

Parish of Newmarket on Fergus - Carrigerry - The Wells

Parish Office: Monday to Friday 10.00am - 1.00pm.
Tel: 061 - 368127

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
22nd December 2013

Sacristans

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

Newmarket

Sat 21st 7.30pm Mike Hogan, Kilnasoolagh Park. Month's Mind
Patrick and Donal McCormack, Glencragga
Barry Ryan, Ballinooskny

Sun 22nd 11.00am Sunday Mass

Mon 23rd 10.00am Mary and Michael Kilmartin, Glencragga

Tue 24th 7.00pm Childrens Christmas Mass
9.00pm Paddy Frawley, Ballysallagh. 1st anniversary

Wed 25th 11.00am Paddy, Peggy and Marty Slattery, Ennis Road

Thur 26th 10.00am Sean Keogh, Main Street. Month's Mind

Fri 27th 10.00am Daily Mass

Sat 28th 7.30pm Weekend Mass

Sun 29th 11.00am Sunday Mass



Wells

Sat 21st 6.30pm Weekend Mass

Sun 22nd 10.00am Maureen and Robert O'Donnell, Castleconnell

Tue 24th 9.00pm Margaret Egan, Ballycar

Wed 25th 10.00am Christmas Day

Sat 28th 6.30pm Weekend Mass

Sun 29th 10.00am James and Annie Dinan, Cragboy, 50th & 28th anniversaries.
Bill Dinan, Cragboy

Carrigerry

Sun 22nd 9.00am Tom Mannix, Ballycalla

Tue 24th 8.00pm Christmas Vigil

Wed 25th 9.00am Christmas Day

Sun 29th 9.00am Weekend Mass



Recent Death:

Pray for the happy repose of the souls of

Mary Whelan, mother of
Connie Burke, Ballycar

Eileen McDonald, mother
of Geraldine Moloney,
Urlan

Christy McAllister, father
of Marian Feeley,
Kilnasoolagh Park

Jerry Brennan, Hurlers
Cross.

May they rest in peace

**Priests Christmas
Collection will be
taken up at all masses
on 24th /25th
December**

Christmas Eve Mass times

7pm: Children's Mass in Newmarket
8pm: Carrigerry
9pm: Newmarket & The Wells

Christmas Day Masses

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

Confessions For Christmas

Christmas Eve: 12noon to 1.00pm in
Newmarket church in the confessional
Box

Bereaved by Suicide.

The Christmas Season can be a difficult time for people bereaved by suicide. Clare Suicide Bereavement Support volunteers are available to help you. Support and help is only a phone call away. You could phone us at one of our numbers given below and we will take it from there. We promise complete confidentiality.

086 0565373. 087 3698315.

www.claresuicidebereavementsupport.com

Bunratty Local Development Association.

Thank you for all your support throughout the year, it is much appreciated. Bunratty LDA are holding a New Years Eve Party in conjunction with and in Durty Nellys starting at 9pm with food, music, champagne at midnight, novelties and prizes. Tickets priced at €15ea and are available from Durty Nellys and committee members. (ticket only event). Wishing you all a happy Christmas & best wishes for the New Year, and thank you for your support.

Teacher Education Programme at St. Patrick's College, Thurles

Mr. Ruairí Quinn, Minister for Education and Skills, has decided to allow St. Patrick's College, Thurles to accept another intake of students on their four year teacher education programmes in September 2014.

All programmes are accredited by the University of Limerick and approved by the Teaching Council. Students interested in becoming second-level teachers should contact phourigan@stpats.ie (Paula Hourigan at 087-7117772) for further details.

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline 086 3024238

Leave your name & number and a member of the Society will call you back.

CLUB LOTTO RESULTS:-2-12-23-25

NO Jackpot Winner. €30:Jack Keane/
Michael Mc Carthy/Rose Mc Mahon/Pat
Mc Coy/M Feryn/Colin Martin/Mary/John
O Leary/Tony Kelly/Linda Mc Donagh/L
O Domhaile. NEXT DRAW:- O Neills
23rd Dec Jackpot €12800.00

**Wishing you all a Happy Christmas
and a Prosperous 2014.**

Clare Accessible Transport, your local bus service is as vital as ever! Open to the entire community, connecting people to local services, shopping, work and Bus Eireann/Iarnrod Eireann services. We will be holding our annual Church Gate collections in Newmarket-on-Fergus, Carrigerry & The Wells on the weekend of 28th & 29th December 2013. All donations are gratefully received & go towards retaining existing essential services. Call 061 924375/ LoCall 1890 687 287 Text 086 8188182 with your travel queries and we will call you back. All routes can be viewed on our web site www.catconnects.ie

Islands of Fergus Estuary

A History of the 11 Islands of the Fergus Estuary by Jackie Elger & Dolores Meaney on sale in local shops. Price €20

Parish Office will close on Tue 24th Dec and will reopen on Thur 2nd Jan 2014.

Phone messages and emails will be addressed periodically.
Urgent matters directly to Fr. Tom Fitzpatrick 087 2720187



Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas



As we approach Christmas - the feast of Emmanuel.

Christmas 2013 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. And yet, haven't we made Christmas a very complicated and burden-some time! We have so many things to do - the cards, the gifts, the decorations, not to mention the food and drink. Our commercial world has us preparing for Christmas earlier each year and since there aren't enough shopping days even then, we have to add all the intervening Sundays. But then, isn't it nice to remind ourselves that it becomes a burden of love in our community. The young people entertain us with their musical productions, and food and gifts are provided for the needy.

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 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, Parish Finance committee, Sacristans, Lectors, Eucharist Ministers, 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. This year we undertook the development of a Day Chapel in Newmarket church. The work was extensive and now we have a very modern Chapel which is comfortable for the community and more efficient to operate. The response to our fund raising appeal in October went far beyond our expectations and we thank the many who gave donations over the past two months and helped us meet our target. We are fully aware of the financial constraints on families at this time. Despite that, you continue to support the Church on a weekly basis and for that we are truly grateful. We take this opportunity too to acknowledge the work done over the past year by the building committee who ran with this project since its inception and saw it through to a successful conclusion.

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. Recession may still be biting 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 unplug 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 2014.

Jan Fitzpatrick & Reuben Butler

Who's that knocking on my door?

When we experience bad news or hear of catastrophic situations, one cannot help but wonder if God is still there.....if God still cares.....in the midst of this life, and the mounting evidence of God's absence, the suspicion that God is 'gone fishing' and not attentive to our needs. However, God, in the birth of Jesus Christ in the Christmas story, in the angel's words to Mary, and the promise of Emmanuel, 'God with us' is repeated daily in the birth of every new born baby and is evidence of God's constant reassurance that He hasn't abandoned us. God's love for each of us is exemplified in every mother's powerful love and affection, ever ready to give even her life for her baby, just as Jesus' love for each of us ended in giving up His life on the Cross. Every day of our lives God sends a very special child to knock on the door of our hearts, so this Christmas listen for the knock on your door.

A big thank you to everyone who came to the 8 Christmas plays at Scoil na Maighdine Mhuire and supported our St. Vincent de Paul collection. We raised €555. Happy Christmas to all our pupils, parents and staff.

A.G.M.

Newmarket on Fergus GAA will hold their A.G.M. on Friday January 3rd at 7.30pm in the Clubhouse. If any member has not received notification please contact the following: Pat Keogh, Treasa Ryan, Thomas Gregan or Cepta O'Connor. We would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and all the very best for 2014. Many thanks to all of you who helped out in any way throughout the year. It is greatly appreciated.