

**Burrishoole Parish**  
**26th / 27th 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***

### **Happy Christmas!**

Happy Christmas to all! Welcomes to those who have managed to get home to be with their families and who have spent Christmas in Burrishhole. A very special greeting this year however to parishioners who may not have been able to travel home but who joined us over these past few days on Facebook and whose hearts were very much at home. You were missed. It has been a very different Christmas - a Christmas which will be remembered for generations.

Inevitably Christmas is a time when we remember fondly Christmases past and a time too when we miss our loved ones who were so much part of our own Christmas experience. This year was my first without both my parents and I was lucky enough to be able to spend it with two of my sisters. Although we missed mam especially it was lovely to be together on what was always a very special day for our family and in being together we somehow felt our parents' presence with us.

It was also my first time having Christmas dinner in someone else's house, ie. not at home in Westport or here in Newport. It was a little strange being a guest and having to behave myself! but I loved spending the time with my two beautiful nieces in their family home.

Christmas teaches us a lot about what is important in life; family, faith, friendship.

God Bless, Fr Tod

### **A Christmas Childhood**

One side of the potato-pits was white with frost –  
How wonderful that was, how wonderful!  
And when we put our ears to the paling-post  
The music that came out was magical.

The light between the ricks of hay and straw  
Was a hole in Heaven's gable. An apple tree  
With its December-glinting fruit we saw –  
O you, Eve, were the world that tempted me

To eat the knowledge that grew in clay  
And death the germ within it! Now and then  
I can remember something of the gay  
Garden that was childhood's. Again

The tracks of cattle to a drinking-place,  
A green stone lying sideways in a ditch,  
Or any common sight, the transfigured face  
Of a beauty that the world did not touch.

My father played the melodion  
Outside at our gate;  
There were stars in the morning east  
And they danced to his music.

Across the wild bogs his melodion called  
To Lennons and Callans.  
As I pulled on my trousers in a hurry  
I knew some strange thing had happened.

Outside in the cow-house my mother  
Made the music of milking;  
The light of her stable-lamp was a star  
And the frost of Bethlehem made it twinkle.

A water-hen screeched in the bog,  
Mass-going feet  
Crunched the wafer-ice on the pot-holes,  
Somebody wistfully twisted the bellows wheel.

My child poet picked out the letters  
On the grey stone,  
In silver the wonder of a Christmas townland,  
The winking glitter of a frosty dawn.

Cassiopeia was over  
Cassidy's hanging hill,  
I looked and three whin bushes rode across  
The horizon — the Three Wise Kings.

And old man passing said:  
'Can't he make it talk –  
The melodion.' I hid in the doorway  
And tightened the belt of my box-pleated coat.

I nicked six nicks on the door-post  
With my penknife's big blade –  
There was a little one for cutting tobacco.  
And I was six Christmases of age.

My father played the melodion,  
My mother milked the cows,  
And I had a prayer like a white rose pinned  
On the Virgin Mary's blouse.

Patrick Kavanagh

### **Weekday Masses**

There will be no Mass from Monday to Thursday this week. Mass on Friday January 1<sup>st</sup> at 12noon via Facebook and Parish radio only.

The Parish Office is closed this week.

### **Level 5**

As you are aware from St Stephen's Day onwards Masses will once again be celebrated without a congregation. We will revert to what has become our default; Mass on Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri at 10am with Mass on Saturday at 7pm and Mass on Sunday at 10am. Any Intentions received for the 11.30am Sunday Mass will be included in the 10am.

Under the new restrictions only 10 people are permitted to attend a funeral and from January 2<sup>nd</sup> only 6 people can attend a wedding.

### **Envelope Collection**

Thank you for your ongoing support of your parish. In these very difficult times your generosity is deeply appreciated. Although public Masses are again suspended envelopes 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.

The Priest's Christmas Collection (Blue Envelope) is now being accepted. 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.

Again many thanks for your continued generosity which is truly humbling.

### **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.

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

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

### **Mass Schedule**

*Mass available only on Facebook and/or Parish Radio during current restrictions*

### **Weekday Mass Intentions:**

**Please note that there will be no Mass this week  
Monday - Thursday**

### **Friday Jan 1<sup>st</sup> at 12noon**

The People of the Parish

### **Weekend Mass Intentions**

#### **Saturday December 26th at 7pm:**

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

#### **Sunday December 27th 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; Mary & Patrick Hynes, Lecanvey, Christopher McNally, Newport.

#### **Saturday January 2nd at 7pm:**

Catherine & Florence O'Sullivan.

#### **Sunday January 3rd at 10am:**

Tommy Lavelle, Furnace; John Murray, Shramore; Aggie & Johnny Connelly, Michael Hearn & all deceased members of the McLoughlin & Connelly families.

Michael Moran (Post), Mulranny & Birmingham; Alice, John & JJ. Fitzpatrick, Mulranny; Veronica & Thomas Corrigan, Dooghill & their daughter Mary.