***Offertory Donations:***

Sunday 5th: €1,075.



Thanks for all your contributions.

**Bohola/Shraheens Newsletter**

 **Stephen O’Mahony PP – 094-9384115/086-8226405 –** **boholaparish@gmail.com** **(email for newsletter)**

 <https://www.mayo.ie/news/category/connect/parish-news/bohola-parish-news/>

**Third Sunday of Advent – 12th December 2021**

###### Masses for the Week

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| **Saturday, December 11th.** | **7.00pm Vigil** | **Private Intention.** |
| **Sunday, December 12th.** | **9.30am*\******11.30am** | **Michael & Catherine Brennan, their son-in-law, Jimmy Mullaney & grandson, Kieran.****For all the People.** |
| **Monday, December 13th.** | **10.00am** | **Private Intention.** |
| **Tuesday, December 14th.** | **10.00am** | **Private Intention.** |
| **Wednesday, December 15th.** | **10.30 – 11.30am****6.00 – 8.00pm** | **No Mass.** **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (private prayer).****Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (private prayer).** |
| **Thursday, December 16th.** |  | **No Mass.** |
| **Friday, December 17th.** | **8.00pm** | **Private Intention.** |
| **Saturday, December 18th.** | **7.00pm Vigil *\**** | **Martin & Annie Groarke, Ballyglass and all family & relations, living and deceased.** |
| **Sunday, December 19th.** | **9.30am*\******11.30am*\**** | **For all the People****Elizabeth (Libby) Moriarty (Month’s Mind with burial of ashes).** |
| ***The 9.30am Sunday Mass will be live-streamed on the Bohola Post Facebook Page every Sunday.******Any other Masses are put online when requested. (Marked with \* above)******All Masses will be broadcast on the 105.5 FM Radio channel.*** |

***Baptism:*** On Saturday last, December 4th, we were delighted to welcome *Fiadh Bridget Barry*, Kiltimagh, into God’s family. Congratulations to her parents, Aisling and Kevin, her godparents and family and we wish them every blessing for the future.

***Wedding Bells!*** Congratulations to *Sinéad Byrne*, Toughnane, and *Killian Langan*, Belmullet, who were married in Bohola on Thursday last, December 9th. We wish them every blessing and many happy years of married life.

***Bambinelli Sunday, December 12th:*** For the past several decades, each year on Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, children (and adults) bring their Baby Jesus figures from the crib at their homes to St. Peter’s Square where the Pope will bless both the people and the figurines during the Angelus. This year we celebrate “Bambinelli Sunday” at all Masses this weekend. A suggestion is, following the blessing, take your “bambinelli” home and place it in a gift box, wrap it, and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift your family opens on Christmas, when together you place your Baby Jesus figure in the crib, and have a home blessing of the Nativity for your whole family. This initiative is promoted by the Catholic Grandparents Association.

***Christmas Confessions:*** “The Light is on for You” – There will be a visiting priest in Bohola church next Sunday, December 19th from 5pm to 6pm to hear confessions. Guidelines for social distancing and wearing of face masks will be adhered to while maintaining privacy. You are encouraged to avail of this opportunity to prepare for Christmas in the best possible way.

***New Pilgrim Path Website of the Week, December 12th:*** *An Advent Meditation from James Finley …*… James Finley, Ph.D. lived as a monk at the cloistered Trappist monastery of the Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky, where the world-renowned monk and author, Thomas Merton, was his spiritual director. Finley is a master of the Christian contemplative way, a renowned retreat leader, and an authority on the Christian mystics – old and new. New Pilgrim Path brings you his short but beautiful meditation on Advent and Christmas. Access it at: [***www.newpilgrimpath.ie***](http://www.newpilgrimpath.ie). New Pilgrim Path also has an inspiring daily musical resource at *Daily Sacred Music for Advent*.

***Lectio Divina Reflections on the Advent and Christmas Gospels:*** The Priory Institute is delighted to offer a Free of Charge online retreat which is a repeat of the popular Advent Retreat we ran in 2018. Visit our website [*prioryinstitute.com*](https://prioryinstitute-dot-yamm-track.appspot.com/Redirect?ukey=15PldniMs0iKL6bfXTDyUf_viZOEZyw7xtDVydKVOVd8-0&key=YAMMID-1637597751307&link=http://prioryinstitute.com/) or click on this link [*https://bit.ly/3DWrTkx*](https://bit.ly/3DWrTkx) to register/find out more.

***The 2021 Online Advent Calendar*** continues to be available on the website of the Irish Bishops, [*www.catholicbishops.ie*](http://www.catholicbishops.ie/). Behind each door there is content aimed at assisting people to pray and to reflect on how best we can keep Christ at the centre of our Christmas preparations during this special liturgical season.

***Clarity on Covid Restrictions Announced on Friday, 3rd December:*** The following is the official line: *"For clarity following updated Covid guidance, Religious Services in Places of Worship are unchanged regarding capacity, with all other protective measures in place to ensure the safety of the congregation.*

*Likewise, there are no changes to attendance at funeral services. However, any post-funeral service gatherings must comply with hospitality rules including no multiple table bookings.*

*With regard to wakes in private homes, general advice on household mixing is 3 other households (4 in total)."*

***A Pastoral Council Meeting*** will take place in the church on Thursday evening next, December 16th at 8.30pm. All members are asked to attend.

***Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:*** There is no Mass on Wednesday morning but Adoration will go ahead from 10.30 to 11.30am and again as usual on Wednesday evening from 6.00 to 8.00pm. You are encouraged to take a little time out and avail of this opportunity for quiet prayer in preparation for the Christmas season.

***Maynooth College Annual Carol Service*** takes place next Wednesday, 15th December when three Maynooth College and University choirs will gather in the historic College Chapel of Saint Patrick’s College, Maynooth, for the annual Christmas carol service. This renowned and uplifting choral celebration of the Christmas season has been a highlight of the Advent calendar in Ireland since 1970. It begins at 7.30pm and will be broadcast by Kairos on *www.maynoothcollege.ie* as well as on the worldwide platform of *www.shalomtv.tv*. Last year, due to coronavirus restrictions, the carol service did not have a live audience in the College Chapel, but was watched by 17,000 people online.

***St Vincent de Paul Annual Collection:*** Because of the uncertainty around Covid, the St Vincent de Paul Annual Collection is by envelope donation only. Envelopes are available in the church and those who wish to contribute can put their contribution in an envelope and return it in the same way as offertory envelopes. Please support this worthy cause.

***Recent Collections:*** The Mission Sunday collection on October 24th realised a total of €800 while the special Trócaire collection for famine in East Africa brought in €705. Many thanks for your ongoing generous support of all collections.

***The Village Inn Christmas Market*** takes place on this Sunday, 12th December from 2.00 to 6.00pm. Indoor and outdoor market with unique stalls and local makers. Free entry and live music at 8.00pm. Please support local initiatives.

***Bohola Community Park:*** Come and join Tom O'Brien on the ***Bohola Parish Challenge*** run of 30km through the townlands of Bohola on Friday, 31st December starting at 12 noon at Shraheens Centre. Contact Tom O'Brien on *087-7866688*. A *Family Walk* of 8km starts from Bohola village at 12.30pm on the same day. Tea and Coffee in the Village Inn afterwards. Donate by the following link: [*https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Bohola%20Biodiversity%20Park/GeneralPayment*](https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Bohola%20Biodiversity%20Park/GeneralPayment)*.* Donations are also accepted on the day. Admission is free*.*

***Knock Christmas Market @ the Plaza*** takes place on Saturday, 18th & Sunday, 19th December from 11am to 4pm at Pope Francis Plaza, Knock. For bookings contact Leonie on *086-8486924* or Email: *leoniekilroy@gmail.com*. Follow our Facebook page @ Knock Market & Events. Market @ the Plaza takes place on the last Sunday of each month.

***The Castlebar Rotary Club Christmas Tree of Remembrance*** will run online again this year throughout the month of December in partnership with Western Care Association. You can access the Tree of Remembrance here [*https://visufund.com/2021-mayo-tree-of-remembrance*](https://visufund.com/2021-mayo-tree-of-remembrance).

***Lough Derg Online Shop*** offers unique Christmas Cards, featuring scenes of the Island from across the centuries and bespoke Gifts including a limited edition Lough Derg Christmas Candle. Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards are also available – Fr La, Prior, will offer a triduum of Masses beginning on Christmas Eve for all those who are enrolled. Visit [***www.loughderg.live/shop***](http://www.loughderg.live/shop). Telephone *071-9861518*. *Delivery nationwide and Click & Collect Service available.*

***Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages April - October 2022:*** 7 Nights Apartment B&B and return Airport transfer from Dubrovnik or Split from €315 per person sharing. Guaranteed airport transfer price for any flight. Contact us for details and book the dates that suit you. Tel. *01-4434510* or email *reservations@med-irishcentre.com*.

***National Learning Network:*** New International Computer Driving Licence training in Castlebar, Achill and Belmullet and also a free Computer Training Course in Castlebar. Contact Sharon on *087-2909064*. Eligibility criteria applies.

***Free online Living Well Programmes 2022:*** *Living Well* is a free online group programme delivered over six workshops (2.5 hrs x 6) on the Zoom platform. *Next programmes commence in 2022 on the following dates: Thursday, 20th January, Monday, 7th February, Tuesday, 1st March and Wednesday, 9th* March. You must register in advance as places are limited to 10/12 participants. Please contact Liam Gildea on *087-3490393* or by email at *liam.gildea@mayocil.ie**.* Please see the following link for more information about the course: [*www.hse.ie/livingwell*](http://www.hse.ie/livingwell).

***North West STOP*** offers a *free counselling* service with no waiting lists. Please phone or text *086-7772009* to arrange an appointment.

***COVID-19 Support Line for Older People:***Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am to 8pm. The contact number is ***0818-222024***.

***Being on the Nice list gets you more presents, but being Naughty is its own reward!***