

Please Note that because Christmas Day falls on Sunday this year there will be no bulletin next week and notices for the week after December 25th are shown below

**Calendar: Mass Times and Intentions :-
Week beginning Monday 26th December:**

Mon. 26th December: St. Stephen, First Martyr:

Bantry:10am: John Cronin

Tues. 27th December: St. John, Apostle & Evangelist:

Bantry:10am: Michael Connolly - Cahernacrin

Wed. 28th December: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs:

Bantry:10am: Owen O'Sullivan - Glencreagh

Hospital: 5.30pm: Tommy Murray - Ballylickey

Thurs.29th Dec.:5th Day in the Octave of Christmas:

Bantry: 10am:

Noel O'Sullivan – Slip Park – 1st anniversary

Friday 30th December:

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph:

Bantry:10am: Mary Coppinger – Blackrock Road

**Kealkil: 7.30pm: John & Kate O'Rourke -
Gortloughera**

Sat. 31st Dec.: 7th Day in the Octave of Christmas:

Hospital: 10am: Dermot O'Connell – Chapel Street

Bantry: 6.15pm:

Bridie & Jack C. Moloney- Dromclough

Sun. 1st January 2017:

Mary, The Holy Mother of God:

Bantry: 9am:

Patrick & Christine McCarthy – Tower Hill

Coomhola: 10am:

Molly O'Sullivan – Cappadyourdil, Coomhola

Kealkil: 11am: People of the Parish

Bantrv: 12 noon: People of the Parish

**Feast of the Epiphany - Holy Day of Obligation
Friday, 6th January 2017**

Bantry: Thursday 5th January at 6.15pm– Vigil Mass

Friday, 6th January

Coomhola: 10.00 am

Kealkil: 11.00 am

Bantry: 12.00 noon & 7.30 pm

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.

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 substitute if you cannot attend on your scheduled day.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

Pope Francis has chosen Ireland to host the next World Meeting of Families in August 2018. This is a graced moment for all families and for the Church in Ireland enhanced by the proposed visit by Pope Francis to coincide with this event. The Diocese will be offering a programme of preparation for all ages over the coming months leading up to this event. To begin your parish will be distributing prayer cards over the Christmas period to encourage families to pray together the special prayer which will also feature in your parish crib on the Manger prayer card.

1 Corinthians 13 – A Christmas Version

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, if profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the spouse. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust, but giving the gift of LOVE will endure.

Care for the Aged Charity Shop:

The lady volunteers of the above charity shop wish to acknowledge the wonderful support we have received from the people of Bantry & surrounding areas during 2016. We are confident that we can look forward to the same level of support in 2017. We would like to wish our friends & supporters a Happy Christmas & a prosperous New Year.

2017 Parish Calendars are available at the Church Porches. Please take one for your home & for your family & friends