

WEEKEND MASSES

WALTERSTOWN: 6:00PM (SAT VIGIL)
 JOHNSTOWN: 7:30PM (SAT VIGIL)
 WALTERSTOWN: 9.30AM (SUNDAY)
 JOHNSNTOWN: 11:00AM (SUNDAY)
 PARISH PRIEST: FR. KEVIN HEERY PP



PARISH OFFICE

TUES, WEDS & THURS: 10.00AM - 1.00PM
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PARISH NEWSLETTER

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8TH DECEMBER 2024



LITURGICAL YEAR C – GOSPEL OF ST LUKE

PARISH LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS:

WEEKDAY MASSES: JOHNSTOWN 9:30 AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY EXCEPT WEDNESDAY
ON OCCASION OF A FUNERAL, 9:30AM MASS IS SUSPENDED
 SYRO-MALABRAR MASSES: JOHNSTOWN 1ST & 3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
 TRAD. LATIN MASS: JOHNSTOWN 1PM EVERY SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
 BAPTISMS: SUNDAY FOLLOWING 11:00AM MASS – *ENQUIRIES TO PARISH OFFICE*
 CONFESSION: CELEBRATED IN THE CONFESSIONAL IN JOHNSTOWN, SATURDAY, 7:10PM

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, 7th December

6:00pm: - Brian Butler

7:30pm: - Desmond Giff (3rd Ann)

Sunday, 8th December

9:30am: - Pro Populo

11:00am: - Noreen Oakes & DFM;
 Seán & Deirdre Cahill;
 John & Mary Davis;
 Amby Carroll (3rd Ann);
 Annie & Maurice Guyot;
 Aongus Lydon & Máirín

Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday, 14th December

6:00pm: - Pro Populo

7:30pm: - Andrew & Richard Collins;
 Bridget Fitzsimons (55th Ann)

Sunday, 15th December

9:30am: - ProPopulo

11:00am: - Aideen Herdman (1st Ann);
 Samuel, Florence, Paul Lanney;
 Patricia Sheridan;
 Gerry McCann – Birthday Rem.

Weekday Mass Intention:

Mon. 9:30am:
 John Barry B'day Rem

Tues. 9:30am:
 Phonso Connell

Thurs. 9:30am:
 Privat Intention

Fri. 9:30am:
 Cáit Fox

● **Holy Matrimony:** Congratulations to **Jonathan Hehir & Karyn Copperthwaite** who married in Johnstown on Friday. We wish them every blessing of health and happiness for the future.



● 2nd Sunday of Advent - St John the Baptist

The appearance of St John the Baptist in the Gospel on this the 2nd Sunday of Advent is a key feature of the spirituality of Advent and that great call of his to '*Prepare a way for the Lord*'. These precious few days of Advent can slip by quite quickly with preparations other than spiritual ones, yet the invitation to examine the place we give to the Lord is at the heart of these days, in order that Christmas may bestow it's true and lasting blessing upon us. A visit to the Church during the week, an extra weekday Mass, reading a spiritual book or magazine, praying with the gospel accounts of the Birth of Jesus can be moments of great spiritual benefit this Advent. It is also a great time to approach the Sacrament of Confession and Reconciliation, as we prepare to welcome Christ, whom the angel announced to Mary as "He will save His people from their sins".

● **Preparing for Christmas: Confessions** will be available all day on Monday 23rd Dec. from 8:30am until 9pm in St Mary's Church. Visiting priests will assist from 12noon onwards. Confession also available every Saturday evening in Johnstown from 7:10pm.

- **Christmas Mass Bouquets & Christmas Remembrance Cards:** Available in Parish Office

The Celebration of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - is in other years a Holy Day of Obligation, but as the Advent Sunday celebrations take precedence over all other feasts, the celebration is moved to Monday, and loses its obligatory status this year. The 9:30am Mass on Monday will be the celebration of the Immaculate Conception as we honour Our Lady being preserved from the first moments of her existence from Original Sin, but is not a Holy Day of Obligation, yet still is a day of opportunity to praise God for the wonders of His mighty love. The dogma of the Immaculate Conception was solemnly declared an Article of Faith by Blessed Pope Pius IX in 1854.



Advent Hymn

O come, O come, **Emmanuel**,
And ransom captive Israel;
That mourns in **lonely** exile
here,
Until the Son of God appear.
R/ Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou **Wisdom** from on
high,
And order all things, mightily
To us the path of knowledge
show,
And teach us in her ways to go.
R/

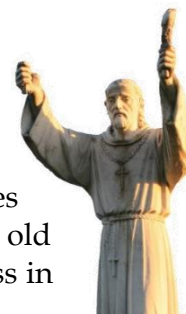
O come, O come, thou **Lord of**
might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's
height
in ancient times You give the
law, in cloud and majesty and
awe. **R/**



- **Bandinelli Sunday - 15th Dec.:** Families are invited to bring the figurine of the Baby Jesus from their crib to be blessed at Masses next weekend. The children preparing for First Confession and First Holy Communion will bring their baby Jesus from their homes and from the school cribs as well to be blessed - and asking the Lord to bless our homes with peace and joy this Christmas as we make a place ready in our cribs to receive Him.

● Thursday, 12th Dec.- St Finian - Patron Saint of the Diocese of Meath

St Finian of Clonard, said to have been born near New Ross and after studies in Tours, France and Llancarfan Wales, founded a monastery in Clonard, Co. Meath about 520AD and it became an important educational centre. So much so, that St Finian was known as the 'Teacher of the Saints of Ireland'. His monastic foundation eventually became part of two other dioceses which were merged at the Synod of Rathbreasail in 1111AD, taking much of the shape of the old Kingdom of Meath, and became known as the Diocese of Meath. St Finian pray for us. Mass in Johnstown at 9:30am for the feast.



- **Carol Service** with Meath Diocesan Choir, Trim Parish Choir & Gluais, in St. Patrick's Church Trim, on Sunday 15th December at 6pm. All welcome - Admission is Free.

● **Altar Server Recruitment.** Applications Forms are available in the sacristy and the Parish Office for children who have received First Holy Communion to become Altar Servers. To serve at the Altar of God is a great privilege that affords our younger parishioners a chance to grow in their love of the Lord Jesus, deepen their understanding of the Catholic Faith, and realise their dignity as valued members of the parish community. "Being an altar server is a call to prayer and mission" -Pope Francis

- **Catholic Grandparents:** Monthly Meeting in St. Anne's Resource Centre on Tues next after 10am Mass. All welcome.

Parish Sunday Collection

- **Mobile Donation:** Simply scan the QR Code with your Phone camera (or google app) to connect to the Parish Account and choose the amount to donate. You can also click the link on the Parish Website above. Providing an email or contact information will allow us to acknowledge the donation. It can also be used to pay for shrine candles. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office.



Last weeks' Offertory: €817.18 Envelopes: €425.80
Bank details for direct debits etc. BOI Navan.
A/C name: Johnstown Church Current Account
IBAN IE97 BOFI 9035 0989 9651 74

December Bulletin
kindly sponsored by Frank Burke
Thank you to all our generous Sponsors!

Thank you for the generous support of the work and upkeep of the Parish

GAA Lotto Results - 1st Dec - Numbers - 15, 19, 21, 28 - One match 3 - Denise Cox. **Next Week's Jackpot €10,700**