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Rathmolyon Parish Bulletin

Masses this weekend: 10/11th December, 2016 No. 1222.

Sat. 8pm. Patrick & Mary Jordan. Leonard Slevin, formerly of Isaacstown, Rathmolyon, 1st anniv. Betty Nolan. Mary and Christy Murray. Nan and Kit Donnelly. **Sun. 10am.** Dolly Kelly.

Monday Feast of St. Finian, Patron Saint of our Diocese. Mass at 7pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: Mass at 9.30am.

Next weekend: Sat. 8pm. Jack and Nancy Farrell. Deceased members of Rathmolyon Senior Citizens. Deceased members of Rathmolyon GAA. **Sun. 10am.** Mary Dixon, m.m. Donnie and Marian Larkin.

Plate Collection: €510. Building fund: €325. Many thanks.

Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesdays 10am-10pm. **Wed. 10-11am.** **No Adoration Wednesday evening.** Additional Adorers required for the following hours: Tuesday from 3-4pm, 5-6pm and 8-9pm. Why not make a special effort for Advent.

Baptisms after 10am Mass on 1st Sunday and at 2pm on 3rd Saturday.

Please pray for Mary O'Brien, Tobertynan, Sr. Gerard Murphy, Tullamore, sister of Mary McCloskey, New Road, Baconstown, John Birmingham, Kilshanroe, Anne Gannon, Kilshanroe and Gerry Boyle, Mullingar and Trim. R.I.P.

Penance Service: Our annual penance service for Christmas will take place on Tuesday 20th of December in Rathmolyon Church at 7pm and Jordantown Church at 8pm. A number of visiting priests will be available for confessions.

St. Vincent de Paul: Church door collection this weekend. Our immediate concern is to help families avoid an empty Christmas. We help with the cost of food, energy and education as well as toys. We need your help now and without your support, we simply could not do our work; your 'yes' can last a lifetime.

Rathmolyon Youth Choir presents An Evening of Christmas Carols and Songs on Friday 16th December at 7.30pm in Rathmolyon Church. All welcome.

Advent thoughts: God has no phone, but I talk to him. He has no facebook, but He is still my friend. He does not have twitter, but I still follow Him.

Christmas Eve: 7.30pm Mass (Family Mass) Childrens Choir Singing

Christmas Day: 10.00am Mass Adult Choir Singing

Christmas Offerings: Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are Offering Days for the support of the priests of the parish. Please give subscription to collector at church door or place envelope in box at the back of the church. Offering Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Parish Calendars and details of Christmas Schedule are being distributed to all homes at present.

Switching on of Christmas Lights in Rathmolyon this Saturday after Mass.

Rathmolyon Hurling Club: Lotto nos.

No winner.

A.G.M. will be held in the club house on this Sunday 11th December at 5pm.

Advent Calendar available at www.catholicbishops.ie/advent-calendar with tasks to do everyday for children and adults.

Na Fianna CLG present Mike Denver in the Hamlet Court Hotel on Thursday 29th December. Local musician Christy McNally will get proceedings underway at 9pm. Tickets on sale from committee members and from the Hamlet Court Hotel.

We welcome First Holy Communion children and their families this weekend.

Peace Light f Bethlehem: Longwood Scout group are bringing "Peace Light" from the grotto in Bethlehem to 10am Mass next Sunday. The Peace Candle will remain lit at all the Christmas Masses. People can take a light from the candle and bring it to their homes. We pray for peace in our homes, community and throughout the world.

The empty crib this weekend reminds us that it is into the emptiness of our lives and our world that we invite Christ to come with his love, care and protection towards us.

If anyone is ill in hospital or at home and would like a visit, please contact Parochial House and we will arrange same.

Today's Gospel - Joy in the Lord:

Three things about happiness. First: happiness needs to be appreciated *right now*. We convince ourselves that life will be better when we get married, have a baby, then another. Then we are frustrated that the kids are not old enough and we will be more content when they are. After that we are frustrated that we have teenagers to deal with. We will certainly be happy when they are out of that stage. We tell ourselves that our life will be complete when our spouse gets his or her act together. The truth is there is no better time to be happy than right now. **Second,** 'If you are happy, *let your face know.*' Maybe we could begin to be more joyful by glancing in the mirror and asking ourselves: does my face look like the face of someone who has heard the good news of the Gospel, namely that I am loved unconditionally by God? **Third,** joy will come to us if we set about trying to *create it for others*. If I go about my life demanding that others carry me rather than seeking to carry them; feeding off others rather than feeding them; demanding that others meet my needs rather than trying to meet theirs, joy will never find me no matter how hard I party or try to crank up good cheer.

Advent Prayer: Come, Lord Jesus. Come into our hearts. Come into our homes. Come to those who are lonely. Come to those who are fearful. Come to those who are sick. Come to those who are poor. Come to those who are grieving. Come to those who have no faith. Come to those who have no hope. Come to those who have no love. Come to the victims of violence. Come to those in the grip of addiction. Come to those in prison. Come to us in our needs at Christmas. Amen

Next weekend:

Readers: Sat. 8pm. C. Flynn. **10am.** E. Crowley.

Eucharist Ministers: 8pm. L. Grehan, M. Mulvihill.

Sun. 10am. M. Cummins, P. Brady.

Altar Society: M. Murray, P. Brady.

Cleaners: C. Cunningham, R. Cummins.

Collectors: Sat. 8pm. C. O'Brien, P. Ennis, A. Forde

Sun. 10am. G. Cunningham, D. Larkin, J. Crowley.

