

Christmas 2023

1. Carol Services

On Thursday 21st December, the shortest day of the year, we had a series of Carol Services with the pupils of St. Canice's School. I sat right up in front to see the infants presentation – 'Selling a Donkey' – it was a delightful story of the donkey which brought Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus in the stable. The faces of the little children expressing joy and wonder drew a few tears from my eyes and I'm sure it was the same for the Mammies and Daddies present. Our Carol Services were held this year in St. Canice's Church. The School is about to be demolished and the new school will be built on the site. So the Church was the more appropriate location this year. Our thanks to the Teachers for their great work of preparation and to the Parents for their co-operation and support. We can learn a lot about Christmas from the expressions and eyes of a child. There is the wonder and awe, the sheer joy celebrating the birth of Jesus. May you all take time, make space, for the pondering of the marvellous thing God has done for us in sending Jesus, his Son to save us. I have enjoyed the mornings during Advent to savour the silence and enjoy the time for prayer. May the Lord bless all of you, your families and your homes with the joy and peace which is to be found in this Christmas Event – God is with us – Emmanuel.

2. Thank You

My thanks to you all, our faithful parishioners, for all your support throughout the year – your financial support and your encouragement and friendship. Thank you to the Parish Council members who will meet again in the New Year to plan the programme for the year. We are blessed to have a great team – Finance, Liturgy, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers, Collectors, and Stewards in Church. We appreciate our musicians and choirs who enhance the liturgy and who faithfully lift our hearts in our praise of God. My thanks to Margaret and Caroline who present the welcoming face of the Parish in their service in the Parish Centre. I have seen firsthand their care for people, offering a cup of coffee and a listening ear. Thanks to Ailish our Sacristan for her invaluable service too – keeping the candles lit and the doors open with a smile and to Sr. Concepta and Sr. Margaret Mary who provide a wonderful service to the sick and housebound, and the residents in the nursing homes.

3. Good Wishes

The Postman has been delivering cards and letters for weeks now. My sincere thanks for your cards and gifts and good wishes. I am humbled by your generosity and support. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. St. Canice's Co.Ed School is a most important part of our Parish and I spend a lot of time there offering my support to the Teachers and Pupils. For the past 20 years I have chaired the School Board of Management and now have decided to step down from that role. My thanks to Mary O'Neill from Ayrfield for her acceptance of the role and to Alma Ryan and Micheál O'Caomh who represent the Parish Community. We will be preparing for Confirmation in the New Year, God bless the teachers and pupils and staff who do such a wonderful job looking after the children.

At this time of Peace and Joy, may I ask you to please remember the plight of those innocent people in Gaza in their terrible suffering. Please support the Trocaire appeal for help.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas. May the Lord bless us and our world with peace

-Fr. Jim

St Canice's Parish Newsletter

Christmas Day 2023



*Wishing all our Parishioners a Very Happy
And Peaceful Christmas*

ST CANICE'S PARISH

25^H DECEMBER 2023

Praying for those who have died

Anniversaries and Intentions

St. Stephen's Day. 10am For the Intentions of all those who sent and received the Parish Christmas Cards

Wed 27th 10am Tommy and Eileen Gunning

Thurs 28th 10am Con Downey, John and Mary McMahon, Margot MacEneaney (1st Anniv)

Fri 29th 10am Rose and Ted Kenny

We also remember Patrick and Julia Burke, Peggy Blanchfield, Michael and Elizabeth Cullen, Kitty Crotty, Martin Cummins, Jack Donegan, Milo and Ann Fry, Seamus Fry, Ann Guilfoyle, Kitty and Jimmy Lennon and their son Joe, Mary Maher, Eily Purcell, Kay Scott, Rosemary Smyth, Jerry and Margaret Rowe, Tony Tierney

Next Weekend

Sat 30th Dec 10am Mary, Jim and Seamus Tynan, William Butler

Sun 31st Dec 10am Kathleen Wall (Months Mind), Josephine Grace

Sun 31st Dec 11.30am Joe Woods, Fr. Martin Cleere

New Year's Day 10am Tommy Hickey

Feast of the Epiphany Sat 6th Jan. 10am Brian O'Callaghan (1st Anniv)

Sat 6th Jan Vigil 7.30pm Larry Tynan

Sun 7th Jan 10am Fr. Canice Treacy, John Ryan and his daughter Catherine Carew

Sun 7th Jan 11.30am

Please Note

There will be no 10am Mass on Tues 2nd, and Wed 3rd January

St Vincent De Paul

Sincere thanks to all who contributed to our Christmas appeal for the Society of St Vincent de Paul. The sum of €4,520 was raised and this is all used for the support of people in St Canice's Parish. Thanks also to the many parishioners who left donations at the Parish Office and shop. We live in challenging times, if you or any of your family are struggling financially the parish conference of St Vincent de Paul is here to help. Tel: 086 0721598. Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas



Christmas Mass Times



Christmas Eve 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Christmas Day 10am and 11.30am

St Stephen's Day 10am

Wednesday 27th Dec 10am

Thursday 28th Dec 10am

Friday 29th Dec 10am

Saturday 30th Dec 7.30pm Vigil

Sunday 31st Dec 10am and 11.30am

Monday 1st Jan 10am

Tuesday 2nd Jan No Mass

Wednesday 3rd Jan No Mass

Thursday 4th January 10am

Friday 5th January. 10am

Saturday 6th January Feast of the Epiphany 10am

Please Note Daily Masses 27th Dec to 6th Jan will be at 10am

All Masses are livestreamed on the Parish Webcam www.stcanicesparish.ie and broadcast on the Parish radio (108FM). The 10am Mass on Sunday and on Christmas Day will also be broadcast live from St. Canice's on Community Radio Kilkenny City (88.7fm)

The Parish Centre will re-open on Mon 8th January

Fr. Jim 087 2609545 / 056 7721534 - Fr. Tom 083 3241438

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Secretary: Ms Mgt Logue – Sacristan: Ailish Brennan c/o Parish Centre

Safeguarding reps. Ms Caroline Cummins, Edmund Nolan, c/o Parish Centre.

