

Parish of Urney and Castlefin

Parish Website: www.urneyandcastlefinparish.com E-mail Address: urneyparish@eircom.net

PP: Rev. Michael Porter,
St Columba's Church,
Doneyloop.
074 9146183.

PIR: Rev. Oliver Crilly,
St Mary's Church,
Castlefin.
074 9146251.

Christ the savior
is born.

Christmas Day (25th Dec)

Daily Mass This Week:

Doneyloop: Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri and Sat – 10am

Castlefin: Mon, Tues, Wed - no Mass; Thurs – 7.30pm; Fri - Wedding Mass 1pm.

Pope Francis has called Christmas: "the feast of trust and of hope which overcomes uncertainty and pessimism." He said: "And the reason for our hope is this: God is with us... he comes to abide with mankind, he chooses earth as his dwelling place to remain with people...in joy or in sorrow. Therefore, earth is no longer only 'a valley of tears'; rather, it is the place where God himself has pitched his tent, it is the meeting place of God with humanity, of God's solidarity with people."

We wish all our parishioners a very Happy Christmas and all the blessings of the Christmas Season.



Christmas Collection: because Christmas falls on Sunday this year there will be two collections at Mass today – the Sunday envelope collection after the Gospel and the Priest's Christmas Collection after Holy Communion.

Children in Crossfire: If you still wish to be part of Advent Campaign for the 'Children in Crossfire' charity your envelope can be put in the weekly collection baskets next weekend or can be left in either of the parochial houses, the sacristies or in the parish office before Monday 9th January. Thank you.

Bingo: there will be no Bingo this week but it will resume again on Monday 2nd January in the Community Centre, Doneyloop at 9pm.

Whist: there will be no Bingo this week 28th December. Whist will resume again on Wednesday 4th January in St Mary's Hall at 8.30pm. Scorecard: €2.

Castlefin Social Services would like to thank Zara Holmes (Castlefin Drama Group) for their kind donation and also wish everyone in the community a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

St Vincent de Paul Annual Collection: We thank you all for your very generous response to our collection last week-end. However as envelopes are still being returned we hope to give you the final figure in the New Year. We wish all in our community a very Happy and Blessed Christmas and sincere thanks for your great support throughout 2016.

St Vincent de Paul Castlefin Helpline Number will be in operation over the Christmas period 087-4658381 if anyone feels the need to make contact.

Thrift Shop is now closed for the Christmas period and will re-open on Tuesday 3rd January.

'Stars in your Eyes': Robert Emmetts are running this year's annual 'Stars in your Eyes' on Wednesday 28 December in McBride's, Castlefin, starting at 9pm, €5 entry. Come early to avoid disappointment – sure to be a great night!

A special charity concert in memory of the late Bishop Daly is being held on Saturday 4th February 2017 in St Columba's Hall. All proceeds from the concert will go to Bishop Daly's chosen charities: Children in Crossfire, Foyle Hospice and Foyle Search and Rescue. Hosted by renowned comedian Jean Fitzpatrick the evening will include entertainment from a variety of well known local artists. Tickets can be purchased through the Millennium Forum box office on 028 71264455.

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages: Airport Transport and 7 nights B&B €279. Tel. 01 4434510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com Call for flight info. Medjugorje: 00387 36 651 518 Ireland: 00353 1 443 4510 Email: reservations@med-irishcentre.com Website: www.med-irishcentre.com

Cruse Bereavement Care invites applications to the Awareness in Childhood Bereavement Care volunteer training course running over 4 weekends in spring 2017. Please contact maria.mcentee@cruse.org.uk or 02890-792419. Application Deadline: 10 January 2017

Christmas Dinner Grace



In the peace of this season our spirits are joyful: With the beasts and angels, the shepherds and stars, with Mary and Joseph we sing God's praise. By your coming may the hungry be filled with good things, and may our table and home be blessed. Bless us O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which of thy bounty we are about to receive through Christ our Lord. Amen.