



Abbeyleix & Ballyroan Parish

NEWSLETTER

Parish Office 057 87 30844

December 22nd 2019

4th Sunday of Advent

Parish Website: www.abbeyleixparish.ie

Email: abbeyleixparishchurch@gmail.com

Fr Paddy Byrne P.P.

Phone 087 9948505

Email: frpaddybyrne@gmail.com



PARISH WEBSITE LAUNCH

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO LAUNCH OUR NEW PARISH WEBSITE/WEBCAM FOR LIVE STREAMING FROM THE CHURCH OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY FOR ALL MASSES !

Website : abbeyleixparish.ie

WebCam: abbeyleixparish.ie/webcam/

A Christmas Message from Fr. Paddy



Christmas comes to visit us in the darkest moments of the year. Days after the winter solstice the sun physically begins to move closer, ray by ray, inviting us to hope in the new spring that soon we welcome. This has been a difficult year in the life of our parish, late last January, we were plunged into a deep sense of loss and grief following Fr. Johns sudden and tragic death, a grief that is felt by many families who have also lost loved ones this year here in our Parish. Let's pray that the light and comfort of Christ will offer hope to those who find this time of year difficult.

The birth of Jesus is not a very comfortable story, it challenges our attitudes, how do we welcome the stranger, care for the vulnerable, make room for difference. In a particular way, Christmas is about home and family. I pray every blessing of peace, healing and continued strength to all the families in this wonderful parish. I am particularly mindful of the residents of our local Direct Provision Centre. I know they are most appreciative of the warmth of your welcome and encouragement to what is a most difficult reality.

Whilst I am very new to this community, I genuinely find great warmth, life and welcome. I am particularly grateful to the many people who volunteer their gifts and talents in the service of others. I think of our local sporting, cultural, and community groups who enhance our lives. Here, in our Parish, I am overwhelmed by the generosity of so many who contribute to the life and energy of our faith community.

I want to express sincere appreciation to our Catholic Schools in Abbeyleix and Ballyroan, Parish Finance Group, Baptismal and Liturgical Groups, Laura our Parish Organist, and the Parish Choirs, our Parish Staff, Gráinne our Parish Secretary, Richie our Sacristan in Ballyroan and Nora whose extraordinary generosity simply is outstanding. I am most grateful to have the support, wisdom and friendship of a wonderful colleague Fr Caoimhín. He has given so much to this Parish in 2019. I wish Canon Harvey and the Church of Ireland Community, our brothers and sisters in Christ, continued friendship and lasting co-operation in our shared mission of the Gospel. I am deeply inspired by the kindness and care given to the elderly and vulnerable in Abbeyleix Hospital, a sacred place. Sincere thanks to all involved in the Community Employment Scheme for all their time and efforts throughout the year.

Jesus is a loving, kind and compassionate friend who always lifts our spirit, takes us out of darkness into a wonderful light and sense of hope. I pray that this joyful spirit will uplift, encourage and renew our lives this Christmas. May Gods blessing of good health, happiness of Spirit and peace of mind be with us all.
Nollaig Shona. All Will Be Well.

Fr Paddy Byrne. P.P



Twitter @AbbeyleixP



Abbeyleix and Ballyroan Parish

Christmas Mass Schedule 2019



Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December :

Children's Mass in Church of the Most Holy Rosary at **3pm**.
Christmas Eve Mass in Church of the Most Holy Rosary at **7.30pm**
Christmas Eve Mass in St Patricks Church Ballyroan at **6pm**.



Christmas Day Mass Wednesday 25th December :

9.30am St Patricks Church, Ballyroan

11am in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix.

Friday 27th December - 10am Mass in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix

Saturday 28th December - 6pm Mass in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix

Sunday 29th December - 11am Mass in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix

9.30am Mass in St. Patricks Church, Ballyroan.

Tuesday 31st December - 10am Mass in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix

New Years Day Mass - 11am Mass in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Abbeyleix



Abbeyleix Parish Lotto wish all our Promoters & Supporters a Very Happy Christmas and Thank You for your continued support throughout the past year. Wednesday 18th December is the final draw of Wednesday January 8th 2020. We wish all our supporters lots of lotto luck for 2020



Parish Contact

Fr Paddy Byrne P.P.
The Presbytery,
Ballinakill Road, Abbeyleix

Tel: 057 8730844

Office Hours

Mondays : 9am-1.45pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursdays :9am - 3.30pm

Fridays : 9am - 3pm

Email: abbeyleixparishchurch@gmail.com

If urgently required, contact Fr Paddy
087 9948505 (mobile)

Email: frpaddybyrne@gmail.com



Abbeyleix and Ballyroan Parish



Twitter @AbbeyleixP

Fr. Caoimhin O'Neill

'Emmaus',

Ballyroan Road, Abbeyleix

Gráinne Fennelly, Parish Secretary

Parish Office, Knocknamoe House, Ballinakill Road,
Abbeyleix

Parish Office Christmas Opening Hours



Friday December 20th -

Closed at 4pm.

Monday 23rd December - Jan 1st - Closed.

Thursday January 2nd - Office opens from 9am to 12pm

Friday January 3rd - Office open 9am - 12pm

**Office Hours as usual from
Monday 6th January at 9.15am.**

**New Years Day Mass will take place in the
Church of the Most Holy Rosary,
Abbeyleix at 11am**