

St Michael's Parish Gorey Newsletter 03 December 2017



ADVENT

Today marks the first Sunday in Advent. Advent, from the Latin word **adventus**, meaning **"coming"** is considered to be the beginning of the Church Year. The season is for most Christians, one of anticipation and hope, although at its beginnings, the emphasis was much more on penitence, fasting and sin. For most Christians it is not just a celebration of a moment in time when a baby is born, but also looks beyond to a time when the Bible tells us that Jesus will come again, not as a weak and vulnerable baby but in power and with authority. The traditional Scripture readings for this time emphasise both the First and Second Coming of Jesus Christ, and our accountability for faithfulness at His coming, judgment on sin and the hope of eternal life.

EVENING PRAYER & BENEDICTION

Quiet prayer and reflection at 5pm every Sunday, concluding with Benediction.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 8 DECEMBER

Friday is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation

Masses are as follows:

GOREY: 7.30am, 10am, 1.05pm & 7.30pm

TARA HILL: 10.30am.



DEATH OF MONSIGNOR LORY KEHOE. This week witnessed the sad passing of Monsignor Lory Kehoe, who served as Parish Priest of Gorey from 1999 to 2009. During a singularly fruitful time here, he endeared himself to the people of the parish. He was a pastor par excellence, a people person, an innovator and a friend to many. His tenure oversaw the building of the Pastoral Centre and car park and the introduction of the annual Parish Novena, amongst many achievements. His legacy outlives him and our memories leave us grateful that he passed our way. May he enjoy the fruits of his life and labours.

NET MINISTRIES

NET Ministries will speak at all Masses on the weekend of 16th & 17th December.

We look forward to welcoming them to our parish. We are looking for volunteers to help with teas/coffees in the Pastoral Centre after each mass. Please give your name & contact details to one of the priests or at the Parish Office.



We are now looking for 2 homes to accommodate them over 5 weekends and Holy Week from December to May. Thank you to those who have volunteered already. We are also looking for musicians and singers. If you are willing to help, please contact the Parish Office 053 9421117/goreyparish@gmail.com. Details can be found on our Facebook page.

**Dates as follows: Dec 15-16, Jan 12-13, Mar 2-3,
Mar 26-Apr 1 (Parish Mission), Apr 13-14, May 18-19.**

CHRISTCHURCH OLD SCHOOL: Christmas sale on Wed 6th December at 7pm. All Welcome

CHURCH ENVELOPES 26 Nov

CHURCH	AMOUNT	NO. ENV
GOREY	€ 1,210.30	194
TARA HILL	€ 169.70	24
2nd Collection	€ 885.42	

St. Kevin's Tara Hill

Sun 03 Dec 10.30am: Michael & Stella O'Halloran, Rudolph & Catherine Joppe, Phil & Margaret Doyle

St. Michael's Gorey

This week's Masses include intentions for:

Mon 7.30am: Ann Kinsella **10am:** Special Intention

Tues 10am: Cecilia Dalton, William Doyle

Fri Feast of Immaculate Conception:

10am: Dempsey Family

Sat 10am: Riobard Dunbar

Next Weekend Mass intentions for:

Vigil 6pm: Elizabeth Dunbar & daughter Rita

Vigil 7.30pm: Helen Elsie Roche (1st Annv.), Josie Doyle (2nd Annv.)

10.30am: James Moran

12 noon: Mary Wheatley (1st anniv), Pauline Cassidy, Denis Byrne, Muriel Gregory

CHRISTMAS NOVENA CARDS: available in Parish Office €2 each. We also have Church Art Calendars €2, Advent Calendars €3, Christmas cards €5 for pack of 12, and many other gifts. Please call in.

STORYTELLING ÁR mBRÉACHA: The House of Storytelling will meet on Tuesday 5th Dec from 8 –10:30pm. Come join us for some Christmas stories, songs & food. Everyone most welcome. Contact Phil: 0877440904.

GOREY/BALLYGARRETT CCE would appreciate your support for their coffee morning and cake sale being held in the Loch Garman Arms also busking outside on Sat 9th Dec 10-12. All welcome

GOREY ACTIVE RETIREMENT NEWS: Christmas Dinner Dance Ashdown Park Hotel 12th Dec tickets must be paid for by Friday 8th Dec. Go For Life and Darts groups will close for Christmas Break on 5th Dec. We will still have our walk on Wed until 13th December and Coffee morning on Fridays until 15th Dec. New Members welcome.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN): We thank Sr. Maureen O'Connor from ACN who spoke at masses last weekend about the work done rebuilding churches and providing for Christians in Iraq & Syria (the Nineveh Reconstruction Initiative). Please keep the work of ACN in your prayers and donations (no matter how small) are always welcome. www.acnireland.org is the website for the charity which raised awareness and provides support for persecuted Christians worldwide.

REFLECTION FOR THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY

The most beautiful thing God made - so the Bible tells us - was the family. He created man and woman. He gave them everything, and trusted the world to them:- "Grow, multiply, cultivate the earth make it bear fruit, let it grow". All the love he put into that marvellous creation he entrusted to a family *Pope Francis, Philadelphia Sept 26th 2015*

When we hear the creation story, it is clear that everything God made was good. This was all given to a man and a woman to enjoy and make use of! It was obviously way more than they needed and that was part of His plan. He wanted that extreme generosity to be part of their understanding of themselves and of their own families. God knew they would make mistakes, but he gave it all to them, trusting that made in His image, they would bring the same awareness of God's generosity into their own families. Just as the first family was given more than they could possibly need, God bets on our families and us, that just as he has given us above and beyond what we need, we will learn to give in the same way to each other.

Diocesan Pastoral Council

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Christmas Collection on Saturday 16/Sunday 17 December in St. Michael's Church and surrounding parishes. All donations will be used locally to help those in need. We wish to thank the people of Gorey for their continued support.