

Kingscourt Parish Bulletin



info@kingscourtparish.ie

visit www.kingscourtparish.ie

042/9667314

Priest on Duty: Fr. Gerry

<p>15th/16th December</p> <p>Vigil 6p.m. Tom & Monica Barrett & Sheila Lydon Muff Vigil 7.30 p.m. Kathleen Carolan & son Tom Corlea 9.00a.m. Owen & Annie Martin & dec family 10.30a.m. Kevin McArdle, Anniv 12noon: Frances Carolan, Months Mind</p> <p>Monday 17th 1pm: Wedding</p> <p>Tuesday 10am Michael Tevlin</p> <p>Wednesday 10am: Eamonn & Patrick Ward.</p>	<p>22nd /23rd December</p> <p>Vigil 6p.m. Ann Monaghan, Raloaghan 1st Anniv. Muff Vigil 7.30 p.m. Mary & John McKenna & dec. family Corlea 9.00a.m. Peter & Eileen Duffy, Tullybrick 10.30a.m. Stephen Malone. Anniv 12noon: Robert & Eileen O'Connell. Anniv</p> <p>Thursday: Ted O'Reilly</p> <p>Friday 10am: John Smith & Dec. family, Rathgillen</p> <p>Friday 1pm: Wedding</p>
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Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord:

Kitty Meade, Rathkenny, Kathleen Bray, Delvin.

Reborn through Baptism & The Holy Spirit :

The next Baptism Preparation meeting is on Jan 3rd at 8p.m. in The Parish Centre. Additional baptism dates hve been added on Dec 29th & Jan 5th to facilitate families during the Christmas period. Congratulations to **Oisín Kieran, Penny Rae O'Regan Tighe & Sean Martin Smith** who were recently baptised.

One in the Sacrament of Marriage:

Congratulations to **Ben Farrell & Nicola Canning** on their recent marriage. Couples planning to marry during 2013 in the Diocese of Meath are asked to complete an **ACCORD pre marriage course.** Visit www.accord.ie

Notices for Bulletin:

In so far as possible, we request that all notices for inclusion in the bulletin reach the Parish Office by **9.a.m. on Thursday** morning to ensure publication.

Mass bookings:

All Anniversary Masses can be booked with the Sacristans after weekend Masses

Parish Advent Penitential Service:

Our annual parish **Advent Penitential Service** takes place on **Tuesday night at 7.30p.m. in Kingscourt Church.** A number of visiting Priests will attend. Parishioners are encouraged to avail of the opportunity to be reconciled with the Lord this Christmas and Year of Faith.

Christmas Tridium of Masses:

If you wish to have your loved ones, living and deceased remembered at the annual Christmas Tridium of Masses and on Christmas Day, please book with the sacristans after **this weekend Masses only.** All names will appear in the bulletin next weekend

Saint Vincent de Paul:

We welcome the First Holy Communion and Confirmation Children and their families on this Sunday, **GIVING SUNDAY** when they make a present of non perishable food for under the tree in aid of the annual Saint Vincent de Paul 2 FM Food Hampers Appeal..

Kingscourt Parish Pilgrimage 2013 to mark the Year of Faith:

The Parish Pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo and the Amalfi coast, 2013 with MAP Travel will take place from September 2nd – 9th. Cost is €995 plus extras. Limited availability. Deposits with Fr. Gerry immediately. Visit www.maptravel.ie

Gala Jubilee Christmas Concert:

Our Gala Jubilee Christmas Concert will take place at Cabra Castle **TONIGHT** December 16th at **8p.m.** All proceeds to Restoration Fund. Thanks to Derek ,the organising committee and the host of very talented local starswho have been working very hard over recent months. Thanks to Cabra Castle for providing the venue. It promises to be a great parish community night, **PLEASE SUPPORT!** Tickets are €10

Sick & Housebound:

Fr. Gerry will bring Holy Communion to the sick and housebound on **Tuesday** from 8.30a.m.

Some traditions of Christmas Time

The Crib: The representation of the scene of the nativity is a tradition that is almost a thousand years old. In the year 1223 St Francis decided to celebrate the feast of Christmas in a new way. His aim was to help people to better call to mind the poor surrounding in which Jesus was born and to make the wondrous event of the incarnation more real to the people of the time. In the town of Greccio, with the help of a local landowner, a nativity scene was set up with a stable, animals and straw. People came from the town at night with candles and torches to attend holy Mass by the crib, and seeing the scene, be reminded of God's love for us in sending his only son to be born in the poverty of a manger.

Recreating the scene at Bethlehem soon became very popular and, while many places continue to this day to represent the scene with real people and animals, St Francis' idea has spread in a simplified form to countless Churches and homes all over the world. Cribs range in complexity from small figurines of the main people involved in the nativity, to large busy scenes of Bethlehem with normal scenery. Basic sets are not expensive and can be of real help as a focus for domestic devotions during Christmastide. They are available from the Parish repository.

The Christmas Tree: The Christmas tree seems to have originated in Germany and may well stretch all the way back to pagan practices. Its Christian significance however seems related to St Boniface, the English saint who converted Germany to Christianity in the 8th Century. He chopped down a sacred oak tree which the people worshipped and in its place grew a fir. The tree pointed to God, whose everlasting love was symbolised by the evergreen tree. Pope John Paul was very fond of the Christmas tree and started the custom of having a large one placed in St Peter's Square for Christmas.

The Poinsettia: In Latin America the Poinsettia is known as the 'Flower of the Holy Night'. The story is told of a little girl who wanted to go to Midnight Mass and take a gift for Jesus. All she could find were a few weeds until suddenly they burst open into scarlet stars. The little girl proudly took them and placed her beautiful present before the crib.

Holly: At Christmas holly is ever present, whether it be used for advent wreaths, on cards or to garnish the Christmas pudding. The holly's sharp leaves remind us of the crown of thorns which Jesus wore during his passion and the red berries remind us of the blood he shed for all of us. While at Christmas we remember the birth of Christ, we must never forget that he came to suffer, die and rise again for our salvation.

Goodwill: The most important tradition associated with Christmas is goodwill and kindness, a time to forget differences and disagreements and celebrate as the one family of God.

A Candle: We encourage families to place a light of welcome in your window at Christmas to welcome the Christ Child.

This Week's Collections	Plate: €1302 Many thanks. Development Target: €1850 Received €2571
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We welcome **Lorcan and the award winning Saint Mary's Brass and Reed Band** who will play at some of the weekend Masses in our parish.

The Regan Family thank all who sympathised with them on the death of their mother Kathleen. Mass has been offered for your intentions.

Rockies Tug of War Club are hosting the National Indoor All Ireland Competition in Kingscourt Community Centre today at 1p.m. All welcome. Good luck in final lads.

Kingscourt Cancer Fund thank the Kingscourt Brick workers for their very generous donation of €2250.

Handball & Racquetball -. Lotto 17/12/19/26. Next Jackpot €2,400 **GAA Lotto:** Winner Noel Roger

The Irish Blood Transfusion service will be in the Community Centre on Monday, 17th December from 5p.m. – 8.30p.m.

Saint Mary's Brass & Reed Band thank all who supported their recent concert and raffle realising €500 for Kingscourt Cancer Care.

Liam Lawton in Concert in Kilmainhamwood Church on December 18th at 8p.m. Tickets from Fr. John Cooney cost €20.

Copies of **Pass it On** would make ideal Christmas presents. Available from Parish Repository €10.
Social Services Bingo in Matt Talbot Hall today at 3p.m.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND FROM OCTOBER 14TH – 22ND INCL 2013. THE PILGRIMAGE OF A LIFETIME LED BY FR. GERRY. BOOKINGS WITH MAP TRAVEL BY DECEMBER 20TH COST www.maptravel.ie €1329 PLUS taxes. Limited availability.

