

Clarecastle - Ballyea Parish

www.clarecastleballyeaparrish.ie

Fr. Pat Malone 6823011 / 086 8572023: Fr. Harry Brady 086-2349798

Sacristy 6843471

Sunday Mass: Clarecastle 9am & 12noon Ballyea 10.30am

Saturday Mass: Clarecastle 7pm Ballyea 8pm

Weekday Mass: Clarecastle 10am

All items for Newsletter to Parish Office please, or email: clarecastleballyea@eircom.net

25th December '16 ~ The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Clarecastle Mass Intentions

Mon.	26 th	Dec.	11am	Anniv.	Kitty Dillon, Church Drive
Thurs	29 th	Dec.	7pm	Anniv.	Susan Madden, Church Drive
Fri.	30 th	Dec.	11am	Anniv.	Fr. Joe Hayes & Hayes Family Abbeyview.
Sat.	31 st	Dec.	11am	Anniv.	Christy Coughlan, Clarehill.
Sat.	31 st	Dec.	7pm	Anniv.	Edel Brack, Primrose Gardens
Sun.	1 st	Jan.	9am	Anniv.	Moirá O'Kane, St. Joseph's Tce.
Sun.	1 st	Jan.	12noon	Anniv.	Noreen Moloney, Skehanagh.

Ballyea Mass Intentions

Sat.	31 st	Dec.	8pm	Anniv.	Ronan Kelly, Ballyea.
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Offertory Collection – Clarecastle Coin: €636.35 Envelopes: €618.70= €1,255.05:

Priests Collection 'Sincere Thanks' to everyone who contributed to this collection last weekend. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

The Killaloe Diocese is organising a once off pilgrimage to Fatima for the Centenary Year 2017 and a visit to the shrine of St. Anthony in Lisbon. Pilgrimage will depart from Shannon Airport on Easter Monday, 17th to Friday, 21st April. (Easter week). Cost €699 with €10 reduction for online booking to joewalshtours.ie. Booking forms available from Fr Tom Ryan pilgrimage Director Shannon 061 -364133 or Fr Brendan Quinlivan, Ennis.

Ballyea Christmas Mass Offertory Collection in Ballyea will be in aid of Clare Haven and the Fr. Peter McVerry Trust.

Giving Tree in aid of St. Vincent de Paul Heartfelt thanks from Clarecastle / Ballyea S.V.D.P. to all the parishioners who contributed so very generously all the food items for needy families in the parish this year. Your continued support is very much appreciated

Mass in Clarecastle Monday, 26th – Sat. 31st Dec. at 11a.m.

Mass for New Year's Eve in Clarecastle at 7p.m. & Ballyea at 8p.m.



Mass on New Year's Day in Clarecastle at 9a.m. & 12noon and in Ballyea at 11a.m.

Christmas is one of the times of the year we wish to thank the many people who devote so generously so much of their time and talents to the parish during the year. Thanks to Readers, Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers & to those who organize them, to our Sacristans, Flower arrangers, Basket collectors & counters, Eucharistic Adoration members, Cleaners & caretakers of grounds and graveyards in Clarecastle & Ballyea, members of Parish Pastoral Councils & Financial Committees, those who erect the crib. To our Organists & Choir members to our musicians & singers, all of whom add so much to the liturgy. **Mile Buíochas.**



Radio Mass R.T.E. Radio will broadcast Mass from Ballyea Church on New Year's Day – 1st January. To facilitate this broadcast, Mass in Ballyea will be at 11a.m. and not at 10.30a.m. on Sunday, 1st January. It is indeed an honour to be asked to broadcast the radio Mass to the sick and housebound not only in Ireland but also overseas, and we are delighted to be able to facilitate this request. To tune into the broadcast can do so by tuning into RTE Radio 1 Extra which is channel 201 on Saorview and Channel 944 on UPC. On Radio you will hear the broadcast by tuning into longwave 252.

Clarecastle/Ballyea Comhaltas music night at the Quay's on Wednesday, 4th January at 8p.m. All are welcome.

Ballyea Hurling Club has produced a calendar for 2017 with many photos of the senior's historic matches. Cost €10 from the following shops Sheedy's Londis, Carrigg's Costcutter, O'Sullivan & Hansbury's Mace, Kelly's of Clondegad, NC Paint & Decor and The Local Inn.

Ballyea Fitness Class starting Tuesday, 10th January from 7pm – 8pm in Community Centre, Ballyea. For further details phone Lynda 087 2267360 or Derek 086 3821788.

Calling all emigrants home for Christmas "Home For Work" Event in the Harbour Hotel, Galway city on Thurs. 29th Dec. from 10am -1pm. Bring along your CV and talk to experts about local job opportunities on the day. All are welcome.

Christmas Bingo on Thurs, 29th Dec. in Lissycasey Hall at 7.30 pm hosted by Fergus Athletic Club. A great family night out, excellent prizes on offer. Raffle on the night.

Marian Athletic Club Annual Turkey Trot on St. Stephen's day, 26th Dec. commencing at 12noon at Waterpark House, Drumbiggle, Ennis. Registration at 11.30am. Proceeds to RNLI and Clarecastle District Daycare Centre.

The Christmas Season can be a difficult time for people bereaved by suicide. Support and help is only a phone call away. **Clare Suicide Bereavement Support Volunteers** are available to help you. This is a free and confidential support service. Please phone 086 0565373 or 087 3698315.

As the weather gets colder and the days get darker the Killaloe Diocese Justice, Peace & Care of Creation Committee urges all of us to keep an eye on elderly neighbours. As Church we all have a responsibility to look after each other so if you have any elderly neighbours living alone near you, take 5 minutes to check if they need any errands run and to ensure they are warm enough and have enough food. A little gesture can make a big difference.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

“Christmas is a very special time of the year,” so the song tells us. Our hope and wish for you all as a Parish Community is that this Christmas will be a very special and God blessed occasion for you. May it be a time to reflect on the many deep messages and challenges of Christmas.

First amongst the messages is the call to reach out to people in our world. Surely the greatest message of Christmas is the action of God, when he reached out to all people of “Goodwill” to call them to share the good news of God’s care for all. This Christmas time may we through our experiences of renewed and warm friendships with family and friends at this time, be encouraged to think of those who have no one special in their lives and who feel isolated or alone in the world may the courage and conviction to engage with them be reborn within us at this time and may we reach out to accompany them in the year that approaches.

Our faith is meant to offer us hope and life, which gives us the ability to engage energetically and fully with life and respect all people. We pray as we acknowledge the welcome given to the Christ Child on the first Christmas by “outsiders”.... The shepherds, the stable owner, and later the three wise men, that we as followers of Christ may be able to respect and welcome the view of all people who search for God in the world, and who profess their faith in a peaceful and loving manner. May we through respecting difference gain many personal and spiritual insights in our journey to God.

We thank God for the great community achievements during the year, there have been many, to name three, the Youth Choir and the R.T.E. Mass in August, the wonderful welcome and organisation by the local G.A.A. Community for visitors to the Fleadh at their campsite, and the superb achievement of Ballyea Senior Hurling Club on becoming Clare and Munster Champions this year. Well done to all three and to all other organisations who do such good work for the Community.

*May we continue to rejoice in each other’s achievements and may we be a community that helps and enables all to achieve their best. In this way too we are living out the Christmas message and we will be a community who can truly REJOICE. **Happy Christmas.***



We wish every member of our Parish a very Happy, Peaceful & Prosperous New Year. Welcome to all who have come home for Christmas. We wish to express a very Warm Welcome to all new people who have joined our community during the year.

**Confidential Services: St. Vincent de Paul – Box in the Church
Porch or ☎ 085 737 8695**

Aware ☎ 01 – 6766166 : Clare Haven House ☎ 6822435

Samaritans ☎ 116 123 : Cura ☎ 6829905 : AA ☎ 061 311222