

# Ferrybank Parish Newsletter

16th December, 2018. Third Sunday of Advent

## **3rd Advent Candle - Gaudete Sunday**

*A few thoughts from Fr. Kieran ...*

JOY is one of the great themes of Advent and a special theme of this weekends Liturgy. The first reading begins - *Shout for Joy daughter of Zion*. The second - *I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord*. So how can we achieve this Joy? Paul gives us a clue - he says *if there is anything you need pray for it*. So prayer leads us to be joyful! In the Gospel John the Baptist shows us how we can be Joyful - by sharing with others, by being humble like he was, giving way to Christ.

The first document that Pope Francis gave us as Pope was called *The Joy of the Gospel*. In it he says: *The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness!*

Therefore whenever we encounter Jesus in prayer, & in those we serve humbly we are being filled with the Joy of the Gospel.

As we continue our journey towards Christmas let us pray in these Advent days for the gift of Joy and let us give ourselves the space and time to receive it and share it with others.

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Available this weekend after 7.30pm vigil Mass on Saturday 15th Dec. and 10am /11.30am Masses on Sunday 16th Dec.

Also available next weekend after 7.30pm Vigil Mass on Sat. 22nd Dec. and the 10am/11.30 on Sunday 23rd Dec.

## **Christmas Collection**

The Christmas Offerings for the support of the Priest of the parish will be taken up next weekend. Thank You.

## **Ferrybank Parish Office/Shop**

A nice selection of Christmas Cards and Candles are now on sale at the Parish Office/Shop - open Monday to Friday from 10am to 1pm.

## **St Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund**

### **December Draw**

The tenth Draw of the St Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund for December will be brought forward to **Wednesday, December 19th**, in the Cathedral's Chapter Room at 8.00 p.m. Draw tickets are available at the Parish Office. €10 per month.

## **Weekly Church Collections**

Holy Day (08.12.2018) €245

Last Sunday's Offertory Collection €830

Last week's Envelope Collection €1,275

Many thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## **St. Mary's Boys' N.S.**

The boys from St. Mary's Boys' School will hold their annual Carol Service on **Tuesday 18th December at 7.30pm** in the Parish Church. Nothing gets you in the festive mood more as the boys set the scene for Christmas through music and song.

## **Our Lady of Good Counsel G.N.S. Carol Service**

Our Lady of Good Counsel GNS will hold their Carol Service on Wednesday **19th December at 2pm 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.

## **Abbey Community College Christmas Carol Service**

***Thursday 20th December at 2pm in the College.***

**South Kilkenny Historical Society**

*Winter Solstice at Knockroe Friday, December 21st*

Meeting time and place: 2pm, Owing Church. A free shuttle bus will operate from Owing Church car park to Knockroe, returning at approximately 5pm.

**Slieverue & District A.R.A.**

Please bring a deposit of €20 on Wednesdaynext for “Motown The Musical” in Bord Gáis Theatre on February 13th (Afternoon Show). Deposit is non-refundable!

**Ferrybank's SPLIT THE POT Results Week 50**

3rd Prize €20 - Niamh Kearns

2nd Prize €30 - Paula McEnery

1st Prize €76 - Catherine Duggan

*Organised by*

*Ferrybank Community Development Residents Group*

**Taizé Christmas Carols**

***with the Island of Ireland Peace Choir***

Blessed Edmond Rice Chapel, Mount Sion, Waterford

Friday 21st December, 2018 at 8pm.

All most welcome!

**Safeguarding Children**

If you have a safeguarding concern contact the Diocesan

Designated Liaison Person :-

**Mr. Cathal Cullen on 087-100 0232**

The Parish Safeguarding Representatives

are :- **Breda Freyne & Gerry Hughes**