

Aughavas & Cloone Parishes



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25th Dec. '13

CHRISTMAS 2013



Christmas Message 2013 from Bishop Francis Duffy: St Luke wrote “As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart” (Lk 2: 19). It is an image of Mary in the midst of all the excitement and the danger, quietly recognising that something special was happening to her and to her son. We often reflect on what we treasure: our spouses, our children, our parents and those who are very close to us, they are our treasures and they impact on our hearts. Sometimes our treasure is gone: bereavement can leave us feeling empty. The absence of family members who are abroad can leave our Christmas celebration incomplete. Many people think about Jesus in Bethlehem and wonder what this tells us about God and about being human? It has to do with the treasure that God is to us, the treasure that we are to God and the treasure that we can be to each other. I hope that the message of Christmas will us bring peace and joy and help us treasure what is important. Happy Christmas to all.

+ Francis Duffy

Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnois ©

Christmas message from Fr. Sam: Christmas is a time of peace and tranquillity, of joy and happiness when the Christ child draws us back to the great mystery of God taking on our humanity so that we might share in his Divinity. It is a time of sharing God's goodness with one another in that spirit of joy that our Saviour has come into the world. I wish every parishioner a very happy and joyful Christmas. As you all know by now I had a stroke on the 24th October last. I am very grateful to all who have sent me cards, emails, texts or phone calls. I thank you for your prayers and good wishes. I miss very much the Christmas atmosphere and all that surrounds the preparations and celebration of the feast. I wish you all a happy new year. I would like to conclude with a special word of thanks to all the good people who have looked after the parishes in my absence, especially Fr. Willie, John, Marie, Pat, Bernie and Evelyn. **Fr. Sam. ©**

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Tuesday 24/12/'13— Christmas Eve: Rossan 6pm; Aughavas 8pm; Cloone 10pm.

Wednesday 25/12/'13— Christmas Day: Cloone 10am. John & Bridie McGovern, The Grange. A.

Aughavas: 11.30 am.

Aughavas: Thurs: 26/12/'13. 11.00 am.

Cloone: Sat. 28/12/'13. 7.00 pm. John Flood, Camber. M.M.

Cloone: Sun. 29/12/'13. 10.00 am.

Aughavas: Sun. 29/12/'13. 11.30 am.

Please Note that there is Mass in Aughavas on Thursday 26th December at **11.00 am.**

Parish Calendar for 2014 is available in the Church porches of both Parishes. You are welcome to take one for each household. It contains some useful telephone numbers as well as the dates for First Holy Communion and Cemetery Sunday.

Bingo in Cloone Community Centre at 4 pm on St. Stephen's Day. Last chance to enter draw for Hamper, also spot prizes on the day.

Senior Help Line is open over Christmas: Ireland's only confidential listening service for older people provided by older volunteers is open every day of the Christmas holiday and New Year season from 10am till 10pm. So don't be alone. We are there. Phone Senior Help Line LoCall 1850 440 444, (no call costing more than 30 cent).

Guimis go mbeimid go léir faoi choimirce na Maighdine Muire agus an Linbh Íosa i rith na Nollag seo. Beannachtaí na Nollag agus Rath Dé oraibh féin agus ar bhur muintir uile in Éirinn agus thar lear.

Offertory Collection: Aughavas € 650.00; Cloone € 650.00.