**Burrishoole Parish**

***January 29th/30th 2022***

***Fr Tod Nolan P.P. 098 42665***

***Parish Office 098 41123***

***Office hours Tue - Thu 11am-3pm,***

***To book Masses, Baptisms & Marriages, get certs & Mass cards please contact office by phone or Email: burrishooleparish@gmail.com***

***Facebook/YouTube: Burrishoole Parish***

**A New Challenge**

It all happened very quickly in the end. One minute our lives were constrained by a multitude of Covid restrictions, the next minute the restrictions were gone. After two years of limiting our freedoms, two years of learning new ways to interact with each other and two years of social distancing and hand sanitising it seemed that overnight all has changed.

It will be hard getting back to ‘normal’. New habits die hard. It will take a while before we become comfortable again with simple things like handshaking or coughing in public. Our new-found inclination to back away from each other in order to allow for social distancing will take time to unlearn. Feeling secure and at ease in a crowded setting will not happen overnight. Inevitably, some will find the transition more challenging than others and so it is good to remind ourselves to allow each other whatever time it takes.

The same will be true for us as we take our first tentative steps back to church. Despite the lifting of restrictions many people are still weary of large gatherings and will be cautious about their return. For those who may be a bit hesitant and would prefer to maintain social distancing we will keep a section of each of our churches with every second pew cordoned off. We will, for the foreseeable future, also continue to broadcast all Masses via the internet.

Despite our hankering after a return to ‘normality’ there is no doubt but that, post-Covid, our world will be a different place than it was before the pandemic entered our lives. Covid has changed much more than out daily habits. It has changed us and how we see the world. Covid has underlined for us our interconnectedness - that in sharing this planet with each other we have a responsibility for each other. As much as it has taught us that no one is safe from the virus until everyone is safe from it, I hope that it has forced us to appreciate that as long as there is hunger and poverty and oppression of any sort in our community and in our world that our world, and that each of us, is in a sense, diminished.

Post covid our Church will be different. For years declining numbers attending Mass have been a reality. Covid has undoubtedly accelerated that decline. Routines have been broken; habits have been lost. Many will not return to regular Mass attendance – time, once filled by weekend Mass has been filled by other interests. Life moves on.

But our gathering as a faith community must be more than just another thing we fit into our week. It is not some place we have to go, or something we have to do, it is the place we want to go and the thing we want to do. For people of faith it is at the very centre of our week and of our lives.

The aftermath of Covid poses questions for us as a parish. Why might people return? How are we a welcoming and an inclusive community? Is our celebration of Mass a life-giving, joy filled experience which we want to share with each other? Is it a place and time of meaningful encounter with God?

The lifting of covid restrictions is an opportunity for us to start again, to build a more vibrant community. Let’s work to build a better parish together, let’s be a more inclusive parish, let’s be a parish driven by the Gospel values of justice and peace. We can be a parish with Jesus at its centre.

God Bless, Fr Tod

**\*Parish Church Closure\***

A major fault has been found in the underground cable bringing electrical power to the Parish Church. A temporary solution has been put in place which should keep us going for the time being. However a new cable will have to be installed. It is hoped that the work will start on Monday, meaning that the main church will be closed for a few days

**First Friday**

Next Friday is the First Friday. Visits to the sick and housebound will take place in the Mulranny, Tiernaur and Shramore church areas on Thursday with visits in the Newport area taking place on Friday. If you have a family member who might appreciate a visit, please contact Fr Tod or the Parish Office.

**Rising numbers and Self Isolation**

Over recent weeks the numbers testing positive for Coronavirus have risen dramatically. As numbers contracting the disease increase so too does the number of close contacts who need to self-isolate also. In the event that Fr Tod tests positive all weekday and Sunday Masses with a congregation will cease. Mass will continue via Facebook.

**First Communion/Confirmation**

Subject to the now all-too-familiar Covid caveats it is provisionally proposed to hold First Communion in Mulranny on the weekend of April 2nd/3rd and in Newport on the weekend of May 14th/15th. The provisional date for our Parish Confirmation on Saturday March 12th.

**Mulranny ICA Meeting**

Mulranny ICA will resume their monthly meetings on Tuesday, 8th February at 8pm in the Amenity Centre, Mulranny.  Members are requested to bring along their old ICA photos to create a display. The group will be doing some ‘wool’ unravelling and winding. All welcome.

**Burrishoole LGFA AGM**

The Burrishoole Ladies AGM will take place next Thursday, February 3 at 7pm in the clubhouse. Attendees are requested to wear a mask. Any motions and nominations for Club Officers to be forwarded no later than this Monday, January 31 to [burrishoole.mayo@lgfa.ie](mailto:burrishoole.mayo@lgfa.ie) All welcome.

**Glenhest 25**

The 25 card games recommence this Sunday, January 30th in Glenhest Community Centre and will continue to take place regularly at 6pm on a Sunday evening for the winter months. All welcome.

**Burrishoole GAA - Volunteers Wanted!**

Going into a new year Burrishoole GAA are looking for new members & volunteers! There are roles for all… Please contact the Club if you would like to get involved…It is a super club and they would Love to have you! Please contact

[burrishoolepro@gmail.com](mailto:burrishoolepro@gmail.com)  for more details

**Anger Management**

Is Anger Hurting You Or Your Family? Knock Counselling Service is running a 5-evening Online Anger Management programme, starting on Tue 1st Feb , 7pm - 9pm. To register, contact Peter Devers at 087 798 9253 or log onto [www.knockshrine.ie/counselling](http://www.knockshrine.ie/counselling)

**Mayo Cancer Support**

Mayo Cancer Support offers a range of emotional support to people with cancer and their families. Call 094 9038407 for information.

**Operation Transformation Newport 2022**

Operation Transformation weekly walks take place every Wednesday at 7pm and every Saturday morning at 11am from the Ned Lyons statue on Meddlicott Street for eight weeks. See *Newport Operation Transformation* Facebook page for updates and bring along your friends and family for a fun community-friendly event. All welcome. Don’t forget to wear your high viz.

**Remembering our Dead**

We pray for the souls of Bridgie Ann Moore (nee Mc Intyre) Castlebar and Derrycoultrim, and Peggy Stoker, England, sister of Nancy Noone, Newport. May they rest in peace

**Mass Schedule**

**10am Weekday Mass Intentions:**

*Mon-Tiernaur, Tues/Thurs-Newport,Fri-Mulranny*

Michael and Jane O Malley, Ardagh

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**Weekend Masses**

**Saturday January 29th Tiernaur at 7pm:**

Christopher Cusack and his Uncle Patrick, England and Rosgalive. .

**Sunday January 30th Newport at 10am:**

John Joe and Mary O Malley, Carramore and deceased members of the O Malley family. Ellen Mc Dermott, Cuilmore

**Sunday January 30th Mulranny at 11.30am:**

Betty Gorman (1st Ann), Murrivagh and her husband Pat whose anniversary occurs at this time

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**Friday February 4th Shramore 7pm**

The People of the Parish.

**Saturday February 5th Tiernaur at 7pm**

Wyn and John Loftus, Bunahowna

**Sunday February 6th Newport at 10am:**

Mary Kilkerr, Shramore (Months Mind)

**Sunday February 6th Mulranny at 11.30am:**

Mary and Patrick King, Mulranny. Maria Grealis and her husband Anthony, Duffbeg. Dan Coughlan, Bunahowna