



Don't forget to visit our website
www.stmatthewsballyfermot.com
 Parish Centre Phone 6265695

Join Fr. Piaras for the Rosary most weekday
 mornings at 9.40am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 Every Saturday 6.00 to 6.30pm

Church Collections

20/21 Nov 2021

Family Offering Envelopes	€460.00
Shrines	€248.00
Diocesan Common Fund 1st Collection	€525.00
Diocesan Share Fund 2nd Collection	€290.00

RCN.: 20016166

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Friday
 after 10.00 Mass until 12.00 noon
 unless there is a funeral.



Readings for this Sunday

1st Reading: **Jeremiah 33: 14-16**
 I will make a virtuous branch grow for David.
 2nd Reading: **1 Thessalonians 3: 12, 4: 2**
 May you be blameless
 when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again.
 Gospel: **Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36**
 That day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap.



St. Vincent De Paul Special Collection
On the weekend of 10/11th Dec 2021
 (See Fr. Piaras' Notes)

Mass Times St. Matthew's

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30pm
 Sunday: 10.30am and 12.00
Weekdays: 10.00am

Mass Intentions for the Week

Philip Plant, Annie Dunne, Leslie Killeen,
 Mary Rose Purcell, Evelyn & Gerry o'Duffy,
 Francis Moloney, Gerard O'Duffy, Michael carey,
 Tom & Lily Burke, Rosalyn Brennan,
 Margaret & Joe Eccles, John Kerrigan.



Gospel Readings for the Week

Mon 29/11	Mt. 8: 5-11	I am not worthy to have you under my roof.
Tue 30/11	Mt. 4: 18-22	St. Andrew, Apostle
Wed 01/12	Mt. 15: 29-37	The crowds praised the God of Israel.
Thu 02/12	Mt. 7: 21, 24-27	The wise man built his house on a rock.
Fri 03/12	Mk. 16: 15-20	St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Sat 04/12	Mt. 9: 35-10: 1, 5, 6-8	The harvest is rich but the labourers are few.





NOVEMBER MASSES FOR THOSE WHO DIED DURING THE YEAR

The Parish Pastoral Council organised these three Masses for us and congratulations to them on having done such a good job. The turnout wasn't what we expected, but it was very prayerful, all went off well and everyone was pleased.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Yes, this weekend we start our new Church year, and as we begin again examining what our faith means to us, we reflect first on the goal to which we believe it leads us, our motivation in following this narrow path. Then, in a few weeks time we will be celebrating Christmas, the time when God the Father began to reveal himself to us in the life of Jesus.

Of course we want to celebrate that, this year even more than other years because of all the distress that the pandemic has caused. Despite all that is distressing, there is much for Christians to celebrate as we recognize each other as children adopted by God into his family by giving us Jesus as our brother. At this time especially we want to celebrate as families, the gift that each of its members contribute to its family life. God has indeed blessed our families, and we don't forget him or his love for all he has created. It was to save creation (of which we are part) that he sent his Son, Jesus. We haven't always recognized this, and so we need to repent and change our ways of celebration.

Can we show our love for each other by being less lavish and by giving priority to someone who really needs our care? This is a matter, not of charity, but of justice, and though we know that we cannot help all the charities that appeal to us, generosity is called for as we have received so much. The joy that this will give us will then flow naturally into the New Year. Sadly some will be disappointed as they won't understand why their unrealistic expectations will not have been met. For this reason some compromises will have to be made because we don't want our children to think they are not as much loved as others. In this families need to support each other.

BE STILL – DAILY ADVENT REFLECTIONS

The Office for Mission and Ministry are offering daily reflections for the Advent Journey. The theme of these reflections is **'Be Still'**. This is a great opportunity for everyone to take time during Advent to be still. The reflections will be posted each morning on the Facebook page for the office of Mission and Ministry. www.facebook.com/officeformissionandministry

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SPECIAL COLLECTION

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to support those seeking assistance to the best of our availability. For the many families that are helped they are faced with daily impossible choices, but at this time of year, for many, these impossible choices get harder, put oil in the tank or get the present on their child's list.

This year, more than ever, your help is needed to make sure that children and families have what they need to share in the magic of the season.

On **Sunday 11th December**, St Vincent de Paul will be holding a church collection to raise funds for people who are struggling this Christmas.

FINANCES

I would like to thank all those who contribute to the different Church collections, especially those who contribute regularly. There was a particularly good response to the new Summer dues collection for priests, and I guess the same people will be contributing again to the Christmas dues (offering). The family envelope collection, though it has fallen, continues to be the main support for the upkeep of the parish. Some have not yet collected their box of envelopes. Some people make sure that we receive their contribution by making a standing order but few have taken up the option of the Donate button on the website though it is an easy way of contributing.

Fr. Piaras