

## Clarecastle – Ballyea Parish

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

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

Saturday Mass: Clarecastle 7pm Weekday Mass: Clarecastle 10am

All items for Newsletter to Parish Office by 5pm on Wednesday

Or email: [parish@clarecastleballyeaparissh.ie](mailto:parish@clarecastleballyeaparissh.ie)

24<sup>th</sup> December 2023 Fourth Sunday of Advent

### Clarecastle Mass Intentions

Sat	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Dec	7pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv	Helen O'Loughlin Madden's Terrace & her husband Patsy O'Loughlin
Sat	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Dec	7pm	Anniv	Dec'd Members of Commune Family Rockmount & Newhall
Sun	24 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	12 noon	Anniv	Ciss Moloney Church Drive
Sun	24 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	12 noon	Anniv	Noreen Hounsoume Drimeen East, Ennis
Tues	26 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	11am	Anniv	Kitty Dillon Church Drive
Wed	27 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	11am		Triduum Mass
Wed	27 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	7pm	M.M.	Kenneth Nestor Patrick Street
Thurs	28 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	11am		Triduum Mass
Thurs	28 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	7pm	M.M.	Tom Fitzgerald Killoo
Fri	29 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	11am		Triduum Mass
Fri	29 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	11am	Anniv	Noreen Moloney Skehanagh
Sun	31 <sup>st</sup>	Dec	12 noon	Anniv	Christy Coughlan Clarehill & Edel Brack Primrose Gardens
Sun	31 <sup>st</sup>	Dec	12 noon	Anniv	Tommy Geoghegan & Dec'd Family Members

### Ballyea Mass Intentions

Sun	24 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	10.30am	Anniv	Ronan Kelly Ballyea
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**Triduum of Masses:** This year we will continue our Triduum of Masses in our Parish. The proceeds of the Triduum will go to the local Conference of the Society of St Vincent de Paul and local charities to address the needs of those in our community this Christmas time. In previous years this has proven to be a very beneficial source of funding for the conference. The Triduum will be three masses celebrated on the 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> of December 2023. Those who wish to include a person in the Triduum as a gift or remembrance at Christmas/New Year can do so by getting the Triduum Card in the parish office and make a contribution of €5 for same. This lovely card can then be inserted into your normal Christmas card or given on its own.

**Ennis Blood Donation Clinic:** Ennis west County Hotel Wednesday 27th December 1.50pm – 5.10pm New Donors welcome. Please phone 1800 222 111 for an appointment.

## Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December - Clarecastle 7pm  
Christmas Eve Sunday- Clarecastle Mass 12 noon, 5pm & 8pm  
Ballyea Mass is at 10.30am & 8pm

Children's Mass is at 5pm all Children are welcome!!

Please note there will be NO 9am mass in Clarecastle on Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December.

Christmas Day Monday- Clarecastle Mass 9am & 12 noon  
Ballyea Mass 10.30am

Week day Masses in Clarecastle from December 26<sup>th</sup> until further notice will be 11am.

**Christmas Greetings:** We celebrate the Feast of Christmas on Monday. It is the feast of great joy at the birth of Jesus Christ. A central visual aspect of our Christmas celebrations is the Crib. The Crib was given to us by St Francis, 800 years ago this year. In 1223 he had just returned home to Italy from a visit to the Holy Land, and he wanted to create a visual scene that would reflect his personal experience and feeling on his visit to Bethlehem, that would place the emphasis of Christmas upon the worship of Christ, rather than on a secular seasonal festival. The first crib was displayed in the Sanctuary of Greccio in Central Italy at Christmas 1223, exactly 800 years ago this year. The very small chapel where it is said the crib was displayed still survives today. The crib is a focus for believers on the presence of Christ and is of course a source of such great joy to so many children and adults alike. There is however a very important other message for us all as we look at, visit or pray at the Crib and it is this, everyone who come to the Crib was welcome. The same is true for all of us this Christmas, no matter what our story, background, culture or circumstances of life we are all welcome at the Crib. There are no barriers, no exceptions, God's love welcomes us all. Yes everyone is welcome. We welcome all who join us this year for our Christmas celebrations and we welcome especially those who have travelled home to be with family and friends. Wishing one and all a happy, joyful and peaceful Christmas.

**Parish Office:** The Parish Office will be closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. It will be open on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December and Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December from 10am – 1pm. It will be closed on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 and will re-open for normal hours 10am–1pm and 2pm–4pm from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January.