

Ferrybank Parish Bulletin

13th December, 2015.

Gaudete Sunday

The candles on the Advent Wreath are lit each week to build up our preparation for the coming of Christ. The first candle represents HOPE. The second candle represents LOVE. The third candle represents JOY. We pray for joy for each one of us; that the longing for happiness will be inscribed on our hearts and be fulfilled by Jesus. Help us turn from all the distractions of the season and focus on Him, the source of all hope, peace, love and joy.

Penitential Service

The Parish Penitential Service in preparation for Christmas will take place on **Thursday 17th December at 7.30pm.** All are encouraged to attend as part of our preparation for Christmas.

Christmas Coffee Morning

The Social & Fundraising Committee will hold a festive Coffee Morning on **Tuesday next, December 15th** from 10.30am to 12 noon in the Parish Centre. Adm. €3 with a Christmas Fare, Mince Pies, Sales Table and Raffle. All proceeds in support of the parish. Please come along and bring a friend!

St. Killian's Cemetery

Many people wish to remember loved ones at Christmas time by placing fresh flowers and holly wreaths on their graves in remembrance.

When doing so it is important to place the discarded flowers etc. in the bin provided so as to keep the cemetery a worthy resting place for our beloved deceased.

Great Jubilee Year of Mercy

“Be Merciful like the Father”

Bishop Freeman, SAC, will inaugurate the Great Jubilee Year of Mercy in the Diocese of Ossory on Sunday, 13th December 2015 in St. Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny, with the celebration of the Eucharist with the priests, religious and the lay faithful in our diocese. Pope Francis, when announcing the Great Jubilee Year, asked each bishop throughout the world to include a Holy Door in the diocese in which he serves. Bishop Freeman will open the Holy Door of Mercy in our Cathedral on that day, along with the bishops throughout the world in their respective dioceses.

Bishop Freeman extends an invitation to priests, religious and the lay faithful to gather at 5.15pm at the statue of Our Lady at the entrance to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, St. Mary's Cathedral. Prayers will be recited to Our Lady and all gathered will then proceed to the front of our Cathedral and gather in prayer for the opening of the Holy Door of Mercy by Bishop Freeman.

Bishop Freeman will walk through the Holy Door followed by the faithful and will celebrate the Eucharist to mark this Great Jubilee Year of Mercy. Bishop Freeman invites all the faithful to come, to see, to pray and to experience.

Christmas Youth Retreat

Youth 2000 Ireland will be holding their annual Christmas youth retreat in Newbridge College, Co. Kildare from Fri. 18th to Sun. 20th Dec. 2015. Over 600 young people aged 16-35 are expected to attend this donation only event, with all newcomers welcome. Please book online if you are interested and bring a sleeping bag if you wish to avail of on-site accommodation. Retreat starts with registration on Friday evening. Free buses also available. For more info check out www.youth2000.ie and see us on facebook.

Ad Multos Annos

Best wishes and congratulations to Sr. Eugene Joseph who celebrated during the week the 70th Anniversary of her Profession of Vows as a Little Sisters of the Poor. We wish Sr. Eugene continued good health and happiness as she continues to follow the Lord inspired by the example of St Jeanne Jugan , foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Visit of the Mayors !!!

Last Saturday the Little Sisters of the Poor were honoured at their Christmas Fayre by the presence of the Mayor of Waterford , Councillor Eamon Quinlan and also the Mayor of Kilkenny Councillor Joe Malone.

The presence of both Mayors is testimony to the high esteem in which the Little Sisters are held in both Waterford City and the South Kilkenny area.

St. Mary's Boys' N.S.

The boys from St. Mary's Boys' School will hold their annual Carol Service on **Tuesday evening, 15th December at 7.30pm** in the Parish Church. Nothing gets you in the festive mood more as they set the scene for Christmas through music and song.

Our Lady of Good Counsel G.N.S.

Our Lady of Good Counsel GNS will hold their Carol Service on **Friday 18th December at 1pm in the Parish Church**. An opportunity for you to come along and enjoy the marvellous story of Christmas told by the children through carols & hymns.

South Kilkenny Historical Society

Winter Solstice at Knockroe

Invitation to join us for the Winter Solstice sunset at Knockroe Passage Tomb on Monday, December 21st 2015. 2.30pm at Owing church. All welcome