



**Church of the Nativity of Our Lady,
Johnstown**
Eircode – C15 H320

Vigil – 7.30pm;
Sunday – 11am; Latin Mass 1pm
1st & 3rd Saturday Syro-Malabar Mass
Weekdays except Wednesday – 9.30am
Funeral replaces daily Mass
Baptisms – Sunday after 11am Mass
Confession before Vigil Mass.



Parish of Johnstown & Walterstown
Diocese of Meath, 2023 AD

Parish Priest: Rev Michael Cahill
House/Office Eircode – C15 D5K3
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✉ johnsnavan1@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/johnswaltparish
www.jwparish.com
www.dioceseofmeath.ie



**Church of the Assumption of Our Lady
Walterstown**
Eircode – C15 HX36

Vigil – 6pm
Sunday – 9.30am
Baptisms – by arrangement
Confession before Vigil Mass
Church open daily for prayer

Parish Office: The Parish Secretary, AnneMarie McGrane, is available at the Parochial House on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 10am to 1pm for Mass bookings, the issuing of certificates, appointments, and other parish business

Sacristans: Johnstown: Mary Macneil: Tel: 085 7443129; Walterstown: Ann Farrelly Tel: 087 9901277

Society of St Vincent de Paul: Johnstown, contact Freefone 1800 677 777 Ext. 2

Safeguarding Children: The Parish of Johnstown/Walterstown has adopted and implemented the Meath Diocesan Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures, available at www.meathsafeguarding.ie

Designated Contact Person-Marie O’Sullivan 083 3175742 dlp@dioceseofmeath.ie Marie Willoughby dlp@dioceseofmeath.ie

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Carol Coogan 085-1916347 & Emer O’Connor 087-6778682



The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Sunday 24th December

Monday 25th December

9.30am - pro populo – for the People of the Parish
11.00am - Dan Gillooly – 5th Anniversary

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus Mary & Joseph

Saturday 30th December

6.00pm - pro Populo – for the People of the Parish
7.30pm - James & Elizabeth Callan & son Vincent

Sunday 31st December

9.30am - McCabe & McEntaggart families
11.00am - Tommy Lynch

Daily Mass for Christmas Week in Johnstown and Navan

Johnstown: St. Stephen’s Day, 11am – No 9.30am Mass on Thursday or Friday
St. Mary’s, Navan: St. Stephen’s Day, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 10am
St. Oliver’s: Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 7.30pm

Christmas Week Masses in Navan Parish

Remember, Christmas is an Octave, a feast of eight days, which we celebrate, day after day, at table, in company, in worship, prayer and praise. Keep the season going! Say ‘Happy Christmas’ for the Twelve Days of Christmas!

We can prolong the celebration of Christmas by attending daily Mass during the Octave as we reflect on the meaning of the Incarnation by listening to the Word of God, and joining in singing the beautiful hymns and Carols of this sacred time:

Tuesday – St. Stephen, Martyr: St. Mary’s 10am (Carols led by John & Michael)

Wednesday – St. John, Apostle, Evangelist: St. Mary’s 10am (Carols led by David & parishioners). St Oliver’s 7.30pm.

Thursday – The Holy Innocents: St. Mary’s 10am (Carols led by St Oliver’s Youth Choir). St. Oliver’s 7:30pm

Friday – Fifth day of the Octave of Christmas: St. Mary’s 10am (Carols led by Damien Sheridan). St. Oliver’s 7:30pm

Saturday – Sixth day of the Octave of Christmas: St. Mary’s 10am (Carols led by Eileen Murphy and Walterstown Children’s Choir)

Pioneers are invited to attend Mass this Wednesday to mark the 125th anniversary of the foundation of the Association in 1898.

10am Mass will be celebrated by Fr Robert (Central Spiritual Director of the Pioneers) live-streamed via www.pioneerassociation.org.

Rest in Peace we commend to God the soul of **Aideen Herdman** (a pupil of St. Mary’s Special School) laid to rest on Wednesday; and **William (Bill) Bourke**, Ratoath (brother of Eleanor Meegan) who was laid to rest on Friday.

Parish Office will re-open on Tuesday 2nd January, 2024.

Parish dues envelopes 2024 – ready for collection at both churches.

To all our parishioners and visitors from Nigeria, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Kerala, Brazil,.....and elsewhere
Wesołych Świąt; Linksmų Kalėdų; Priecīgus Ziemassvētkus; സന്തോഷകരമായക്രിസ്മസ്;
feliz Natal; Joyeux Noël; buon Natale; Nollaig Shona; felicem natalem Christi...MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We remember and pray for all who are suffering, especially children, in the Holy Land, Ukraine and many other afflicted, war-torn parts of a world into which God came in the Person of Jesus Christ as Saviour of the world and of the human race!

A VERY HAPPY, HOLY, PEACEFUL AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE IN THE PARISH

A Seasonal Word of Appreciation and Thanks from the Parish Priest

Many thanks to all who contributed once again this year to the preparation and joyful celebration of Christmas. To our hard-working sacristans Mary MacNeil at Johnstown & Ann Farrelly at Walterstown; AnneMarie McGrane at the parish office; Bernie Dunphy for the wonderful floral decorations at Johnstown church all year round, especially the spectacular Christmas display this year; John Lynch for the two carefully chosen and perfectly matched Christmas trees at Johnstown; Ann Farrelly at Walterstown, and her team, for the fabulous festive display, Christmas tree and crib; the volunteers who helped decorate Johnstown church and set up the crib; Martina Deane & Johnstown Choir with Tom Kennedy and a return *guest appearance* by Brian McGrane at 10pm on Christmas Eve and 11am on Christmas Day; Mrs Áine Mitchell & Deputy Principal Mrs Áine Madden who coordinated and prepared St Stephen's Choir for 7pm Mass on Christmas Eve with the help of fellow teachers Mrs Sharon McMahon & Ms Aoife Mc Cormack, with soloist Ms Niamh McGuinness, and Ms Ailish Madden on clarinet; Eileen Murphy and the wonderful and popular Children's Choir at Walterstown on the First Sunday of the month and especially at Christmas; Carmel Duffy, Kieran Sheils, Willy Cullen, Joey Farrelly and the volunteers at Walterstown church, grounds and carpark; John Lynch who takes such great care of Johnstown church grounds all year round; Philip & Eileen Murtagh who brighten up the carpark at Johnstown with flowers; the teams of volunteers who open and close both churches each day ensuring our churches are open every day for private prayer and visits; Andrea Lawlor at Johnstown & Helen Hynes at Walterstown who organise our Readers' Rotas; Martina Mulligan who organises the Ministers of Holy Communion in Johnstown & Ann Barnwall in Walterstown; our committed Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion; the members of the Finance Committee for their oversight of parish resources, and those who count the weekly Offertory and Envelope collections throughout the year, organised by Jim Garry; the members of the new Parish Pastoral Assembly for ideas, incentive and support; the dedicated members of the Society of St Vincent de Paul who represent the parish in reaching out to those in need all year and especially at Christmas. Finally, a personal, sincere and humble word of thanks to everyone for your immense kindness to me and for undeserved generosity, gifts and greetings at Christmas, and kindness and encouragement throughout the year.
Fr Michael Cahill

The following is the traditional Announcement of the Nativity of the Lord from the Roman Martyrology

The Announcement of Christmas draws on Sacred Scripture to declare in a formal way the birth of Jesus Christ. It begins with creation and then relates the birth of our Lord to the major events and personages of sacred and secular history.

“The Twenty-fifth Day of December: when ages beyond number had run their course from the creation of the world, when God in the beginning created heaven and earth, and formed man in His own likeness; when century upon century had passed since the Almighty set His bow in the clouds after the Great Flood, as a sign of covenant and peace; in the twenty-first century since Abraham, our father in faith, came out of Ur of the Chaldees; in the thirteenth century since the People of Israel were led by Moses in the Exodus from Egypt; around the thousandth year since David was anointed King; in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel; in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; in the year seven hundred and fifty-two since the foundation of the City of Rome; in the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus, the whole world being at peace, JESUS CHRIST, eternal God and Son of the Eternal Father, desiring to consecrate the world by His most loving presence, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and when nine months had passed since His conception, was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah, and was made man: The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh”

