***Offertory Donations:***

December 13th: €770.



Thanks for all your contributions.

**Bohola/Shraheens Newsletter**

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

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

**Fourth Sunday of Advent – 20th December 2020**

###### Masses for the Week

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Saturday, December 19th.** | **8.00pm** | **Martin & Annie Groarke, Ballyglass and all family & relations, living and deceased.** |
| **Sunday, December 20th.** | **9.30am**  **11.30am** | **Anna O'Doherty (née Gallagher), Strabane & formerly Toughnane. (*Live-streamed on Bohola Post Facebook Page).***  **For all the People.** |
| ***No public Mass on Monday or Tuesday.*** | | |
| **Wednesday, December 23rd.** | **10.00am**  **6.00 – 8.00pm** | **Private Intention.**  **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (private prayer).** |
| **Thursday, December 24th.** | **6.00pm**  **8.00pm** | **The Nativity of Our Lord.**  **The Nativity of Our Lord. *(Live-streamed)*** |
| **Friday, December 25th.** | **9.30am**  **11.30am** | **Christmas Day Mass. *(Live-streamed)***  **Christmas Day Mass.** |
| **Saturday, December 26th.** | **12.00 noon**  **7.00pm** | **Bill & Mary Kate Burke, Clooneen, & deceased family.**  **Sonny McNicholas, Carrowntleva,**  **& deceased of McNicholas & Mullaney families.** |
| **Sunday, December 27th.** | **9.30am**  **11.30am** | **Regina Naughton, Oxford. (*Live-streamed)***  **For all the People.** |
| ***The 9.30am Sunday Mass will be Live-streamed on the Bohola Post Facebook Page every Sunday.*** | | |

***Christmas Mass***

*The four Masses scheduled for Christmas Eve/Day are fully subscribed and those allocated tickets can collect them from the stewards at this weekend’s Masses. If you haven’t been contacted, it means you have been allocated your chosen Mass. In the circumstances, it was not possible to please everyone but thanks to all for your understanding and especially to those who didn’t put in their names or withdrew their names to make space for others. We are deeply indebted to Alan Regan and the Pastoral Council who put so much work into this very challenging task.*

*For those who may wish to attend outside the church, the speakers outside the back door will be on and you will also be able to pick up the sound on your car radio on* ***105.5 FM****. However, we strongly urge that you remain isolated in your cars for safety reasons. One of the surest ways of transmitting Covid-19 is a large gathering of people. Communion will be distributed to those outside, most likely after Mass when those inside have dispersed. Further directions will be given at the relevant time.*

*You also have the option of joining us online on the Bohola Post Facebook Page for the 8.00pm Christmas Eve Mass and the 9.30am Christmas Day Mass.*

***Whether you are with us inside or outside the church or joining us online, we wish all parishioners both at home and abroad, a very happy Christmas. May everybody be blessed with***

***a safe, peaceful and enjoyable Christmas season.***

***Recent Death:*** Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of *John Patrick (J.P.) Murtagh*, Maynooth and formerly of Bohola, who passed away on Sunday last, December 13th and whose funeral took place in Maynooth on Wednesday last. He was the nephew of Tom Mullaghy, Barleyhill. May he rest in peace.

***Baptism:*** On Saturday last, December 12th, we were delighted to welcome *Ciara Mae Conway,* Lismirrane, into God’s family. Congratulations to her parents, Brenda and Brian, her godparents and family and we wish them every blessing for the future.

***Advent Reflections:*** The series of Sunday Advent Reflections continues this Sunday evening at 6.30pm with our own Bishop Paul Dempsey. It is accessible through the following link on our Diocesan Website [*https://achonrydiocese.org/advent-prayer/*](https://achonrydiocese.org/advent-prayer/).

***Church Radio 105.5 FM:*** It’s great to report that we have an extra means of joining in with church services in these Covid restricted times. It is now possible to hear what is happening in our church by tuning in your radio to ***105.5 FM***. So if on any occasion the church is full, you will be able to sit in your car and hear what is going on inside. It should also be possible to pick up the signal in houses near the church but as of now we are not sure of how far it reaches. The transmitter will be left on over the coming days so check it out and you might pick up the music playing in church. We are especially grateful to Colm Carney who put forward the idea and provided the ‘magic box’ that makes all this possible. Thanks Colm!

***Christmas Confessions:*** “The Light is on for You” – There will be a visiting priest in Bohola church this Sunday, December 20th from 5pm to 6pm to hear confessions. Guidelines for social distancing and wearing of face masks will be adhered to, while maintaining privacy (you won’t be heard on radio!!). You are encouraged to avail of this opportunity to prepare for Christmas in the best possible way.

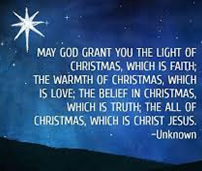
*****New Pilgrim Path Website of the Week, December 20th:*** The Gospel reading this Sunday is Luke’s account of the Annunciation. The excellent Jesuit ‘Arts & Faith’ online series celebrates how faith is revealed and deepened through great masterpieces. Each week, there is a new masterpiece, accompanied by a video narrative and an Ignatian reflection. For the fourth week in Advent, the painting chosen is The Annunciation by eminent American painter and sculptor, John Collier. The artist described how “when Mary is portrayed in first century clothing, it holds her at a distance - an emotional distance from her. It gives us an excuse to think of her as not like us.” His striking contemporary depiction of the Annunciation brings the story of Mary’s encounter with the angel Gabriel into our present reality. Access this and other rich online spiritual resources at: [***www.newpilgrimpath.ie***](http://www.newpilgrimpath.ie)**.**

***Parish Volunteers:*** Renewed thanks to all our volunteers who are back in action since the church re-opened for public worship on December 1st. Without their help and generosity in giving of their time, the church could not open. We welcome some new recruits and there is an ongoing open invitation for new volunteers. The more we can spread out the workload, the less demanding it will be on everyone.

***2021 Parish Calendar*** is due to be delivered shortly and will be available in the church so please take one home and take additional copies for anyone you think might like one. For those who are home for Christmas you are invited to take back a little reminder of Bohola to your own corner of the world. You might send on a copy to those who can’t be home at this time even though it’s too late to include with your Christmas card!

***Bohola Parish Challenge, 31st December:*** On the last day of the year, Tom O’Brien will face the challenge of a 30km run taking in the thirty townlands of Bohola parish in order to raise funds for Bohola Community Park. See it live on the *Bohola Community Park Facebook* page at 12 noon on the 31st. Donations can be made in *Clarke’s Shop*, *GoFundMe Page –‘Bohola Parish Challenge’* or on the day as Tom passes by. Please support and good luck Tom!

***Moy Davitts 50/50:*** Congratulations to Anthony Ruane, Foxford, on winning €292in the Moy Davitts 50/50 draw. A huge ‘thank you’ to everyone who supported last week's draw, it is greatly appreciated. Tickets are available in the usual retail outlets and by clicking [*https://smartlotto.ie/Bohola-moy-davitts*](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fsmartlotto.ie%2FBohola-moy-davitts%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2-SMSQVJnLPM1gbMk8VYcVq5QSNWsE5b18UD-SHwPhuifGrX08SNDlJc8&h=AT0MiLZlj4q4DBPOl03vVXSokuVERXZawyK8tGPOdkMD6iUtbbGAIDrP1wUMXoHHwBpf8OCfEYLll7lUaWyYzni7elqLyyDX1hxrkiRT4iLddt75pWrUPCYemDN43SvOspaI&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT1bnP92vRmesJAH-zh16Oyc956taFyWxM0_3VLfj4QSf9SmpZw5cpQ61Vc5tvJdChYPj7SPty0LDMmT-1CuL0y1Dj6Ia-SpXR1Lif8cNpBMb3zmcNd83NlOLtCy4LEd6sxibGw9D72uG7DGqfgmtrvFR5ZcIPXTwnc_aJIQcIYHHlU6GWM4y_sHX7uH). Best of luck everyone and thanks again!

***Coolegrane Christmas Lights:*** Please visit and support the 2020 Coolegrane Christmas lights at Coolegrane, Foxford. This spectacular display runs from December 8th to January 6th and is a Covid-19 safe experience. This year's proceeds are for the *O'Dwyer Cheshire Home & Mayo Cheshire Transport Fund* towards upgraded accessible transport for the people they support. Coolegrane Lights are signposted from the Foxford /Swinford road near Callow.

***Trócaire’s*** [***Christmas Gifts of Love***](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.trocaire.org%2Fgifts&data=04%7C01%7Csarah.kiernan%40trocaire.org%7C4d24085b77e942fb3b3d08d88bd57eec%7C668d6a48971941ba99c99baedef3eca6%7C0%7C0%7C637413096353472327%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=JMA2IzizSeOv2m0Oe8CpTwiPezHhG4vPW71lmBIOURY%3D&reserved=0)*:* You can purchase one of 17 special gifts for families, or else make a general donation to the Trócaire Christmas Appeal. Trócaire’s Christmas Gifts range allows you to buy goats, chickens, water and many more vital items. This year, there is a special Quarantine Care Kit Gift. By buying this gift you are providing vital daily care to families who have to isolate due to Covid-19. The gifts can be purchased at ***https://trocaire.org/gifts*** or by calling ***1850 408 408.***

***Western Care Association Challenge:*** Western Care Association are going to travel around the globe virtually to raise funds to enhance services throughout the county. We need your help to complete this challenge. We are looking for 150 volunteers to walk, jog or run virtually around the globe in aid of Western Care Association, starting from January 12th until 2nd April 2021.

Contact Michael by emailing ***mflanagan@westerncare.com*** to find out how you can be involved and help Western Care Association travel around the world virtually. Registration for the event is €10 per person. We look forward to hearing from you!

***COVID-19 Support Line for Older People:***ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of 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 to 8pm. The contact number is ***0818-222024***.

**Christmas jumpers are only acceptable as a cry for help.**