

BANTRY PARISH NEWSLETTER
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2016

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Parish Office times: Weekdays: Mon. Weds. Thurs. & Fri. 9.30am – 11.30am. Fridays only 1.30pm-3.30pm

BANTRY PARISH CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2016

CHRISTMAS EVE

Bantry: 6.15pm – Children's/Family Mass
10pm – Vigil Mass

Kealkil: 8pm – Vigil Mass
Coomhola: 12 Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

Hospital: 8.00am
Bantry: 9am
Coomhola: 10am
Kealkil: 11am
Bantry: 12 noon

Calendar: Mass Times and Intentions :-

Mon. 12th December: 3rd week of Advent:
Bantry:10am: Nora & Michael Riordan

Tues. 13th December: 3rd week of Advent:
St.Lucy – virgin & martyr
Bantry:10am:
James & Mary Ellen Wiseman - Dromleigh

Wed. 14th December: 3rd week of Advent: St.John of the Cross, priest & doctor of the Church
Bantry:10am: Noreen, Eileen & Michael O'Sullivan – Bantry & London
Hospital: 5.30pm: Intentions of present & former Staff of Bantry General Hospital

Thurs. 15th December: 3rd week of Advent:
Bantry: 10am: Gemma Barrett - Colomane

Friday 16th December: 3rd week of Advent:
Bantry:10am: Daniel & Brigid Hurley - Eskanafeelna, Glengarriff. Deceased members of the Lynch & Hurley Families - Glengarriff
Kealkil:7.30pm: Joe & Nora Keane – Pearsons Bridge

Sat. 17th December: 3rd week of Advent:
Hospital: 10am: Annie Keane - Kealkil
Bantry: 6.15pm:
James & Elizabeth Flynn & sons - Durrus

Sun. 18th December: Fourth Sunday of Advent:
Bantry: 9am: Jerry O'Donovan – Boston Bar
Coomhola: 10am: Peg Murphy - Dromdubh
Kealkil: 11am:
Rita O'Sullivan – Hill View, Breenybeg, Kealkil
Bantry: 12 noon: People of the Parish

Recent Parish Baptisms:

Adam Patrick Harrington - Derryginagh West, Bantry
We welcome him into our Christian Community

Confessions for Christmas
in Bantry Parish

Penitential Service in Bantry Church
Monday 19th December at 7.30 pm

A number of priests will be available for Confessions.

Confessions also available on Saturday
24th December – 12 noon in Bantry

Christmas Anniversary List

We are now taking names of deceased loved ones to be prayed for at the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We ask that you please specify the Mass at which you would like the person to be prayed for.

Mass on Whiddy Island at 12 noon
Saturday 17th December
Boat leaves the Railway Pier at 11am

Christmas Mass at Derrycreha National School
Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 10am.
All Welcome'

Christmas Mass at Dromclough School
Tuesday 20th December. Confession followed by
Mass at 11am. All welcome

DON'T BE LONELY THIS CHRISTMAS

Senior Help Line, Ireland's only national listening service for older people, will be open every day over Christmas and the New Year from 10 am to 10 pm. We are here to take your call if you are on your own, feeling isolated, worried or would like someone to talk to. Christmas can be a sad time for many people, and in the midst of apparent universal gaiety, some of us can feel very alone. Senior Help Line volunteers are trained older people who understand the ups and downs of life, and are happy to listen, to keep company and to support. **So let us put the companionship into Christmas this year. LoCall 1850 440 444, no call costs more than 30 cents. All calls confidential.**

Died Recently:

We extend our prayers & sympathy to the family, relatives & friends of:-
Michael Murnane - Gortagarry, Bantry

May he Rest in Peace.

Recent Parish Weddings

We congratulate **Susan Harrington** (Slip Lawn, Bantry) & **Brian Keohane** (Gurteenroe, Bantry) who were married in St. Finbarr's Church, Bantry on Saturday, 3rd December 2016

We wish Susan & Brian long & happy lives together.

Cork priest Fr Bernard Cotter has co-written a book on parish life, called "**How to Survive Working in a Catholic Parish**". Members of pastoral councils or assemblies will find it very helpful, as will parish volunteers and those thinking of helping out. The book is on sale in Veritas, Carey's Lane, Cork for €15.95 or you can order it from the publishers on-line at www.rpbooks.co.uk for £12.95 (you can also see a sample chapter on that website). Or directly on frbernard@eircom.net

EMERGENCY DEFIBRILLATOR FOR CHAPEL STREET/BRIDGE STREET AREA

OF BANTRY TOWN

THE DEFIBRILLATOR IS POSITIONED ON THE STREET WALL OUTSIDE ST. FINBARR'S R.C. CHURCH near ANDREWS CENTRA SUPERMARKET.

In the event of a collapse, call 112 or 999 **FIRST**. Then call **The Red Cross Defibrillation Group 1800 277233** for the Code to open the Defibrillator Cabinet Lock and follow the written instructions on the Cabinet door.

The Bantry Defibrillation Group provided the Defibrillator. Special thanks go to the Group Vice Chairman Matt Keane who made all the necessary purchases and preparations and to Dave Foley of Future Forests for helping to secure the Defibrillator.

To everyone who generously supported the annual Bantry Defibrillation Group Flag Day and Church Gate collections the Group express their sincere gratitude. Your contributions have enabled the Group to make this Defibrillator and other life saving Defibrillators available to the community.

Defibrillators are located: in **Bantry** outside SuperValu, Bantry Boys Club, St. Finbarr's R.C. Church (recent), Dr. Denis Cotter's Surgery, Bantry Blues GAA Pitch, The Sailing Club, **Ballylickey**, at Cronin's Centra Foodstore (recent), **Kealkil**, St. Colum's GAA Pitch, Bay Rovers Soccer Pitch, **Coomhola** at Bridge, **Colomane**, outside Willie Pa's Restaurant and outside the **Maelagh Valley** Community Centre. The Defibrillators are checked regularly to ensure that they are fully functioning at all times.

The Bantry Defibrillation Group meet monthly and provide training and practice in CPR, the use of a Defibrillator and how to assist someone who is choking. They extend an invitation to new members to attend and learn these life saving skills. In the event of a sudden cardiac emergency or if someone is choking, you will be able to act promptly, know what to do and thus help save a life. The next training session will take place in Bantry at the old Gael Scoil premises, Upper Main Street on **Wednesday 11th January at 8pm**. It is essential that as many people as possible in the community will avail of training and practice. For information, tel. Ruth Tel: 086 1086076, /Matt 086 3987937/ Mary: 086 2363344.

Training for Parish Catechists: The second two year training, the Maryvale Certificate in Catechesis, will begin in Cork in January 2017. Information packs & registration forms are available from the Pastoral Development Office tel: 021 4537601 & must be returned by 10th January. This course is open to all wishing to enhance their understanding of the Catholic faith.

Youth 2000 Christmas Retreat – 16th to 18th December 2016

Date: 16th to 18th December 2016

Venue: Newbridge College, Newbridge, Co. Kildare

Cost: Donation only (The retreat costs Youth 2000 €50 per person. If you genuinely cannot afford this, we ask that you donate what you can afford. Do not let money be an obstacle for you attending this retreat). Ages: 16 – 35 year.

This promises to be a special retreat!!

2017 Rotas (Jan-June) for Ministers of the Word & the Eucharist are now available. Please call to the Sacristy or the Parish Office to collect your rota. Thank you. We ask that all Ministers arrange a sub if you cannot attend on your scheduled day.

Christmas Raffle at SVP Paul Shop, Main Street.
First prize: 300 litre heating oil.
Tickets €1 / strip available in the shop.
All proceeds to local St. Vincent de Paul

Offertory Collection: Weekend 3rd / 4th December:
Bantry: €1715; Coomhola €210; Kealkil €315.

The annual Ecumenical Community Service of Lessons and Carols is once again being held in St. Brendan's Church of Ireland on Sunday 18th December at 8pm. Singers from St Finbarr's, Bantry; Sacred Heart Church, Glengarriff; and St Brendan's, Bantry will be taking part and congregational carols will be aplenty. Many people consider this beautiful service to be the start of their Christmas. Come & join us and make it a part of yours!"

KEALKIL COMMUNITY ALERT GROUP WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU, THE OLDER MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY, TO THEIR FIRST EVER CHRISTMAS SOCIAL. IT WILL BE HELD IN COLLINS BAR KEALKIL ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH AFTER 11 O'CLOCK MASS. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED & THERE WILL BE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT. FUN & LAUGHTER GUARANTEED. TRANSPORT CAN BE PROVIDED IF REQUIRED. LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL

The organisers of the Fundraiser which took place on Whiddy Island last weekend would like to sincerely thank all those who supported in aid of Cancer Connect, Arc House and the Bantry Hospice.

Calling All Bingo Players to Our Christmas €500 Game at Mealagh Valley Hall, Thursday Dec. 15th. at 8.00 P.M.. €10 Per Person. Raffle for Cash Prizes and Free Complimentary Refreshments on the Evening. Usual Bus Service from Durrus & Bantry. Sincere Thanks for Your Support during 2016 & Please God You Can Do Likewise for 2017. Gods Blessing on You All.