



Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, Straide

Fr. Martin Convey P.P., Tel: (094) 9031029

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Masses

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 18th & 19th 2021

Saturday, 18th	7:30 pm	Molly & Tommy Walsh	Islandeady
Sunday, 19th	11:00 am	Merci Molloy (9 th anniv.)	Dublin / Straide
Monday 20th	10:00 am	People of the Parish Community	
Tuesday, 21st	10:00 am	Private Intention	
Wednesday, 22nd	10:00 am	Private Intention	
Thursday, 23rd	10:00 am	Private Intention	
Friday, 24th	5:00 pm*	Christmas Eve Mass	
	7:30 pm	Christmas Eve Mass	
Saturday, 25th	8:30 am*	Christmas Day Mass	
	11.00 am	Christmas Day Mass	
Sunday, 26th	11:00 am	Sunday Morning Mass	



*Please note – the additional Masses for Christmas.

We remember in our prayers - the soul of John Connor, Knockmore (brother of Eileen Doherty, Straide) who died during the week. May he Rest in Peace.

Christmas Masses – Thankfully, churches (at the moment) are not as restricted for numbers this Christmas as last year. However, cleaning and social distancing remains a priority in churches. To ensure the church remains a safe and comfortable environment for all who wish to attend Mass this Christmas, additional Masses have been scheduled. Thus, **Christmas Eve Masses will be at 5.00 pm & 7.30 pm and Christmas Day Masses will be at 8.30 am & 11.00 am.** Tickets will not be required for any Mass. However, should the church become full (100 max. allowed), it will be necessary to close entrances and ask people to attend another Mass. The 5.00 pm Vigil Mass may suit the younger children who want to be in bed before Santa arrives! Additional Readers, Stewards & Collectors are needed.

Bishop Dempsey, as part of his visitation of parishes prior to Christmas, will be in Straide on Sunday 19th to celebrate the 11.00 am Mass. We look forward to welcoming him back to Straide.

Silence is Sacred – Please make sure mobile phones are turned off while in the church, especially during Mass times. Please, also, refrain from talking at any time while in church. Remember, while in church we are in God's presence.

Christmas Collection – will be taken up at Masses over Christmas. A special envelope is included in the Offertory Box of envelopes. Loose envelopes are also available at the exit doors for those who may not use the envelope system

Many thanks – to the donor who added an additional tree to those beside the outside crib. It's a very beautiful scene.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People – ALONE Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open 7 days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Christmas Confessions – Sadly, due to pandemic restrictions, we are not in a position to hold our usual *Advent Service of Reconciliation* again this year. Fr. Martin will be available for Confessions after every Mass from now until Christmas. Confessions can also be arranged for other times by appointment.

Monthly Visitation of the Sick – continues this month. Contact Fr. Martin if you wish to have him visit this month.

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages April - October 2022 - 7 Nights Apartment B&B and return Airport transfer from Dubrovnik or Split from €315 per person sharing. Guaranteed Airport transfer price for any flight. Contact us for details and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 01 4434 510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com

St. Vincent De Paul Annual Collection - was taken up at Masses last weekend (Sat 11th and Sun 12th) Dec. Thanks to all who contributed. If you have overlooked this collection, contributions can still be made this weekend also. SVdeP white envelopes are available for this purpose at the exit doors. Please be as generous as possible. Many thanks for your support in the past. Envelopes can be placed in either the offertory collection basket or in the special SVdeP container at the back of the church. Loose coins/notes for the SVdeP should only be placed in the SVdeP container.

We look forward - to welcoming Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers back when it is deemed appropriate and safe to do so. Hopefully, this will be sooner rather than later. However, it is safer to err on the side of caution.

The Coolegraine Lights - were switched-on on Friday 3rd December. Due to Covid 19 there was no official switch on. Proceeds this year will go to Foxford and District Alzheimer Trust Charity.

Offertory Collectors:	December:	Saturday Evening:	Denis Canning & Paddy McHale
		Sunday Morning:	Michael Jordan & Peadar Lennon

Readers – can pick up their Christmas readings from the back of the Church. Many thanks to all who volunteered.

Thought for the Day: One kind word can warm three winters (Japanese Proverb)

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

Ideas / Suggestions – on the colour scheme for the church (to be painted in January) – are now being sought. If interested in advising please remain behind again for a few moments after Sunday morning Mass.

The HSE Living Well Programme - The HSE are running a health programme free of charge for people living with a long term health condition (mental & physical). This programme helps people develop the skills and confidence to live a healthy and happy life. For more information or to book your place please contact Olga on 086 6078950, or email olga.maguire@mayocil.ie or visit www.hse.ie/livingwell.

Bereavement Support Group at Knock Shrine - Life after a family bereavement can feel very lonely. Sometimes spending time with others who know the experience can be helpful. A *Bereavement Support Group* meets every Wed at 11am at the Family Centre, Knock. All are welcome. More information from Monica Morley Knock 094-9375320.

Easing of Covid Restrictions – The government / HSE have advised that restrictions on indoor religious services can be eased from October 22nd. From the weekend of October 30th / 31st, the following will apply for the time being:

- * Every second pew / seat will remain sealed off. This allows up to 100 to be present and socially distanced.
- * Additional pews / seats can be made available for larger numbers, if required, on any given occasion.
- * Holy Communion will be distributed at the appropriate time (as in pre-covid days).
- * Readers can read from the lectern in the sanctuary or from the gallery if they so wish.
- * No hand shaking at the Sign of Peace.
- * Keep sanitizing the hands on entering and leaving the Church.
- * Wearing a face covering is still obligatory.
- * Newsletters are single use items. If you take one upon entering the Church, please bring it home – do not discard it.
- * Standing at the back of Church during Mass continues to be prohibited.
- * Collections will be taken up in the same manner as in recent weeks – i.e. baskets will not be passed about.

Many thanks for your co-operation over the past months. Your actions have kept yourself (and others) safe & healthy. Please continue to observe the guidelines. Do not let your guard slip.

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 email accordcharlestown@gmail.com.



Thank God and sincere thanks also to our many listeners and supporters as RADIO MARIA IRELAND continues to grow. As an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station we enjoy commercial free broadcasting - Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies – do join our growing faith family! Here's how you can listen:

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Why not drop a line to our Priest Director, Fr. Eamonn McCarthy, or send in your prayer or song requests to us at Radio Maria Ireland, St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22.

Like 👍, Love ❤️, Listen 🎧, Share 📢 & Pray 🙏 with us also on our Facebook Page: 'Radio Maria – Ireland' and Social Media. Welcome to our Family – tune in, listen and join in the faith conversation!

Covid-19 Collect and Deliver Service - Local Link Mayo is offering a collect and deliver service in existing Local Link routes throughout Mayo from pharmacies and local shops, delivering shopping and critical medical supplies to the elderly, the vulnerable and sick. If you need such support or know someone who does, contact Local Link Mayo on 094-9005150 between 9:00am and 5:00pm (Monday - Friday) or email mayo@locallink.ie.

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

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 extremely hard at this time.

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.

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.