

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: **This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.**

GREETING

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
You bring pardon and peace to the sinner:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
You bring light to those in darkness:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
May almighty God have mercy on us...
Amen.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand
of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**



OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God,
who, when Christ had been baptised in
the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit
descended upon him, solemnly declared
him your beloved Son,
grant that your children by adoption,
reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,
may always be well pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *Isaiah 55:1-11*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.
Thus says the Lord:
Oh! come to the water all you who are
thirsty: though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me, and you will have
good things to eat and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me: listen, and
your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting
covenant

out of the favours promised to David.
See, I have made of you a witness
to the peoples,
a leader and a master of the nations.
See, you will summon a nation
you never knew, those unknown
will come hurrying to you,
for the sake of the Lord your God,
of the Holy One of Israel who will glorify you.
Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who
will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways -
it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.
Yes, as the rain and the snow come
down from the heavens and do not return
without watering the earth, making it
yield and giving growth to provide seed
for the sower and bread for the eating, so
the word that goes from my mouth does
not return to me empty, without carrying
out my will and succeeding in what it was
sent to do.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Is. 12:2-6*

**R. With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.**

1. Truly God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. **[R]**
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to
his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the
peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. **[R]**
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel. **[R]**

SECOND READING *1 John 5:1-9*

A reading from the first letter of John.
Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ
has been begotten by God;
and whoever loves the Father that begot
him loves the child whom he begets.
We can be sure that we love God's
children if we love God himself and do
what he has commanded us;
this is what loving God is -
keeping his commandments;
and his commandments are not difficult,
because anyone who has been begotten
by God has already overcome the world;
this is the victory over the world - our
faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus
is the Son of God:
Jesus Christ who came by
water and blood,
not with water only,
but with water and blood;
with the Spirit as another witness -
since the Spirit is the truth -
so that there are three witnesses,
the Spirit, the water and the blood,
and all three of them agree.
We accept the testimony of
human witnesses
but God's testimony is much greater,
and this is God's testimony,
given as evidence for his Son.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! John saw Jesus
coming towards him and said:
This is the Lamb of God who takes
away the sin of the world.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL *Mark 1:7-11*

**A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Mark.**

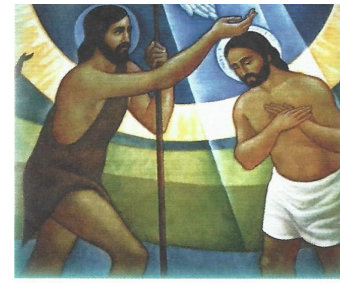
In the course of his preaching John the
Baptist said, 'Someone is following me,
someone who is more powerful than I am,
and I am not fit to kneel down and undo
the strap of his sandals. I have baptised
you with water, but he will baptise you
with the Holy Spirit.'

It was at this time that Jesus came from
Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in
the Jordan by John. No sooner had he
come up out of the water than he saw
the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like
a dove, descending on him. And a voice
came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the
Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
All bow for following three lines:
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and
was buried, and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver



focus on sunday

Wherever there is water, there is life. Jesus' baptism in the Jordan marked the beginning of his life's work, his taking on the fullness of humanity. Our baptism is the source of our Christian vocation.



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters,
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your
hands for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his holy
Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the offerings
we have brought to honour the revealing of
your beloved Son,
so that the oblation of your faithful
may be transformed into the sacrifice
of him who willed in his compassion
to wash away the sins of the world.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right and just.



SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.....

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter
under my roof, but only say the word and
my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Behold the One of whom John said:
I have seen and testified that this is the
Son of God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished with these sacred gifts,
we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord,
that, faithfully listening to your Only
Begotten Son,
we may be your children in name and in
truth. Through Christ our Lord.



A birth is a joy to parents. The first words of a child or grandchild or nephew or niece make a big difference to our lives. A new estate of houses and the beginning of a parish, a country. We mark beginnings with some sort of ritual or ceremony.

Jesus' baptism begins his mission and joins him into the religious life of his people. Baptism for us is the beginning of faith. It introduces us into the prayer and sacraments for important times of life, joining us to the community within the area and the parish, with people we meet through the Church - friends, husband, or wife. It brings us into a meaning in life in the gospel of Jesus, and the big traditions of the Church, and faith in the afterlife; by baptism we are to care for the poor.

We are part of the church. Baptism not just a prayer but a joining into the church. Part of a community which with all its faults and failings has made a huge difference to the world. How much health care, education and other services in Ireland and abroad can we thank our church and the other churches for?

And knowing Jesus, a friend. The one who forgives. So that we can always move forward to a fuller life, more joy, and peace. As was said to him, is said to us - 'you are my beloved son and daughter.'

For baptism we pray in thanks --- glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always. Amen.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



Every child baptised with life is God's child. When we celebrate Baptism we give thanks for Three Special Friends ... God The Father who makes the sun shine on everyone, good and bad, God The Son Our Forever Friend, came at Christmas, and God The Holy Spirit who is the breath of our heart and life. 'We thank You God Our Father. You made us to live for you and for each other. We can see and speak to one another, become friends, share our joys and sorrows. We gladly thank You.'

Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali: ?Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin Other texts: cum permissu: ?Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal: ? 2010, International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Darton, Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & or Geoffrey Chapman Ltd. Main Image by David Zelenka. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballybogan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK38 Phone (01 830 6751).

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, BALLYHAUNIS

PARISH NEWSLETTER 7th JANUARY 2024

Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Farragher, 094-9630006 / 087-9210305
Email: ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com **Parish Office:** 094-9630006
PARISH WEBSITE: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie>
PARISH RADIO: 105.2FM *Newsletter on line: Parish website & www.mcnmedia.tv*
Web-cam: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie> or www.mcnmedia.tv
Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) Jacinta Flynn, (contact the parish office)

Emergency numbers:
 Knock: 094-9388100
 Fr. Feeney, Ballinlough: 094-9640155
 Fr. McGuinness, Bekan: 094-9313937

ANNIVERSARY MASSES 8th-13th JANUARY 2024

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am. Saturday 7.30pm.

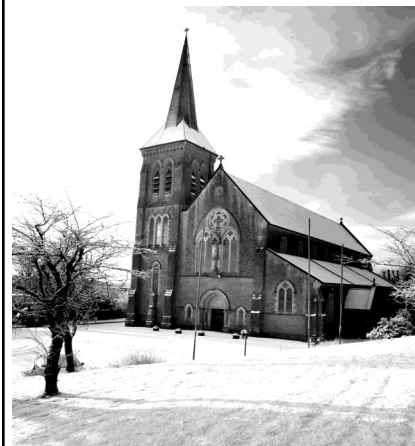
Frank Fetherston, Abbeyquarter
 Helen, Thomas & Bridget Meehan & decd. Curries & Dolores King, Ballaghadereen
 John, Gretta & Mícheál Murren, Upper Main St. & Mary Commins, Knock
 Ann O'Sullivan née Hunt
 P.J. Kelly & Liam Carney, Bekan
 John & Delia Comer, Killinaugher
 Alfred Snr. & Frances Webb & son Alfred Christopher, Tooraree
 Séan, Bridie & Frank Regan, Killinaugher
 Patrick & Catherine Regan, Killinaugher
 Pat, Patrick & Mary Ellen Regan, Derrynacong
 Tom Flatley, Clare St.
 Nellie, Tom & Seamus Lyons, Ballinastoka
 Padraic, Agnes & Angela Heaney & decd. of the Heaney & Mullarky families
 Michael & Kitty Nolan, Erritt, Castlerea
 Timothy & Lily Rabbitte, Timothy & Nora Rabbitte, Derrylea & decd. of the Sullivan family
 Larry Farrelly & decd. of the Farrelly family
 Ina & Bernadine Phillips & decd. of the Mitchell family
 Eamonn & Claire Phillips, Main St & decd. of the Phillips family
 Tom, Rosie, Bernie, John, Martin & Paddy McDonagh, Castlebar

SUNDAY 14th JANUARY—FIRST ANNIVERSARY

Anthony Waldron, Clagnagh & formerly Cave

8th-14th Jan. 2024	READERS	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST
Monday	Liam Devaney	Joe Byrne, Anne Carney
Tuesday	Tommy Caulfield	Lorraine Waldron, Frances Mulhern
Wednesday	Mary Donnelly	Margaret Tarpey, Irene Healy
Friday	Willie Broderick	Eileen Jordan, Marie Brennan
Saturday 7.30pm	Marie Jordan	Marina Coyne, Laura Brogan, Eavan Caulfield, Mary T. Griffin
Sunday 10am	Willie Ryan	Paul Sykes, Breege Halpin, Aileen Burke, Eileen Lynch

Recently Deceased - We remember in our prayers
 Winne McDonagh, Cardiff, Wales



MASSES:
 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am.
 Saturday Evening Vigil: 7.30pm
 Sunday: 10.00am.

CONFESSIONS:
 Before Saturday Vigil Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
 Between 9am & 7pm daily.

BAPTISMS
 First Saturday & third Sunday of the month at 11.00am. Minimum of four weeks' notice required. Contact the parish office, 094-9630006.



All weekday and weekend Masses, and the daily Rosary at 9pm (when possible) Mondays to Fridays, continue to be broadcast on parish radio 105.2 FM and streamed on the parish webcam: <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-patricks-church-ballyhaunis> or on the website: www.ballyhaunisparish.ie

GROW IN LOVE: The preparation programme for children who will celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion later this year continues at 7.30pm Mass next Saturday evening 13th January. Our focus this month is on teaching them about Baptism, the sacrament through which new members are welcomed into our parish family.

PRIESTS' CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: Sincere thanks to those who have already returned their Christmas envelopes. Your ongoing support & generosity is appreciated. Envelopes can be returned at Masses or to the parish office. For those wishing to make an online donation to the Priests' Account, the **IBAN is IE97 AIBK 9374 4421 3423 54.**

PARISH CALENDERS 2024 are available in the Church porch. Please take one home, and bring one to a neighbour or friend who might like one.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE: The Tuam Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes led by Archbishop Francis Duffy will take place from 30th August to 5th Sept. 2024. Direct return flights from Ireland West Airport Knock, 6 nights hotel full board. For details, call 01 2410800 or email info@joewalshstours.ie

MALTA PILGRIMAGE: "In the Footsteps of St. Paul" pilgrimage to Malta from Tuam Archdiocese. 7 nights from 26th June to 3rd July 2024 ex-Dublin. For details & bookings call 01 2410800.

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE: Knock to Mostar from 18th-25th September 2024, accompanied by a Spiritual Director. Discounts for bookings made before 3rd February. For details, contact Anne Keadin on 086 3766293.

FAMILY CENTRE, CASTLEBAR: The Family Centre on Chapel St, Castlebar provides a number of services, in association with the HSE and Túsla. These include counselling services, the Mayo Suicide Bereavement Liaison Service, bereavement support service, family mediation service, education & training courses, a support group for carers of people with dementia and a peer support group for widows, widowers & partners. For information, contact the centre on 094 9025900.

LIVING WELL is a free HSE programme which helps people living with a long-term health condition to manage their condition and improve their overall wellbeing. Anyone with a chronic illness such as diabetes, arthritis, COPD, cardiac illness, anxiety etc can benefit from this programme which is delivered over 6 weekly workshops (2.5 hrs x 6) by trained leaders. The next programme in Tuam starts on Wed. 17th Jan, in Kilkelly on 28th February and the next online programme starts on 30th Jan. Advance registration is required. Contact Liam on 086 0142675 or email lgildea@southmayo.com

IRISH CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER: Copies are now on sale at the back of the Church. Cost €3, please place money in candelabra coinbox.



EXTRACT FROM ARCHBISHOP EAMON MARTIN'S MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY OF PEACE, 1ST JAN. 2024:

"Today is the World Day of Peace, but the New Year opens to news of ongoing

bombing, death and destruction in Gaza and Ukraine. We yearn for the Lord's blessing at the beginning of this new year, and especially for those bereaved, injured, displaced and traumatised by the brutal reality of man's inhumanity to man. May the Lord bless them this day, uncover his face to them and bring them peace. The international community must urgently ask if war crimes have been committed in places like Gaza- with the constant and seemingly merciless bombardment of civilian populations, including defenceless women & children, with the effective blocking of avenues to proper humanitarian support for water, sanitation, food, fuel, and access to essential healthcare. We pray for the courageous members of Ireland's Defence Forces who are currently risking their lives while helping to maintain a fragile peace along the border of South Lebanon—they are doing their best to prevent this conflict from spreading. Equally, Ireland's leaders and others with influence should not be reticent in raising the cause of peace internationally in the European Union as well as with the governments of the United States and United Kingdom.

Questions and challenges such as these remind us of the potential for good and evil that face us all at the beginning of a new year, especially when it comes to building a more positive and peaceful future for our children & grandchildren. We should never despair or give up on humanity—indeed the opposite case. God's grace and blessing is available to us today and every day, in order to help make this world a better place".

(Read Archbishop Eamon Martin's full message on www.catholicbishops.ie)

SILENT RETREAT: Do you need to come away and have time for yourself? The Foyer of Charity invites you to a silent retreat in St. Mary's Accommodation, Knock from 5th to 11th February with daily Mass, Rosary & Eucharistic Adoration. The theme is "If you but knew the gift of God..." with preacher Fr. Kilian Byrne. For details Call Helen on 086 1678027 or visit www.foyerofcharity.ie

CATHAOIRLEACH AWARDS: Entries are still welcome for the Mayo County Council Cathaoirleach's Awards, which honour and celebrate the individuals and groups that work behind the scenes to make our communities stronger, more vibrant and caring. There are eight categories, and for more information and nomination forms, log onto www.mayo.ie Closing date for nominations is next Friday 12th January.

CHRONIC PAIN RELIEF CLASSES: Start the New Year on a positive note. Clinical Somatics uses slow, gently exercises to relieve pain, reduce stress and improve your posture and Movement. 6-week introductory course starts in Claremorris Family Resource Centre on Tues. 16th January at 7pm. For details, contact John Roe on 087 7495573.

BALLYHAUNIS PARENT & TODDLER GROUP returns on Wednesday 10th January from 10am-12 in the Community Hall. Open to children aged 0-3 years and their parents/carers for fun & socialising. All welcome.