

Parish of Newmarket on Fergus - Carrigerry - The Wells

Parish Office: Monday to Friday 10.00am - 1.00pm.
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Parish website: www.newmarketonfergusparish.ie
email: office@newmarketonfergusparish.ie

Parish Team

Fr. Tom Fitzpatrick: Tel: 700883 / 087 2720187
Canon Reuben Butler: Tel: 368433
Mary Power: Parish Secretary

4th Sunday of Advent

20th December 2015

Sacristans

Bridget O' Halloran : Newmarket
Mary Barron: The Wells
Bernadette Glynn: Carrigerry

Newmarket

Sat 19th	7.30pm	Bridie McNamara , Kilnasoolgh Pk., (1st anniversary) and her husband Gus and son Michael Patrick and Mary Fahy , Ing
Sun 20th	11.00am	Barry Ryan , Ballinooskny
Mon 21st	10.00am	Patrick, Bridget and Mary Flannery , Mause
Tue 22nd	10.00am	Daily Mass
	7.00pm	Penitential Service
Wed 23rd	10.00am	Frances McMahon , Newmarket House. 1st Anniversary
Thur 24th	6.00pm	Childrens Mass
	9.00pm	Christmas Eve Mass
Fri 25th	11.00am	Paddy, Peggy and Marty Slattery , Ennis Road
		Paddy Frawley , Ballysallagh
Sat 26th	7.30pm	Donal and Patrick McCormack , Glencragga
Sun 27th	11.00am	Sunday Mass (Feast of the Holy Family)

Wells

Sat 19th	6.30pm	Enrolment for 1st Communion and Confirmation
Sun 20th	10.00am	William Foley , Deerpark (1st Anniversary)
		Maureen O'Donnell , Castleconnell
Thur 24th	7.30pm	Margaret Egan , Ballycar
Fri 25th	10.00am	Christmas Day Mass
Sat 26th	6.30pm	Tom Hallinan , Co Limeick
		Betty Hayes , Gate Lodge, Bunratty
		Noel Ballinger , late of Gort Rd. Ennis & members of the Deegan Family , Cratloe
Sun 27th	10.00am	Sunday Mass

Carrigerry

Sun 20th	9.00am	Patrick and Bridget McBride , Stonehall
Thur 24th	8.00pm	Christmas Eve Mass
Fri 25th	10.00am	Christmas Day Mass
Sun 27th	9.00am	Sunday Mass



Recent Deaths:

Frances Hayes, Limerick Road. May she rest in peace

Priests Christmas Collection is being taken up at all masses on 24th /25th December

The Sacrament of Reconciliation.

We welcome the Friars from the Franciscan Community in Ennis who will lead our Reconciliation Service in Newmarket Church this Tuesday evening Dec 22nd at 7.00pm. With Christmas on our door step, we are invited to pause and reflect on our life journey. Most of us are aware of being less than perfect, of doing things we later regret. If we hang on to our regrets and guilt it may cripple us and make us unable to reach out in love to God, ourselves and others. The sacrament of Reconciliation is a means of renewal, putting the past behind us and starting afresh. May Christ be our light as we approach this great season of grace and hope. May he be born again in our hearts cleansed of sin and may he find warmth and welcome when he comes.

Christmas Eve Mass times

6pm: Childrens Mass in Newmarket
7.30pm: The Wells
8pm: Carrigerry
9pm: Newmarket

Christmas Day Masses

9.00am: Carrigerry
10.00am: The Wells
11.00am: Newmarket

Confessions at Christmas

Tuesday 22nd Dec - 7.00pm
Christmas Eve: 12noon to 1.00pm in Newmarket church in the confessional Box

"The Story of Newmarket on Fergus"

Is on Sale after masses this weekend and over the Christmas period and in the Parish Office
€30

Office open hours
10am-1.30pm next Mon, Tue & Wed.
Office will be closed over Christmas

**Fáilte-Bienvenue-Willkommen-Benvenuto-Bienvenido-Witajcie-Bemvindo-
Welkom-Velkomin-Vitejte-Karibu-Croeso-Valkommen-Tervetuloa-Welcome**

As we approach Christmas - the feast of Emmanuel.

Christmas 2015 is almost upon us and what a joy it brings; the joy of being together, grandparents, parents, children and grandchildren, all sharing, giving, and receiving. It is important that we take time out to celebrate what we have and to give thanks for those who are dear to us. We live in the sure and certain hope that when we gaze on the light of Christ, the Son of God, the star of Bethlehem, all our dreams will come true.

The true spirit of Christmas must always remain with us because it speaks to us of love and peace, forgiveness and reconciliation, sharing richness and bearing burdens. The human heart needs Christmas. Indeed, the human mind would probably have created it had he not come. But isn't it great! He has come! He, the Son of God, in the person of an infant Child, came to a cold, dark stable to satisfy the needs of the human heart and to draw us all to the brightness and warmth of his Father's home. And so we celebrate, we give thanks, we share. We thank Jesus, for lighting up our Christmases, for giving warmth to our homes, for bringing us together as a family to celebrate. Stay with us, Lord Jesus, always!

May every home in our parish experience the joy of Christ's coming among us and may that joy be shared with all the members of our families, especially with those who come home for Christmas. May the light of Christ shine in your hearts and home and may the warmth of His love heal any wounds or hurts. May those of your dear ones who cannot make it home for Christmas hear from us a word of love and an assurance of prayer. We will keep those who are grieving the loss of a loved one this Christmas very much in our thoughts and prayers. Be assured that the merciful love of the Infant of Bethlehem envelopes your dear one in an embrace of peace. We remember too all of you who are sick and in the hospital. May you experience the love of Jesus as your dear ones visit you over the Christmas period.

To those who day after day, week after week, serve our parish community as members of the Pastoral Council, School Boards of Management, Parish Finance Committee, Sacristans, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Those who do the floral arrangements, Altar Servers, Basket collectors and Distributors of Envelopes, members of the Obair Environmental group and FÁS, we say a sincere "thank you". Your dedication and devotion are greatly appreciated.

Last Monday evening we had the very successful launch of "The Story of Newmarket on Fergus" by Canon Reuben Butler and Máire Ní Ghruaigáin. Both of them were genuinely overcome with the warm and joyful reception they received. It was an evening to be savoured and enjoyed as a parish community gathered to celebrate its rich heritage and proud history. We are eternally grateful to them for bringing all of this rich history to our attention at this time and for the energy, patience and love they poured into the years of research. Canon Reuben and Máire are two parochial treasures and we can assure them that what they have given us as a legacy will be passed on to future generations with the same generosity in which it has been given to us.

And so as we enter the Christmas period may we discover the surprises that God's love has in store for us and the warmth of his welcome. May those blessed days allow us to see the love of God shining through the windowed hearts of all of God's people. The effects of austerity will still be real for many but the message of Christmas is one of Hope and a better way. The one who lay in the crib also knows the pain of the cross. He is Emmanuel, God with us. He welcomes us. May we welcome Him.

In a few weeks from now the decorations will come down and we will pull the plug on the Christmas lights. The toys will be forgotten - but the light and love of Jesus Christ will continue to brighten our pathway as we enter a New Year, confident that He will make all things new and fulfil our desires. A Happy and Blessed Christmas to all of you and every blessing and good wish for 2016.

Jan Fitzpatrick.

Reuben Butler

Christmas Services at Kilnasoolagh Church.

Christmas Eucharist will be celebrated in Kilnasoolagh church on Christmas Eve at 8pm. Celebrant will be Canon Bob Hanna, rector of Drumcliffe and Kilnasoolagh. Earlier in the afternoon at 4pm. he will lead a Family Christingle service in Kilfenora Cathedral. On Christmas Day in St. Columba's church Ennis, the Feast of the Incarnation will be celebrated at 11.30am. On Sunday 27th of December there will be a united service of carols and readings in St. Columba's Parish Church Ennis at 11.30am.

Clare Vintage Engine Tractor Club - VINTAGE TRACTOR RUN in Kilmaley. Sunday the 27th December 2015 @ 11:30am departing from the Kilmaley Inn. All Tractors must be pre 1980. For any queries please contact (087) 2714716

Tidy Towns Notice: Newmarket Tidy Towns would like to thank all the volunteers and community groups who have contributed to the tidy towns effort in 2015 and a special thanks to the Community Market Volunteers, The Village is looking better each year and new projects are planned to further enhance the village. We continue to gain points and recognition in the national competition and we hope to bring further success to the village in 2016.

New volunteers will be needed for next year so please email newmarket.tidytowns@gmail.com for more information on how you can help.

The Justice and Peace Strand of the Diocesan Plan is now on Twitter. Find us here: <https://twitter.com/KillaloeJPIC>. The more followers we get the more difference we can make so log on and give us your support. The more followers we get the more difference we can make so log on and give us your support.