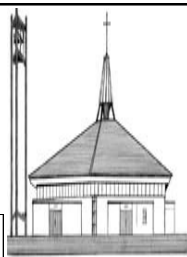


Aughavas & Cloone Parishes



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26th Dec. 2021

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Pray for the happy repose of the soul of Joe(PJ)Kiernan, Foxrock, Dublin, formerly of Aughalough, Aughavas (brother of Martin Kiernan, Carrigallen), whose funeral took place in Foxrock on Monday 20th December, Nell McGarty, Kiltyfea, Cloone whose funeral Mass takes place in Cloone on Monday 27th December at 12 noon and George Crawford, Annaghmacooney, Cloone whose funeral Mass takes place in Cloone on Tuesday 28th December at 12 noon.

Masses:

Cloone: Sun. 26th Dec.	10.00 am.	Feast of the Holy Family. Pro. Populo.
Aughavas: Sun. 26th Dec.	11.30 am.	Feast of the Holy Family.
Cloone: Mon. 27th Dec.	7.00 pm.	John Flood, Camber, Cloone. Charlie Mitchell, Streamstown.
Cloone: Wed. 29th Dec.	10.00 am.	Padraig Kelly & D.F.M., Annamaconway.
Cloone: Thurs. 30th Dec.	8.00 pm.	Jim Joe Shortt, Greagh.
Aughavas: Fri. 31st Dec.	7.00 pm.	Matthew, Patrick & Christina Conefrey, Drumnamore.
Cloone: Sat. 1st Jan.	10.00 am.	John & Bridie McGovern, The Grange. Michael Brady, Keeldra.
Aughavas: Sat. 1st Jan.	7.00 pm.	
Cloone: Sun. 2nd Jan.	10.00 am.	
Aughavas: Sun. 2nd Jan.	11.30 am.	



Baptism: Romy Lisa Mathews and Tom Stephen Mathews were welcomed into the Christian community in Aughavas on Sunday 19th December last.



Marriage: Congratulations and Best Wishes to Niamh Brennan, Cloone and Eamon Finnegan, Curraghboy, Roscommon who were married in St. Mary's church, Cloone on Wednesday 22nd December.

Parish Calendar for 2022: There are copies available in the church porches. You are welcome to take extra for people who cannot attend church and for family living abroad.

SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2022:

AUGHAVAS: Reader: Saturday Evening: *Diane Charles.*
Sunday: *Caoimhe Maguire.*

Eucharistic Ministers: Saturday Evening: *Eilish Cooke & Anna McKiernan.*
Sunday: *Kathleen Galligan & Bernadette McDermott.*

Counters: *Catherine Charles & Kathleen Fitzpatrick.*
Altar Society: *Caroline Beirne & Geraldine Beirne.*

CLOONE: Reader: *Madeleine Murphy.*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Eithne Tiernan & John Morrow.*
Counters: *Mary O'Donnell & Lily Mitchell.*
Altar Society: *Mary Kellegher & Bernie McGovern.*

Christmas Message 2021

Two thousand Christmases have come and gone since the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. There, in the midst of danger, uncertainty and among strangers, the infant Jesus, son of God and son of Mary, took his first breath. We are familiar with the story, the main characters, the events leading up to this birth and the events that followed it. Depending on our experience in life, we each can have our own personal reaction to this coming of God among us, as one of us. This year we face into Christmas with uncertainty about the future. We can look back on a second year when so many people continued to carefully provide services, when our front line workers continued to look out for others, especially those who were isolated and in need of assistance. In writing of Mary and all that happened to her in the lead up to Bethlehem, Saint Luke tells us that Mary, "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, calmly recognising that something special was happening to her and to her son.

We often reflect on what we treasure: spouse, partner, children, parents, grandparents, grandchildren and those who are very close to us, they are our treasures because their lives impact on our hearts. Since March 2020, with so much curtailment and threats to livelihoods, many have reflected on what they treasure, what is important to them. Sadly, sometimes our treasure is gone: bereavement can leave us feeling empty and at a loss. We all know the difficult circumstances in which illness and death and bereavement have taken place in recent times. People have risen to the occasion and continue to stand by the roadside and on the streets in silent solidarity with the bereaved. The absence of another treasure, family members who are away, can leave our Christmas celebration a little sad. Technology can help us to keep in touch, and that is important. Inevitably, as we look at the crib, we 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 the message of Christmas, that God loves each one of us, will bring us peace and joy and help us treasure what is important. As we give thanks for the baby in Bethlehem, God's gift to us, and the treasure each person is, I wish you and your family and friends every blessing and happiness this Christmas and a peaceful 2022.

+ **Francis Duffy**
Administrator

Bingo: Special Bingo on St. Stephen's Day in Cloone Community centre at 3 pm. Plenty of raffle prizes and a Christmas Hamper to be raffled on the day. There will be no Bingo on Wednesday nights until further notice due to Covid restrictions.

Aughavas Men's Shed: The men in the shed have kindlers for sale. Contact Gerry 0876860261 or Francis 0892126962. Delivery can be arranged. The shed is open on Thursday night's from 8.30 pm. New members welcome.

Aughavas GAA annual St. Stephen's day Charity game will take place this year at 12.45 pm. All players be there at 12.30 pm. This year it is under 25 versus the rest, so come along for a good game with tea and coffee for everyone, followed by our Lotto draw and the launch of our Annual Draw in the Dugout at 4.30 pm, so all envelopes to be in at 4 o'clock. Aughavas GAA are in the final preparations of the development of a new Astro Turf all weather pitch with a proposed start date of March 2022. Happy Christmas to all.

Offertory Collection: (12th Dec.) **Aughavas** € 665.00. (11th/12th Dec.) **Cloone** € 715.00.