

Burrishoole Parish
19th / 20th December 2020
Fr Tod Nolan P.P. 098 42665
Parish Office 098 41123

**Office attended Tue - Thu 11am-3pm,
To book Masses, Baptisms & Marriages, get
certs & Mass cards please contact office by
phone or Email: burrishooleparish@gmail.com
Facebook: Burrishoole Parish**

All Shapes and Sizes

They came in all sorts of shapes and sizes; there were big ones and small ones, pudgy ones and skinny ones, tall ones and short ones. They were made from wood, from glass and from pottery. Some were plastic, others were fine china. There was even one which was knitted out of wool. Some were missing a finger or two, others had their heads glued back on. Some came on their own, others were in their mangers and some even came with the whole crib for company. In all there were over 60 Baby Jesus' to be blessed at Masses last weekend. As I admired the beautiful collection of little statues I wondered at their exquisite uniqueness. Although several of them were very similar, no two were exactly the same. Each was special and easily identifiable to their family. Each has their own connection to a family's story, holding a special place in the memories of adult and child alike. The wobbly leg a reminder of a fall some twenty years ago, a missing arm testimony to the enthusiasm of a teething toddler, the glued-on head a quick and 'temporary' fix before mammy might spot it.

The dusted down and much loved family crib which makes its annual appearance once a year brings with it its own story. It reminds us of Christmases past and fills us with happy (and sometimes sad) memories of moments shared with family and friends. And at the heart of the Crib is our Baby Jesus, sometimes slightly wonky, sometimes a little worse for wear, sometimes so fragile that it cannot be touched but always so special to the family in whose story it plays a unique part.

After Mass last weekend when families came up to the altar to collect their Baby Jesus they were very careful to pick out their own. There may have been 'better' ones there, there may have been newer ones there, there may even have been nicer ones there, but each family wanted their own Baby Jesus back. Somehow that little statue had found a unique and special place in the heart of the family and without it there at the centre of the family crib, Christmas would not be the same.

Isn't that the truth of Christmas. Somehow Jesus manages to be born into our lives in ways which are unique to each of us. He finds a way to make His home in our hearts no matter how well or how poorly we prepare. Jesus is the gift which perfectly fits the size of every heart, and the heart of every home.

Happy Christmas and God Bless, Fr Tod

An Invitation

Christmas Mass

Parish - A Family of Families

7pm Christmas Eve

Join us on Facebook or Parish Radio
We gather in prayer as a community
We gather from our homes
We gather as One

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Mass will be celebrated in each of our churches. Due to the restrictions on numbers allowed to be physically present at Mass parishioners are encouraged to participate from their homes via Parish Radio or Facebook. Mass from Newport is available on parish radio and Facebook, Mass from Mulranny is available on Facebook

Christmas Eve:

7pm.	Parish Family Mass	<u>No Congregation</u>
9pm	Tiernaur	Max 45

Christmas Day:

8.30am	Shramore	Max 20
10am.	Newport	Max 100
11.30am	Mulranny	Max 35

Reconciliation/Healing Service

Individual Confessions will not be possible this Christmas. A Parish Service of Reconciliation and Healing will be held via Facebook and Parish Radio Tomorrow (Monday) at 7pm. The Service will allow us as a community and as individuals to explore where in our lives we are in need of healing and forgiveness and to seek God's comfort and implore God's mercy.

Christmas Visits to the Sick and Housebound

Fr Tod will visit the sick and housebound on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. Visits on Tuesday will take place in the Mulranny, Tiernaur and Shramore areas with visits on Wednesday in the Newport area.

Christmas Family Mass

Our main Parish Family Mass will be celebrated at 7pm on Christmas Eve. There will be no congregation present. Families and households of the parish are invited to gather in their homes around their kitchen table and to participate through parish radio or Facebook. As a sign of solidarity and a symbol of our unity we invite every family to light a candle and place it in the porch or on a windowsill of their home for the duration of the Mass.

The Parish has prepared a pack for each household which includes among other things a candle, some straw from the crib, a prayer card, something for the children and a little Christmas memento. At the end of Mass each family will be invited to say a family prayer together uniting the whole parish in one voice. Mass will finish with the ringing of the church bells and households are encouraged to go to their door to ring a bell, announcing to each other and to the world the birth of Jesus.

Parish packs have been distributed through the schools and are available in the Churches this weekend.

Burrishoole Parish Magazine on Sale

Burrishoole Parish Magazine is now on sale. It includes numerous interesting accounts of the many goings-on in the parish during 2020. With special reports on the highlight of Jim McManamon's centenary birthday celebration, Mary Caffrey's 99th birthday, and Mary Friel's 80th. Peter Mallowney reports the news of the parish from 50 years ago while Kathy Ryder records the building of a bridge into Shrahoric and Julie Langan writes of CCÉ's plans for the 40th anniversary of Cuilmore Comhaltas in 2021. Football exploits are recorded by Burrishoole GAA and Newport/Mulranny Wanderers while Gerry Cowley and Andy McGreal report on providing new infrastructure in Newport and Mulranny.

There is something for everyone in the 80 pages and the magazine makes for interesting reading for parishioners at home and abroad.

Envelope Collection

Thank you for your ongoing support of your parish. Your generosity is deeply appreciated. Envelope can still be dropped in the letterbox of the Parish house in Newport or in the box at the rear of the church in Mulranny. If you are in a position to do so you can now drop your envelopes in the baskets provided as you enter or leave weekend Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration is currently suspended. Our churches remain open and you are invited to drop in at any time.

Remembering our Dead

We pray for the soul of Elizabeth Roy née McLoughlin, Ottawa & late of Knockbreaga; aunt of the McLoughlin family Knockbreaga.

We extend sympathy to the family and friends of the deceased. May her soul rest in peace.

Weekday 10am Mass Intentions:

Masses available on Facebook and/or on Parish Radio

Mon -Tiernaur, Tues and Thurs – Newport:
Michael Kilroy, Carrabawn; Catherine Keane, Lecarrow & parents Mick & Kathleen Costello,

Weekend Mass Intentions

Saturday December 19th in Tiernaur at 8pm:

Ciss O'Boyle, Knockbreaga & deceased members of the family.

Sunday December 20th in Newport at 10am:

Nancy Mulhern, Newgate Street, (Months Mind); Mick Chambers, Treanbeg; Charlie O'Donnell, Derrylahan; Zoe English, Carrowsallagh; Catherine Keane, Lecarrow & parents Mick & Kathleen Costello, Belcarra; Vera O'Brien, Ballintubber & Martina O'Brien, Kilglass

Sunday Dec 20th in Mulranny at 11.30am:

Michael McNea, Tonragee; Paddy & Mary Callaghan, Murrivaugh & deceased members of the Cleary & Callaghan families; Delia Hanley, Mulranny & deceased family members.

Saturday December 26th in Tiernaur at 7pm:

Brendan & Bridie McLoughlin, Knockbreaga; Frank & Annie McNea & all deceased family members.

Sunday December 27th in Newport at 10am:

John F. Chambers, Kiltarnet; Maria Donnelly Johnson, Huntington Station NY and her parents Edward & Mary (née Lunn), Kiltarnet; Tony Burns Snr, Knocknageeha; Charlie & Caroline Brady & deceased members of the Brady & Carter families.

Sunday Dec 20th in Mulranny at 11.30am:

People of the Parish