



Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, Straide

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Masses

Second Sunday of Advent December 5th & 6th 2020

Saturday 5th	7.30 pm	People of the Parish Community	
Sunday 6th	11.00 am	Nora McHale (2 nd Anniversary)	Oughtoose
Monday 7th	10.00 am	Private Intention	
Tuesday 8th	10.00 am	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	
Wednesday 9th	7.00 pm*	Mass for P.J. & Annie Ruane followed by Exposition of Blessed Sacrament until 8.00 pm	Ballylahan
Thursday 10th	10.00 am	Private Intention	
Friday 11th	7.00 pm*	John & Mary Lennon	Monaghan
Saturday 12th	7.30 pm	Molly & Tommy Walsh	Islandeady
Sunday 13th	11.00 am	Merci Molloy	Dublin / Straide



***Please note** – the later time of Masses on Wednesday and Friday at 7.00 pm.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception – is on Tuesday It is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year. Mass is at 10.00 am

We remember in our prayers - the soul of Bridget Benson, Yorkshire / Cloonconlon who died las weekend. R.I.P.

All Masses from Straide Church - are now streamed online from the parish website – www.straideparish.com.

Churches Reopened – It is good to have Churches open again for congregations of up to 50. However, we have to be extremely careful with all social interactions. This includes attending Church. As we know, the level of virus within the country is much greater now than at the time of the previous re-opening in July. This also applies to Co. Mayo.

Volunteers – Thanks to those who have volunteered to act as stewards. However, as stewards may need to have some contact with churchgoers, it may not be appropriate to task anyone with underlining medical conditions, or those of pension age, with such interaction.

Tickets - for next weekend's Masses (December 14th & 15th) are now available to be picked up from the back of the Church. Admission to weekend Masses is by "Ticket Only" and will be rigorously enforced. Please note, possession of a "ticket" does not guarantee admission if you arrive late and the doors are closed!

Church Decorating for Christmas – takes place on Sun, Dec 6th at 6.30pm. If free for an hour, please give a socially distanced hand. Many thanks to those who have already done a lot of work this week by putting up trees and cribs.

Volunteer Readers needed – for Christmas Masses. If you would like to read let Fr. Martin know this coming week.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for the Season of Advent – continues this week after 7.00 pm Mass on Wed.

Christmas Masses – For most people, attending a religious service on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day is very much part of the Christmas Season. Unfortunately, due to the present pandemic, things will have to be a little different this year. Even though it will be possible to view Christmas Masses from Straide online, many parishioners value being physically present and receiving Holy Communion. If the level of demand exists, and if stewards are available, it may be possible to have an additional Mass on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day. This would allow 200 people to safely attend a Mass over the course of Christmas Eve / Christmas Day. If such an arrangement would facilitate people who would like to attend, please let me know by December 13th, as planning needs to take place well in advance

Western Care Association's Christmas Cards 2020 - are now on sale. Contact Teresa Ward on (087) 246 7857.

The St Vincent de Paul Society - annual collection will take place on weekend Dec 12th & 13th. Many of you will have received the Blue Envelope in your post by now. There are a number of options for donation: by *Telephone to 0818 176 176*, by *Cheque, Postal Order, Credit card or Cash*. Please nominate your local Conference, *St Patrick's Conference, Foxford*, on the Flyer attached and insert into the envelope. Envelopes may be sent Freepost to the SvP National Office. If you wish to donate by Cash you may hand the envelope in at any of the following locations: *Straide Church, Gannon's shop, Foxford Woollen Mills, Foxford Pharmacy or Corcoran's Shop, Knockmore*. Please do not send cash by post. Thank you for your generosity, as always. (St. Vincent de Paul, Foxford Conference)

Altar Society December: Kathleen Canning & Peggy Jordan

ALONE COVID-19 Support Line for Older People: 0818 222 024 (Every day, 8am to 8pm).

Senior Line: Ireland's national confidential service for older people. *Freefone 1800 80 45 91* (10am - 10pm daily).

Foxford Friend on Phone Service: For information, call Foxford Leisure Centre on 094-9257684

Sincere thanks – to all who dropped in Offertory Envelopes to the parochial house during the week. It is much appreciated. Offerings can also be made online for those who are in a position to do so.

Thought for the day: Anger is a weed. Hatred is the tree (St. Augustine)

Newsletter: Items for inclusion to be handed into the Parochial House by 12pm on Thursday or email pp@straideparish.com.

Additional News Items - are included in the online Newsletter on www.straideparish.com

Straide Community Development Group - are delighted at last to be able to welcome you to our Straide Market. We will open the doors to the public this coming Sunday 6th December from 10am to 2pm at the Straide Davitt Community Hall. We will limit numbers within the hall and ask that you follow all necessary Covid controls including wearing a face mask, hand sanitizing on entry and exit and maintain 2 meter social distancing during your visit. We look forward to seeing you all and our thanks both for your generous donated goods to the Market and we hope you will walk away with a bargain on Sunday. Funds raised from this event are a vital lifeline to ensuring we can maintain the community Hall, pay the utility bills and keep the doors open.

Santa's Straide Stopover - We are so delighted to tell you that we received official correspondence from the North Pole and Santa will be stopping in Straide on Sunday 20th of December!! This year has been a year like no other and Santa's Straide Liaison Elf's have been super busy reporting back to the North Pole about all our local children who have been magnificent this year - through the lockdowns and restrictions, home-schooling and missing their friends. So much so, Santa is going to stopover in Straide as he carries out one of his final checklists and hopes to meet some of the amazing boys and girls of the locality.

We all know we have been very careful as we all try our best to live with Covid19 but we still want you to see Santa and say a quick hello and give him a wave....So...the Straide Liaison Elf's together with the North Pole Elf's have come up with a plan - a Drive thru Visit with Santa!! If you wish to have a quick chat with Santa in the comfort of your own vehicle on Sunday 20th of December 2020 email us at straidesanta@gmail.com. Numbers will be limited, and you will be allocated a time slot from 4pm onwards. There is no charge per vehicle, but we would kindly ask for a donation based on your experience on the evening. Entry will be confirmed by email response and a confirmation letter which you will need to bring on the evening. Ho Ho Ho...Merry Christmas!

Moy Davitt's News - Congratulations to Sharon Jordan Toomore Foxford on winning €280 in the Moy Davitts 50/50 draw. A huge thank you to everyone who supported last week's draw, it is greatly appreciated. Tickets are available in the usual retail outlets and by clicking <https://smartlotto.ie/Bohola-moy-davitts>

You can now make your Offertory Donations - simply, conveniently and securely online at our parish website – straideparish.com. Many thanks to those who use this new facility. Thank you for your ongoing generosity & support.

Genealogy – Are you interested in tracing your ancestors or have a relative overseas who would like to trace their roots? The North Mayo Heritage Centre, Crossmolina can help. Gift vouchers also available. Contact (096) 31809.

IF YOU NEED HELP

Many parishioners have volunteered to help those who may not be able to shop, collect medicines, go to the Post Office etc. during this Coronavirus outbreak. If, at any time, you need help with these chores call me on (094) 9031029 and I will liaise with the many volunteers within the community who are very happy to help out.

Keep safe, keep healthy and, at all times, follow HSE / Government guidelines. Say a prayer, too, for all who have caught the virus and for all medical staff, carers and volunteers who are working so very hard at this time. (Fr. Martin)

St. Vincent de Paul (Foxford) – can provide help for those in Straide who may be in need of food or fuel. Contact (085) 8887777

CCTV – operates 24 / 7 within the Church and in the Church car park. The parish policy concerning CCTV can be found on the parish website (www.straideparish.com) – as can all parish policies.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) – has implications for parishes, one being that we can no longer publish names of Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Society or Collectors in Newsletters / Website without written permission. We hope to phase the regulations in throughout 2019. Forms are available on the altar rails. Please bring one home, fill in and return to the Church.

Knock Counselling Service – available at (094) 93 75032 or log on to www.knockshrine.ie/counselling

Accord Counselling - Challenging times can be rough on relationships. When it comes to protecting your most precious investment (your marriage), talk to ACCORD. Our services, based on your needs, not your ability to pay, can help you get the most from your marriage. Morning and evening appointments are available. Office hours are from 10 am to 1pm Monday to Friday, contact (094) 92 54944 or Lo-call 1850 201 878 or email accordcharlestown@gmail.com.

Pope Francis Prayer of Protection Against Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Human Race, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test -

– and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.