

**Burrishoole Parish**  
**December 4th/5th 2021**  
**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](mailto:burrishooleparish@gmail.com)  
Facebook/YouTube: Burrishoole Parish**

### **A New Start**

Two weekends ago in a ceremony in Tuam Cathedral Archbishop Michael Neary, in perhaps one of his final acts as Archbishop of our diocese, ordained three men to the permanent Diaconate. Married and with children and coming from different walks of life, the new deacons spent three years in formation. For the first time in the history of our diocese the ministry of Deacon will be lived and experienced by the people of God. But the Diaconate is not some new idea.

The English word deacon comes from the Greek word 'diakonos' which means servant or carer. The earliest book of the New Testament, the Acts of the Apostles, describes how, in the first century, the Church was faced with the challenge of responding to the needs of the poor and marginalised. Keeping in mind the example of Jesus, the Apostles selected and ordained a number of men and, some would argue women, specifically for this service. For a number of centuries, deacons ministered in close co-operation with the bishops of the Church, assisting at the Eucharist, preaching the Gospel, and exercising a ministry of charity. Gradually however in the Western Church, the functions of the deacon were absorbed into the ministry of the priest, and the permanent diaconate was lost.

The Second Vatican Council in the 1960s envisaged a renewal of ministry, both lay and ordained, in the Church. The Council's Constitution on the Church, Lumen Gentium, explains that the laity, by virtue of their Baptism, are commissioned to an active apostolate and insists that "every opportunity be given them so that, according to their abilities and the needs of the times, they may zealously participate in the saving work of the Church." We have a long way to go!

The Second Vatican Council also proposed the restoration of the diaconate as a "distinct ministry of service" to be exercised "in communion with the bishop and his group of priests".

The Permanent Deacon, as the ministry became known in order to distinguish it from the

'transitional' ministry of deacon which a man preparing for priesthood undertakes, was introduced in Ireland in 2001 and has three main areas of service. A deacon serves at the Altar, he serves the Word and serves in Charity the people of God.

A deacon does not celebrate Mass nor hear Confessions. The more visible ways in which deacons exercise their ministry are when they assist the priest at Mass, when they preach, when they baptise or marry or when they officiate at a funeral. Deacons will also be involved in sacramental preparation, the formation of readers and Eucharistic ministers and in the visiting of the sick and housebound.

Many of the functions that deacons perform can also be carried out by members of the lay faithful. The restoration of the diaconate is not intended in any sense to change that situation. The idea is that some of those who already exercise these functions would be "strengthened with the grace of diaconal ordination" and in that way would be designated to be a visible public sign of the Christ the Servant in the community of the Church.

Our three new deacons will continue in their current employment but will be assigned by the diocese to serve in a parish, or in a number of parishes.

As Archbishop Neary brings his time as Archbishop to an end a new era for the church of our diocese has dawned. The Holy Spirit continues to push us to reimagine ourselves as Church.

God Bless, Fr Tod

### **Christmas Mass Schedule**

In celebrating Christmas as a parish this year the health and safety of everyone, particularly the most vulnerable, will be paramount. It is our hope to provide a full schedule of Masses. However in order to maintain social distancing numbers allowed to attend will be limited to approximately half (every second pew) and the ribbons will be reintroduced in all churches

<b><u>Christmas Eve:</u></b>	7pm	Tiernaur
	9pm	Newport
<b><u>Christmas Day:</u></b>	8.30am	Shramore
	10am	Newport
	11.30am	Mulranny

<b><u>St Stephen's Day:</u></b>	11am	Newport
	12.30pm	Mulranny

Please note that this schedule is subject to the ever changing Covid restrictions and may change.

### **Baby Jesus Sunday**

Next Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, is the day we bless the Baby Jesus' of our Parish. Since numbers which attend Mass are restricted and families are unable to come to church you are invited to bring your Baby Jesus to the Church during the week and to leave in on the Sanctuary. The baby Jesus will be blessed at Masses next weekend and can be collected afterwards. Last year a few Baby Jesus' got a little confused going home so it might be wise to put your name on him before leaving him in the church.

### **Decorating our Churches**

We hope to decorate the churches of our parish over the coming week. Monday - the Parish Church, Newport. Tuesday - Tiernaur and Thursday - Mulranny. 7pm each night. All welcome. Many hands make light work.

Transition Year students who intend to do the Pope John Paul II Award are particularly encouraged to come

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> and in Newport on the weekend of May 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>.

The provisional date for our Parish Confirmation on Saturday March 12th.

### **Christmas Remembrance Tree**

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>

### **Mulranny Church Choir**

Unfortunately due to the continuing rise in covid cases and to ensure the safety of choir members and congregation, Mulranny Church Choir will take a short break and hopefully resume for the Christmas season. Upcoming Christmas choir practice has also been cancelled and we will keep you all informed when it is safe to meet up again. Thank you as always for your commitment and dedication and stay safe.

### **Community Choir**

The Community Choir continues to rehearse on Tuesday evenings in Tiernaur Church. For more information contact Joanne at 087 6755543

### **Mulranny ICA**

Mulranny ICA will have their Christmas get together in the Mulranny Amenity Centre at 8 pm on Tuesday 14th December. Please note that membership for 2022 is now due and is payable at this meeting. Looking forward to see all our members

### **Mass Schedule**

#### **10am Weekday Mass Intentions:**

*Mon-Tiernaur, Tues/Thurs-Newport, Fri-Mulranny*  
Bill and Nancy Reilly, Facefield

#### **Weekend Masses**

#### **Friday December 3<sup>rd</sup> Shramore at 7pm**

The People of the Parish

#### **Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> Tiernaur at 7pm:**

Hughie Cannon, Roskeen

#### **Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> Newport at 10am:**

Martin Sweeney, Harrow and Newport and his parents Birdie and Micky. John and Bridget McGuire, Castlebar Road, their son Martin, his wife Breege and all deceased members of the McGuire and Harte families.

#### **Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> Mulranny at 11.30am:**

Tom and Ellen Mulgrew and deceased members of the Mulgrew and McNeela families

#### **Dec 8<sup>th</sup> - Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

**Weds 10am Tiernaur;** The People of the Parish

**Weds 7pm Newport;** Patrick and Mary Mulchrone, Tawnyougaune

#### **Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup> Tiernaur at 7pm:**

John and Mary Gallagher, their son Thomas and daughter Bernie, Crossmolina. Paddy and Bridie Cronin, John Syron and deceased members of the Gallagher and Syron families

#### **Sunday December 12<sup>th</sup> Newport at 10am:**

Dan Hoban, Georges Street (Months Mind). Annie Horan, Doogary

#### **Sunday December 12<sup>th</sup> Mulranny at 11.30am:**

Denis and Annie Gallagher, Achill and Michael and Matilda Cafferkey, Ballycroy. Felix Murray, Mulranny and Ballycroy. Eddie Corrigan, Golders Green, London and Ballycroy.