



Ardagh and Moydow

Fr Vincent Connaughton

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Sunday 26th December 2021



Webcam link: churchtv.ie/ardagh

Weekday Masses

There will be no weekday Masses in the coming week, as I will be away. Fr Brian Brennan will be on duty for me.

Weekend Masses

Date	Time	Church	Intentions
St Stephen's Day - Sunday	11.00am	Ardagh	Michael Gillen (Anniversary)
Saturday 1 st January	7.30pm	Moydow	Pro Populo Mass
Sunday 2 nd January	11.00am	Ardagh	No Intention
Thursday 6 th January	11.00am	Ardagh	<i>Feast of the Epiphany</i> Mick and Maureen Brewster
	7.30pm	Moydow	Seamus Nolan (Anniversary)

People on duty next weekend:

Ministry	Ardagh	Moydow
Eucharistic Ministers	Una Byrne	Elaine McDermott
Ministers of the Word	Bernadette Shea	Brigette Scott

Parish Collections:

Offertory Collection:	€2,415.00	Building Fund:	€640.00
Christmas Dues:	€865.00	Shrine Collection:	€657.00

Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Baptism: Congratulations to baby Tadgh Mc Dermott who was christened in Moydow Church during the week. Every blessing to his parents, brother, grandparents, godparents and all his family and relatives.

Moydow Cemetery: The Moydow cemetery committee would like to say thanks to the Moydow/Keel group who donated €500 and also to the Moydow Active Age group who donated €500 as well. They are truly grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Today do the following: 1. Pray for each family member by name, especially anyone you have disagreed with. 2. Go for a nature walk and see if you can spot the little wren, the bird associated with St. Stephen's Day. 3. Find out about St. Thomas Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury who was killed on Christmas Day in his Cathedral.

First Friday Calls: Fr Vinny will do his sick calls on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th January.

Feast of the Holy Family: How important it is that every child coming into the world be welcome by the warmth of a family. Jesus was born in a stable and had a manger as his first cradle, but the love of Mary and of Joseph made him feel the tenderness and beauty of being loved. Children need this, the love of their father and mother. It is this that gives them security and, as they grow, enables them to discover the meaning of life, when he was 12 years old, Jesus stayed behind in the Temple and it took his parents all of three days to find him. With this act he made them understand that he had to see to his Father's affairs, in other words, to the mission that God had entrusted to him. This reveals the most authentic and profound vocation of the family, to accompany each of its members on the path of discovery of God and the plan that he has prepared for him or her. Mary and Joseph taught Jesus primarily by their example, in his parents he came to know the full beauty of faith, of love of God and for his law, as well as the demands of justice, which is totally fulfilled in love.

Archbishop Elect of Tuam: We pray today for the new Archbishop Elect to the Archdiocese of Tuam, who will be installed in Tuam Cathedral on 9th January. We wish Francis every good blessing and may the Christ child of the crib guide him in his ministry. We also take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to Bishop Francis who was bishop of this diocese for eight years. He always had the interest of his priests and his people at all times during his time here in Ardagh and Clonmacnois. May the star of Bethlehem guide you in the future.

St Mel's National School, Ardagh: Annual admission notice in respect of admissions to St. Mel's National, Ardagh for the 2022/23 school year. Application forms are available from the school office from Monday 10th January 2022 for a period of 3 weeks. Please contact the school directly on 043 66 752689 or email stmelsns@gmail.com.

Sincere Thanks: I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the Parish Pastoral Council, the Finance Committee, the choir groups and our musicians of both churches, the great work of our Sacristans, the newsletter typist, Ministers of the Word and of the Eucharist, altar cleaners/the flowers, our ushers & collectors, the counting team, funeral undertakers, the weekly Adoration, our Principals/staff of both parish schools, our grounds people, those who decorated our churches for Christmas, our Liturgy people, our Catechist, those involved in the "Do this in memory of me program" the Confirmation program, all who were involved in our beautiful Christmas Masses, altar servers, volunteers, the Boards of Management of both schools, those who work in our parish cemeteries. Special thanks to our hard working priest Fr. Vinny, Fr Brian Brennan and to anyone who has helped out in any way during the past year of 2021.

A very happy Christmas to everyone, and especially all who have come home for the Christmas with their families and friends. May we have good health, peace and happiness in 2022. Thanks for all your kindness, generosity and friendship to me in 2021 as your Parish Priest. It was a tough 2021 with the continuing of the virus, and bereavements, but we stayed together as a community and we supported each other to the best of our ability in the restrictions/ lockdowns. May we all have a very well and deserving Christmas break to relax with those whom we truly love and appreciate on our own lives this Christ time and in the New Year of 2022.