

27th November 2022
1st Sunday of Advent
Year A

The Harbour



Parish Newsletter for Passage West, Monkstown, Shanbally and Ringaskiddy



Mon: Morning Prayer 10.00 a.m.
Wed: Liturgy of the Word 10.00 a.m.
Friday: Mass 10.00 am
Sunday: 11.30 a.m.

MONKSTOWN

Thursday: 10.00 am
Sunday: 10.00 a.m.

SHANBALLY

Wednesday: 10.00 am
Saturday Vigil: 06.00 p.m.

RINGASKIDDY

Tuesday: 10.00
Sunday: 08.45 a.m.



PARISH OFFICE

Come in we're open!

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To book a Mass or an anniversary please go to the appropriate sacristy (either of the four harbour churches) well in advance of the intended date and check for availability with the sacristan.

The new Mass Diaries for 2023 are now open in each of the four churches.
Fr Chris.

Advent

Sunday the 27th of November is the first Sunday of Advent. It marks the beginning of a new church year. According to the Liturgical Calendar it marks a "time of devout and expectant delight" as we count down the weeks to the coming of Jesus into the world. Traditionally three things happen during Advent. The first is that WE WAIT and waiting can be powerful. Next comes CONVERSION that's if the waiting does its work. The final invitation of Advent is HOPE, the hope that the babe brings to the world.

November Novena

I would like to thank all those who came out in very stormy conditions to our Annual Novena for the faithful departed. Can I pay tribute to the sacristans in our four churches, the candle lighters and blower outers, the season ticket holders that made the 7.30 pm Masses so meaningful over the nine days. I would also like to thank the choirs in both Monkstown and Passage West (Both Sunday and Children's) for their beautiful singing. Monday night in Passage West was for stillborn, miscarriage and those who had a little life, I found the night particularly moving and would like to thank Breege Forde for her help with this Mass. It was my first experience of the Novena in the Harbour and I hope it was a transformational experience for all those who attended. A big thank you to all who took the time to write out their lists and hand them in. The money received by the priest for the Novena is part of his annual income. Fr Chris.

Parish Assembly Notes

The Parish Assembly met on the 8th of November in Ringaskiddy Oratory after the Novena Mass at 7:30pm. Thanks to all who attended. I would like to thank all those who give up there evenings to meet and work together to build up the kingdom of God in the Harbour. While many topics were discussed, the alpha course has come up a few times during the last few meetings. It is one of the ways that Bishop Fintan has highlighted to foster mission in the diocese.

Alpha

Alpha is a short course that gives people of all ages the time and space to explore meaning in their lives in a faith context. To explain Alpha to the parish, I have invited Theresa Cronin to speak at all Masses on the first Sunday of Advent. Depending on interest we are hoping to run Alpha in the Harbour in the New Year.

Autumn Dues

Fr. Chris would like to thank all those who returned there autumn dues envelopes from Passage West, Monkstown, Shanbally and Ringaskiddy. Many thanks to the families who supported the income of their priest in the Harbour this Autumn.

Zombie experience for Marymount

The Zombie experience for Marymount took place during Halloween in Passage West. It made approximately €7,000 for Marymount and I would like to commend all those who were involved in it. Donations can still be made on "The Passage West Zombie Experience Page" for anyone who is interested in contributing.

Baptisms

LEO ANDRIANOV was baptised in the St. Mary's Church, Passage West on Saturday 5th November 2022.

LILY RUBY KEATING was baptised in St. Mary's Church, Passage West on Saturday 5th November 2022.

ETHAN GER ROCHE was baptised in St. Mary's Church, Passage West on Saturday 5th November 2022.

ELLA ROSE CURTIS was baptised in The Oratory, Ringaskiddy on Saturday 12th November 2022.

LÍADH MARY DINEEN was baptised in Monkstown Church on Saturday, 19th November.

ABBIE ELLEN MCCARTHY was baptised in Monkstown Church on Saturday, 19th November.

We warmly welcome them into our Christian Community

Recently Deceased.

Sean James, Monkstown 5-10-2022

Jennifer O Sullivan, Monkstown 8-10-2022

Michael Barry, Ringaskiddy 11-10-2022

Donal Brady, Shanbally, 16-10-2022

Mary McCarthy, Ballymacoda and Passage West 25-10-2022

Eva Covney, Loughbeg Ringaskiddy on 30-10-2022

Liam Brown, Monkstown 1-11-2022

Gretta Murphy, Passage West, 2-11-2022

Valerie O Brien, Passage West, 3-11-2022.

Eternal Rest, Grant unto them O Lord.

Cemetery Prayers

The Cemetery prayers this year were on the 6th of November. Many people came out for the blessing of the graves which happened at 12.30 pm. The forecast was for rain, but the sun shone on us.

I take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Harbour Funeral Team who led prayers at the cemeteries and for their work throughout the year.

Fr Chris.

SVDP Christmas Appeal

SVDP Christmas appeal. Members will speak in all churches in the Harbour on the last Sunday of November before the SVDP appeal on Sunday the 10th of December. Please remember to bring extra your contribution for this appeal.

Christmas Mass Cards SVDP

Christmas mass Cards in aid of the SVDP will be available from the weekend of the 3rd/4th December in all the churches in the Harbour. After this they will be available from members of the Parish Assembly.

Christmas Carol Concerts

Passage West Christmas Carol Concert will take place in St Marys Church on Sunday the 18th December at 7.00 pm. Choirs from the Harbour parish will perform, including students from the Star of the Sea National School, the Passage West Children's Choir and St. Peter's. Clodagh Quirke, our Sunday Mass Soloist will also perform. There will be refreshments in St. Elizabeth's afterwards. Anyone who would like to donate baking can hand it into St. Elizabeth's before the concert. There will be a Donation Box for Charity in the porch.

Scoil Barra's Christmas Carol Concert will take place on the 14th of December at 10:00am in Monkstown Church.

Star of the Sea National School will have their Nativity Play in St Marys Church Passage West on the 13th December at 11:30 am.

The Final Purification or Purgatory.

November is the month when we commemorate the Holy Souls and turn our minds to purgatory. Purgatory is a dogma of the Catholic Church, so it is worth quoting from the catechism of the Church to be clear on what is taught. 1030 of the 1994 edition published by Veritas "All who die in Gods grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven". 1031 "The church gives the name purgatory to the final purification of the elect which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned. The church formulates her doctrine of faith on purgatory especially at the councils of Florence and Trent. The tradition of the church by reference of certain texts of scriptures speaks of a cleansing fire". Once we have reacquainted with the doctrine, the question arises, what can we do? There are a few suggestions from the writings on purgatory. The mass and the rosary, the St Gertrude prayer and also the special prayers we say to reduce or eliminate our own time in purgatory. These prayers can be obtained in the religious bookshops in Cork City.

Above all don't canonize our departed immediately on death. Most people go to purgatory and there are different levels of purgation some of which involve suffering, so we are told. There is also plenty of literature from accounts and visits of the Holy Souls seeking help among those left behind for example to St Padre Pio, St Faustina, Maria Simma and many others. Don't neglect the Holy Souls as intercessors either as they are very powerful.

Tom Cussin. Parish Assembly Member

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THE HARBOUR NEWSLETTER

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