

**Burrishoole Parish**

**January 8<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**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**

**Emmanuel – We are not alone.**

In the film *Whistle Down the Wind* a group of children find a dishevelled old tramp in a barn whom they believe to be Jesus. When the children's kitten gets sick they bring him to 'Jesus' for healing and when the kitten dies they have many questions to ask. 'Why did Jesus let the kitten die?', 'Why do people die?' In their search for answers, they run to the local church where they are ushered into the priest who has his tea. Their opening question is direct and to the point: 'Why does Jesus let people die?' The priest slowly leaves down his knife and fork, settles himself on his chair and responds with an answer which is pious, proper and assured. He uses theological language and ideas, he eloquently quotes scripture, he waves his hands and he speaks very precisely as he formulates his answer. He concludes his learned treatise with a confident 'and that's why Jesus lets people die'. On finishing the priest pours himself another cup of tea and sits back content that he has answered the question correctly. The children nod, thank the priest and head for home. On the way home one little boy turns to his sister and says: "He doesn't know either, sure he doesn't?"

In the face of tragic death there are no easy answers.

These last days have been dark days for our parish as families and communities have struggled to cope with the loss of loved ones. Death is always an unwelcome visitor - but when death visits at Christmas time the grief and the devastation seems all the greater. As news of a death trickles through the parish, particularly if the death is unexpected, it brings with it a realisation not only of the fragility of life, but also of the inadequacy of words both in describing the depth of our pain and in comforting the bereaved. We rush to offer support and quickly find that we have no words. In the end our presence speaks more powerfully than any words. In an effort to comprehend tragic death we search for answers only to find that often the best we can hope for is to learn to live with the questions.

Two weekends ago we celebrated Christmas. At the heart of our Christmas celebration is the birth of a child in a cold and inhospitable stable at the edge of civilisation. God chooses to come into our world; in all its messiness, in all its imperfection, in all its limitations. At Christmas we celebrate that God becomes one of us and in becoming one with us God knows and shares in our pain and our brokenness.

What our celebration of Christmas is telling us is that when we are lost, when we are broken, when we can find no words, God, Emmanuel, is with us. We are not alone!

Maybe that is all that can be said in the face of such sadness and grief as we have experienced in these last dark days.

God Bless,  
Fr Tod

**First Communion**

A huge thank you to our First Holy Communion children (and to Santy) who donated some of their presents to children who had to flee their homes and who Santy might not have been able to find. Because of your kindness over 40 of our Ukrainian children received gifts for Christmas (which they celebrated on Jan 6<sup>th</sup>). Well done and what a beautiful thing to do.

Our next First Holy Communion Mass will take place on Sunday January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**World Youth Day 2023**

World Youth Day is a weeklong event held every three years in different cities throughout the world. It is a celebration of our Catholic faith and is attended by over one million young people from all over the world. The highlight is an open air Papal Mass. This year it will be held in Lisbon, Portugal from July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to learn more or be part of our Diocesan pilgrimage led by Archbishop Francis Duffy please email; [tuam2lisbon23@gamil.com](mailto:tuam2lisbon23@gamil.com) or contact Fr Tod.

**Priest's Christmas Collection**

The Priest's Christmas Collection (Blue topped Envelope) will be taken up over the coming weeks. If you would like to donate by cheque, please make your cheque payable to 'Newport Church Revenue Account'. Alternatively, it might suit to donate directly to the Parish bank account; IBAN: IE18 AIBK 9371 6927 5400 04. As always thank you for your continued generous support.

### Mulranny ICA

Mulranny ICA wishes a very Happy New Year to all its members. The next meeting will take place on January 10, at 8pm in the Amenity Centre, Mulranny when annual membership is due. A 50% discount January special offer is open to new members, so why not give it a try and join them?

### NADDCo AGM

Newport and District Development Company (NADDCo) will hold its AGM on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 8pm in Walsh's Bridge Inn, Newport and all are welcome to attend.

### Mulranny Art Classes

Art classes with Pat Tracey will resume in Mulranny at the end of January in the Amenity Centre. The classes take place on Mondays, 2pm to 5pm and new recruits are always welcome. If you are interested and would like to give it a go, please confirm with Mary at 086 168 3894 by Friday, January, 13.

### Fusion Fitness Classes

Fusion fitness classes combining aerobics, step aerobics and yoga begin Monday, January 9, 7.30-8.30pm in Derradda Community Centre. Beginners and Intermediat. Booking is essential, text Pauline at 085 192 2245.

### Glenhest Monster Card Game

Glenhest Community Centre will host a Monster 25 game this Sunday, at 6pm in the centre with great money to be won and lots of prizes. All are welcome.

### Cuan Modh 25 Card Game

Cuan Modh 25 card games will recommence on Friday, January 13, at 8pm. The game is hosted by Burrishoole GAA with proceeds going to Cuan Modh and a big thank you is sent to all who supported the games throughout 2022, so far €700 has been raised for the facility.

### Living Well Programme.

This free online group programme is aimed to help people manage their long-term health conditions and improve their wellbeing. It is delivered over six workshops (2.5 hrs x 6). It by trained leaders, most of whom are also living with a long-term health condition. Programmes start on Jan 12<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> and Feb 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Parish Magazine Now on Sale

Burrishoole Parish Magazine is now on sale priced at €8. It can be purchased in Mulranny from Doherty's PO, and in Newport from Ashlings, Sheridan's Centra, Newport Post Office, Kelly's Circle K Garage, Kelly's and Keane's butchers, and Newport Tourist Office.

## Щасливого Різдва

### Remembering our Dead

We pray for the souls of Jack Gibbons, Acres, Jill Bateman O Reilly, Castle Rd., and Nellie Noonan, Aughagower mother of Mary Noonan, Newport NS. May they rest in peace

### Weekday Masses 10am

*Tues/Thurs-Newport, Fri-Mulranny*  
The People of the Parish. (No Mass on Monday)

### Weekend Masses

#### Friday Jan 6<sup>th</sup> Feast of the Epiphany

**Mulranny at 10am:** The People of the Parish  
**Newport at 7pm:** Mass for Peace  
**Shramore at 8pm:** Elizabeth O Malley, Treenbeg, John and Annie O Malley, Treenbeg, Bea Loftus, Sean Chambers, Treenbeg

#### Saturday Jan 7<sup>th</sup> Tiernaur at 7pm

Florence and Catherine O Sullivan. Jim Long, Cahereenbrack.

#### Sunday Jan 8<sup>th</sup> Newport at 10am

Mary Kilkerr, Shramore (1<sup>st</sup> Ann). John and Teresa Dyra Mullaune.

#### Sunday Jan 8<sup>th</sup> Mulranny at 11.30am

Michael Callaghan Tureen and NY and deceased family members. Michael Moran (Post), Mulranny. JJ Fitzpatrick and his parents John and Alice Fitzpatrick.

#### Saturday Jan 14<sup>th</sup> Tiernaur at 7pm:

Gerry Mc Mahon (Mths Mind) London and Sandhill

#### Sunday Jan 15<sup>th</sup> Newport at 10am:

The People of the Parish

#### Sunday Jan 15<sup>th</sup> Mulranny at 11.30am:

John Horan, Mulranny, Betty and Pat Gorman and son James, Murrivagh. Margaret Ludden. Rosturk