

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK**

<b>Thursday 24th December</b>	<b>4.00pm Curraghboy</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
	<b>6.00pm Kiltoom</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
	<b>8.00pm Curraghboy</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
	<b>10.00pm Kiltoom</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Friday 25th December</b>	<b>10.00am Curraghboy</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
	<b>11.30am Kiltoom</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 27th December</b>	Private Mass	Kitty & Neill Dillon Patrick Burke (Pollalahar) Patrick & Margaret Cunningham



**No masses Monday 28th December—Wednesday 30th December**

<b>Thursday 31st December</b>	Private Mass	Joe Scally
<b>Friday 1st January</b>	Private Mass	Paddy Grehan (Pollalahar)
<b>Sunday 3rd January</b>	Private Mass	Lorna Martin Edward McDonnell (Curry) Irene McDonnell Andrew & Elizabeth Watson Colette Doyle
<b>Tuesday 5th January</b>	Private Mass	John & Margaret Kenny & deceased Family
<b>Wednesday 6th January</b>	Private Mass	People of the Parish Mass of Thanksgiving
<b>Thursday 7th January</b>	Private Mass	Special Intention
<b>Friday 8th January</b>	Private Mass	Michael Fayne
<b>Sunday 10th January</b>	Private Mass	Staff of Primary Care Centre, Monksland Brendan Lyster Mary Shine

**PRIVATE MASSES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO VIEW ON THE PARISH WEBSITE & PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE**

**RECENT BAPTISMS**

We Welcome into the Christian Community  
*Maya Faye Behan*                      *Anna Ellen Henry*  
Who were Baptised in our Parish recently

We congratulate their parents and we wish them all God's blessing

**RECENT WEDDING**

Congratulations and best wishes to  
*Laura Noone & Brian O'Connor*  
who were married recently.

We wish them a long and happy life together.

**RECENT DEATHS**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**Marie Wilmott**, British Colombia, Canada. *Sister of Martin Nolan, Kiltoom*  
**Baby Robyn Malone Hill**, Curraghboy

*May God grant them eternal rest & comfort, and console their bereaved family & friends.*



# **PARISH OF KILTOOM & CAM**

Church of the Risen Christ,  
Ballybay  
Kiltoom  
Athlone  
Co. Roscommon  
N37 NY36

St. Brigid's Church  
Curraghboy  
Athlone  
Co. Roscommon  
N37 KV62

**CHRISTMAS  
&  
NEW YEAR**

**25th DECEMBER  
2020**

## **Parish Newsletter**

**Contact Details**

**Fr Michael Mc Manus /Parish Office**

Parochial House, Ballybay, Kiltoom,  
Athlone, Co. Roscommon, N37 KD53

**Mobile** 087 1366320

**Office & House** 090 6489105

**E-mail** kiltoompp@gmail.com

**(Secretary)** kiltoomoffice@gmail.com

**OFFICE HOURS: Mon—Fri, 9.30am—1.30pm**

**Our Parish on-line**

www.kiltoomparish.com  
www.facebook.com/KiltoomParish  
Twitter: @KiltoomChurch

**Parish Safeguarding Liaison Officers**

**Kiltoom:** Orlagh Tiernan (086) 8257831  
**Cam:** Deacon Willie Gacquin (086) 1693902



*A Christmas Blessing*

O God, whose Son was born  
in Bethlehem, on that  
wonderous night, lead us to  
that same place, where Mary  
laid her tiny child.  
As we look on in wonder and  
praise, make us welcome Him  
and all new life, and care for  
His handiwork; the earth,  
the sky and the sea.  
O God, bless us again in Your  
great love. We pray for this  
through Christ our Lord,  
Amen.

**PARISH OFFICE:** The Parish Office will be closed from Wednesday 23rd December, reopening on Monday January 4th 2021. Wishing you all a lovely Christmas and New Year.

**AREA DISTRIBUTOR NEEDED:** We are looking for a volunteer / volunteers to deliver our Parish envelopes and boxes to our Lower Berries area going forward. If you would like to volunteer please contact the Parish Office on 090 6489105. Envelopes get delivered four times throughout the year (Christmas, Easter, Pentecost & November) and the annual boxes are delivered once a year. Thank you.

**CRIB PRAYER CARDS:** A limited number of Christmas crib prayer cards are available at each crib. Please take one.

**CAM CEMETERY COMMITTEE:** A draft plan of the plots in the Cam cemetery is on display there until March 1st 2021. A permanent plan will be erected later. If you are aware of any errors or omissions, please contact any member of the cemetery committee.

**AREA DISTRIBUTORS:** Thank you once again for taking time to deliver the Christmas envelopes throughout our Parish. I am extremely grateful for your help throughout the year.

**SENSORY GARDEN & CARPARK:** Kiltoom Community Development CLG are sincerely grateful to all who supported our recent draw. The monies raised amounted to c. €20,000 – which exceeded our expectation and was very generous. However there still remains a final outstanding target of c. €22,000 to be collected. As the final stages of fundraising can prove the most difficult - we urge that you PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE continue to support this worthy cause. Contributions may continue to be made to any of the Committee members Michael O'Brien, Pat Leonard, Paddy Kenny, Ciaran Toohey, Tom Shine & John Tiernan. The main construction contract is proceeding apace and we anticipate completion in early 2021.

**COVID-19 SUPPORT LINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE DURING CHRISTMAS:** ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm by calling **0818 222 024**, and will remain open over the Christmas period.

**ST. BRIGID'S LOTTO:** Lotto Jackpot this weekend €11,200. Last weeks results: Numbers Drawn— 06 / 09 / 27 / 28 There was no jackpot winner, 3 match three winners €70. Draw takes place Sunday night 27/12/20 in St. Brigid's Clubhouse at 9pm.

**CATHOLIC BISHOPS: "WELCOMING VACCINES FOR THE COMMON GOOD"**  
The Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference welcomes the encouraging news that a number of vaccines for COVID-19 are at an advanced stage of preparation and are likely to be available for use in the near future. The Catholic Church recognises that safe and effective vaccination is an essential aspect of the prevention of disease. We are encouraging Catholics to support a programme of vaccination, not only for their own good, but for the protection of life and the health of those who are vulnerable and for the common good of humanity. Read the message in full at [www.elphindiocese.ie](http://www.elphindiocese.ie)

**GOD WITH US - A PRAYER GUIDE FOR THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS :** This year, the restrictions in place because of the Coronavirus mean that we *may* not be in a position to gather *as usual* for our religious services throughout the Christmas Season. This situation challenges us to find new ways of reflecting on our faith and praying in our homes. It is hoped that this guide – from Christmas Eve to the Feast of the Epiphany - will assist you in doing just that. The guide is also designed to help deepen your participation in online broadcasts and to assist you in getting the most out of them spiritually. Download the booklet from [www.elphindiocese.ie](http://www.elphindiocese.ie)

**GRIEVING THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE THIS CHRISTMAS?** Useful links and points of contact available @ [www.elphindiocese.ie/bereavement](http://www.elphindiocese.ie/bereavement)

**ACCORD – RELATIONSHIP COUNSELLING:** open for relationship counselling in these difficult times. Professional Counsellors are available to help explore any difficulties you may have in your relationship in a safe and friendly atmospheres. Please contact Ann at 087-6765425

**Due to the announcement on Tuesday last, all masses will be moving online once Christmas Day masses are completed.**

**Weekend masses will be shared as only one mass will be said in private. Masses will be available to view on the Parish website and facebook pages.**

**Baptisms have been postponed.**

**From midnight Christmas eve, maximum 10 people can attend a funeral mass.**

**From 3rd January, maximum 6 guests can attend a wedding.**

**Both Churches will remain open for private prayer.**

**These restrictions will be in place until the next Government review.**

### **A message from Fr. Michael**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Deacon William Gacquin, Deacon Martin Reidy, The Parish Pastoral Councils, The Area Distributors, Stewards, Church Cleaners, Eucharistic Ministers, Caretaker and those who do a wonderful job maintaining and cleaning the church, Lorraine O'Riordan (Parish Secretary) and those who help in the Sacristy and those who help open and close the Churches.

I would also like to thank anyone who has helped out in anyway and supported the Parish throughout the year.

This year has been a particularly hard year on everyone and it has been a very different year compared to others and please God, we will return to a somewhat normal time at some point next year with the positive news of the vaccine approval.

I ask everyone to follow the guidelines and restrictions that have been set out by our Government. It is natural to want to visit family and friends over the Christmas period, but we must be conscious that the virus will welcome an opportunity like gatherings to spread its dreadful intent.

We must exercise personal responsibility and caution.

I do hope everyone gets to celebrate the birth of our Lord safely and I would like to wish you all a lovely peaceful Christmas & New Year

God Bless, stay safe and try to check in on others (where possible)

*Fr. Michael*

