hanley AM
Sun 20th 11.30 Andrew McGoldrick
(Holy Hour for Mercy – Sat 12th 8.15-9.15)

St Michael's

Sun 13th 10.00 Jimmy & Josie Harkin AM
Sun 20th 10.00 John Francis Kilkenny & Dec.
Christmas Day 10.00 Kathleen McTernan AM
Sun 27th 10.00
(Holy Hour every Tuesday 6-7pm)



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December	Liturgy	Collectors	Alter Society
St. Mary's	Mary McHugh	Harry Banks & Breege Fowley	Mary Gallagher & Margaret Kelly
St. Therese's	Eva Delahunt & Lisa McGowan	Michael O'Connor & Larry Kilcolm	
St. Michael's	Eva Ryan	Martin Dolan & Martin Clancy	Eileen & Nuala Gallagher

Sunday 13th December 2015

1. **"Strictly Come Dancing"** last Sunday night was a tremendous success. Fr. Vincent would like to express his sincere thanks to the 12 couples who participated on the night, they were wonderful! Thanks to our hard working committee for all their work and commitment. Sincere thanks to Kevin Blessing as MC of the show. Many thanks to Gary Reilly for his ideas and expertise. Fr. Vincent and the committee are very grateful to all of the sponsors of the show, and once again thanks to our overseas friends and parishioners as well as many from at home who gave so generously. A word of thanks to you, the people of the parish and surrounding areas for supporting the night in difficult weather conditions. Over 900 people attended the show. We have almost €42,000 gathered before expenses. Thanks to judges, make-up artists and hair stylists. Sincere thanks to John Flynn for all his help, and all our counters and overseers of the night.
2. **Next big fundraising/fun night** will take place in the Club House on Sunday 20th Dec with special guest on the night, John Hogan, at 9.30pm. There will be an exciting auction and raffle as well. Come along and enjoy a wonderful night for just €5 entrance.
3. **3rd Sunday of Advent – Gaudate – Joy** – A lot of people confuse joy with pleasure, but there is a world of difference between them, and unless you know the difference, you have not yet begun to live. People who have lasted real joy are suspicious of pleasure, because pleasure can sometimes be the death of joy. Joy consists in having a love affair with life. It's having a heart aglow with warmth for all your companies on the road of life. It's a blend of laughter and tears. It is knowing how to share with other people. It is looking for the happiness that comes in small packages, knowing that the big packages are few and far between. It is making the most of the present, enjoying what is hard right now. Joy is love bubbling over into life. And, surprisingly, it can coexist with pain. Today on Gaudate Sunday, joy is the flag you fly with Christ, the Prince of Peace, is in residence within your heart.
4. **6.5k Fun run/walk** - There will be a 6.5 km fun run/walk on St Stephens day on aid of Ballintogher playground. Registration will be from 11am @ Ballintogher hall with start at 12:00. Tickets 10 euro and refreshments served after. Come and join the fun.
5. **St. Joseph's N.S. Killenummery** will perform a lovely Christmas concert in Ballinagar Hall on Friday next 18th Dec at 12 noon. Do come along and support this lovely hour of Christmas joy and fun.
6. **Congratulations** to Kathleen Torsney who is to be awarded the County Leitrim Carer of the Year. Our best wishes from our parish to you for achieving this great honour.
1. **Roscommon Solstice Choir** – will sing the Old Age Christmas Carols in St. Therese's Church on Sunday 13th Dec @ 6pm. Ticket's on sale for €10 each. There will be a wonderful raffle in the Hal after the concert. For the last 3 years we have had this wonderful choir, and we are very privileged to have them with us this year. They are extremely busy, and do come along and tune into Christmas feeling with this beautiful and professional choir.
2. **25 Card Game** – All roads lead to our huge Christmas night in Ballinagar Hall on Wed Dec. 16th @ 9pm. Amazing prizes to be won, so come along for good fun, good prizes and good winning..
3. **Advent 2015 (Cycle C)** – Fr. Vincent would like to do a Holy Hour each week during Advent in each of our church's. Pope Francis has declared that beginning in December that the year ahead will be a year of mercy. The Advent programme is as follows –
 - Sat 12th Dec. Holy Hour – St. Therese's 8.15-9.15pm
 - Sat 19th Dec Holy Hour – St. Michael's 8.15-9.15pm
 - Sun 13th Dec 6pm – Roscommon Solstice Choir – St. Therese's Church.
 - Thurs 17th Dec. – Sacrament of Reconcilataion – St. Mary's @ 7pm.
 - Thurs 24th Dec. Christmas Eve Mass @ 8.30pm.
 - Fri 25th Dec – Christmas Day Mass – St. Michael's 10am; St. Therese's 11.30am
7. **Ushers for December in St. Mary's/St. Michael's** - Gerard Fowley, Daniel Kelly, Mary Banks & Mary McHugh.