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|  | **Church of the Holy Family, Ballycroy****Mass Centre - National School – Innisbiggle****Christopher J. Ginnelly****(098) 49 134 (086) 89 33 278****ballycroyparish@gmail.com****James M Cribben, Geesala (087) 64 69 016****24th Dec 2023** |

**Mass at 11.30am will be Broadcast on our Facebook Page**. *Special Thanks to Nora for operating the live broadcast on Facebook and to Shelly for the beautiful selection of music and hymns.*

**Booking a Mass***: If you wish to book a Mass, please ring Fr. Chris on his mobile 086-893-3278*

**Weekday Mass Attendance: Fr. Chris is inviting retired and people who are free to attend mass during the week.**

**I wish to remind you - Mass For The People - is offered up for your intentions and the families of the Parish every week. Please come along and pray with us.**

**Parish Church Celebration: Special Mass on the Saturday evening 30th Dec 6pm.**

**Dinner and Dancing in Mulranny Park Hotel. Ticket Only Event.**

**Christmas Wishes.**

**The First Crib. This year we celebrate the 800th Anniversary of the First Crib.**

**In the winter of 1223 St. Francis of Assisi was staying at a small Friary in Greccio (Italy). A rich man from nearby offered the Friars any gift they wished at Christmas. Francis said, “*I want to celebrate Christmas with you. Up in the rocks you have a cave. There prepare a crib full of hay, bring an ox and a donkey. I want to feel and see with my own eyes how much the Son of God wanted to be poor when he was born for love of us*.”**

**At this Christmas time, May the Lord bless you.**

**May the Lord keep you. May he show his face to you, and give you His peace**

**A Very Blessed and Peaceful Christmas to you all. Fr. Chris.**

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**Special Thanks: I wish to take this opportunity to Thank You for all your help, kindness, spiritual and financial assistance throughout 2023. A special word of thanks to; Peggy Ginty & Social Services, Shelly – Music/Hymns and Choir, Nora for Facebook broadcasts, Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Collectors, Counters, Sacristans, Stewards, Financial Council, The Pastoral Council, Graveyard Committee, Rural Social Scheme. Thanks to our National Schools, Maura Kilbane and her Drumgallagh team, Leona Conway and her Scoil Naomh Bhride team, Grace Grealis and the Naíonra, the Fás team, Order of Malta and the Ballycroy Community Council. A very special Thanks to the ladies (Altar Society) for their tremendous help in caring for our church every week. Special thanks to Bernie Hough for caring for the Altar, flowers and Sacristy. Thanks also to Mary Ellen Kilbane and Aidan for opening and closing the church. Fr. Chris (*Sincere Thanks for the Priests Christmas Collection*)**

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***Fourth Sunday of Advent***

**Sat 3pm: Ballycroy Church: Baptism Baby Molly Grealis – Parents Colum & Nicola**

**Sat 8pm: Ballycroy Church**

 **1)Patrick and Mary Ellen Grealis (Lettra)**

 **2)Michael, Bridie Leneghan, Paddy, Annie Sweeney , Petie**

 **3)Thomas, Ellen Cleary (Castlehill) Dec’d Family, Jimmy Farrell (40th Ann)**

 **4)Jim O’Boyle (15st Ann) Jackie, Derek (Doona)**

 **5)Michael Gallagher (7th Ann) Bridget, Gerry, Frank Kavanagh (Knockmoyleen)**

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| ***Christmas Eve 2023******The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ*** | ***Christmas Day 2023******The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ*** |
| **Sun 2pm: Island Mass** | **Mon 9.30am: Ballymunnelly Church** |
| **Sun 7pm: Bangor Church** | **Mon 11.30am: Ballycroy Church – For the People** |
| **Sun 9pm: Ballycroy Church – For the People** |

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| ***Weekly Mass Schedule*** | ***Intentions - (Wed 27th Tractor Run 6pm) Please Support*** |
| **Wed 27th Dec: 12noon** | **Kathleen McGowan (Birth’d rem)** |
| **Thur 28th Dec: 10am** | **Anthony Finn, Dec’d Finn Family (Blenkeragh/Wellingborough)** |
| **Thur 28th Dec: 2pm** | **Bangor - Baptism** |
| **Thur 28th Dec: 7pm** | **Michael Conway, Months Mind Mass (Drumgallagh)** |
| **Fri 29th Dec: 10am** | **Frank, Maggie Leneghan, Julia, John Leneghan,** **Dec’d Campbell Family (Aughness)** |
| **Fri 29th Dec: 2pm/4pm** | **Bangor Church - Baptisms** |
| **Sat 30th Dec: 2pm** | **Bangor Church - Baptism** |

 ***The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph***

**Sat 30th Dec: 6pm - Ballycroy Church – 170th Anniversary Mass- Dinner**

**Sun 31st Dec: 11.30am - Ballycroy Church**

 **1)Eamon Sweeney, Annie, Maggie (Birthday Rem’) Kathleen**

 **2)John, Mary Conway (Shranamonragh) Dec’d McManamon/Conway Families**

**Monday 1st Jan 2024: New Year’s Day**

1. **Bangor Church 6PM Mass 2)Ballycroy Church 7pm**

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| **Readers Schedule** | **Readers** | **Eucharistic Ministers** |
| Christmas Eve 24th Dec 9pm |  | *Peggy Ginty - Bernie Shanahan* |
| Christmas Day Mon 25th Dec 11.30am  |  | *Marian Masterson - Bernie Hough* |
| Sat 30th Dec – 5.30pm (170th Ann) |  | *Noreen Grealis* |
| Sun 31th Dec 11.30am |  | *Mary Sweeney* |
| Sat 6th Jan 8pm |  | *Christina Togher* |
| **Altar Society Schedule**: Special thanks to **Patricia Grealis**: Mary Sweeney (Tar), Marie McGowan, Joan Campbell - G1 for last week  |
| Week to 31st Dec | **Marian Cafferkey**, Bernie McGowan, Noreen Rudy, Caroline Corrigan - G2 |
| Week to 7th Jan 23 | **Kathleen Rowland**: Anne McManamon, Josephine. Keane, Grace Grealis - G3 |
| Week to 14th Jan 23 | **Christina Togher**: Margaret Keane, Mary Conway, Katie Campbell - G4 |
| Week to 21th Jan 23 | **Patricia Grealis**: Mary Sweeney (Tar), Marie McGowan, Joan Campbell - G1 |
| Week to 28th Jan 23 | **Marian Cafferkey**, Bernie McGowan, Tracey Conway, Caroline Corrigan - G2 |
| **Bangor Hall Bingo Thursday night 28th December at 8pm**. Jackpot €650in 48 calls or less**Kiltane GAA club bingo complex Bangor** **Wed 27th Dec at 8pm**, a €600 jackpot in 47 calls or less**The Three Schools in the Parish** would like to thank all who supported their respective fund raising events. More detailed thank you messages in subsequent newsletters.  |

**Keeping Children Safe: The Diocese of Killala is fully committed to keeping children safe. If you have any concerns around their safety in any circumstance, please contact; The Diocesan Liaison Person – Confidential No - 087 1003554. (Please see more information on the notice board)**