

**Mass Intentions for Sunday 6th December**  
**2020**

**St. Mochonog's**

**10am:** Tony Prendergast (A)  
Ann Flynn (A) Mary Lyons (A)

**St. Mary's**

**7pm:**

**10am:** May Whiston (A)  
**12 Noon:** Hugo Van den Bergh (Rec Dec'd)



**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

Fridays 11th & 18th December  
11.00 am to 4.00pm

Opportunity to take time out for quiet prayer in preparation for Christmas

At 4pm Fr. Hyacinth will give a Spiritual Talk to conclude, again available to watch by Webcam.

Volunteers being sought to commit to spending one hour on one or all of these Fridays. Phone Phil Kenna at 087 9721491

**CHURCH REOPENING**

St. Mary's & St. Mochonogs Churches are reopened for weekend Masses - Saturday 7pm in St. Mary's, Sunday 10am in St. Mochonog's and 10.am. and 12 noon in St. Mary's.

St. Mary's are also open for Weekday Mass Monday-Saturday at 10.15am,. If you cannot book a seat for Saturday or Sunday you may book for a weekday Mass as a weekday Mass will suffice for the Sunday obligation, you can also book your preferred weekday Mass to ensure a place. Masses will also be on webcam in St. Mary's on Mon. Tues, Wed, Thurs, Frid and Sat at 10.15am.

Please note Weekend Masses must be booked through our Parish Offices (see numbers below) between 10am-1pm, Mon-Thurs and 10am—11.30am on Friday.

**22 Individuals into Enniskerry Church**  
**16 individuals into Kilmacanogue Church**

1. Please be aware that the maximum numbers of individuals from different households, i.e. individuals who must maintain 2 metres clear spacings between them, is:22.

We can accommodate a greater number when some family members who reside in the same house sit together.

**The following rules apply:**

1. One way system applies in the Church, Entry by Front Door, exit by Side Door.
2. Sanitise your hands on entry and exit.
3. **Keep 2 metres apart at all times, which is also important in the Church grounds before and after Masses and Funerals.**
4. Holy Communion will be distributed at end of Mass as you exit.
5. Stewards will be on duty at all Masses so please follow their instructions.

**The Jesuits** who have served this Parish for 100 years will no longer be available to celebrate Masses in our Parish. We thank them very sincerely and hope to have a proper Farewell Ceremony at Easter.

This will mean that over the coming few months we will have to look at the distribution of Masses in our Churches.

**Advent Wreath Blessing Ceremony** for Schools and Students on our webcam [www.enniskerryparish.ie](http://www.enniskerryparish.ie) each Monday during Advent at 11.30am. Parishioners may like to view this also.

**Mass Offerings:** If you wish to have Mass offered for a family member or friend you may book through the Parish Office and the Mass may be viewed on Webcam from your home at [www.enniskerryparish.ie](http://www.enniskerryparish.ie).

**Signed Mass cards** are available in the Parish Office. An offering is received with gratitude and is another way of supporting your local clergy.

## PARISH PRAYER

Lord God, we ask you to bless our Parish. Help us to know you in a deeper way. Help us to sincerely live in imitation of Jesus, your Son, with the Power of your Spirit in our hearts.

Bless all families in our Parish, especially families that are experiencing difficulties; bless all the children and young people in our parish; bless the old, the lonely and the sick, at home and in hospital, bless those who grieve, those who despair of life and all who suffer pain and hurt.

Bring the grace of healing, peace and hope to all hearts and through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother Mary, to whom our parish is dedicated, may your love be upon us as we place all our trust in you.

We ask your blessing too, Lord God, through our Lady, on our Parish Community that we may become a place of hospitality, love, welcome and support for all.

We make this prayer to you in the name of Jesus the Lord, Amen. Mary, Mother of Jesus, bring all our lives to the heart of Jesus, your Son, that through you, we may know his love

**ALTAR LIST OF THE DEAD ENVELOPES** are available at the Entrance Porch in St. Mary's. If you wish to take an envelope and list family or friends who are deceased and who you would like to have prayed for at 10.15am Mass on our webcam ([www.enniskerry.ie](http://www.enniskerry.ie)) on the First Friday of each month please complete and return through the Parish Office.

### Support Line for Older People

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8.00am – 8.00pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

**Women's Refuge**—If you are experiencing difficulties at home during this lockdown please contact Women's Refuge at 01—8670701.

**Fr. Bernard, Fr Hyacinth and the Parish Offices**

are available to you should you need to make contact.

Other Groups such as **Al Alon** (01) 878 3624, **AA** 087 255 1361

**Simon Community** (01) 671 5551, **Women's Refuge** (01) 8670701

**St Vincent de Paul** 01 884 8200 are also available to listen to.

Please do not feel alone at any time.

*Parochial House, Enniskerry, 01 2863506, Presbytery, Kilmacanogue 01 2741951,*

*Parish Office, Enniskerry 01 2760030, Mon-Fri 10am-1pm.*

*Parish Office, Kilmacanogue 01 2021882 Mon-Fri 10am-1pm*

## St. Vincent de Paul

Every year, your local Conference of St. Vincent de Paul has one collection only in December, replacing the SHARE collection, usually on the nearest Sunday to December 8th. This year however, due to Covid 19, this collection has been moved to Sunday December 13th, but, due to severe restrictions on the numbers attending each Mass, our collection will almost be non-existent. Therefore we are appealing to you directly to help us. There are several ways to do this, we have a web link as follows:

[svp.ie/immaculateheartofmaryenniskerry](http://svp.ie/immaculateheartofmaryenniskerry) or please call 0818 176 176 or you can forward your donation direct to our bank account: BOF11E2D, IBAN IE17 BOFI 9010 3614 1342 53.

Also at the back of the Church are blue addressed envelopes for donating to us.

We appeal to you most strongly to be as generous as possible and assure you that all donations received support your local Conference. We thank you for all your wonderful support in the past and wish you a peaceful Christmas and New Year.

**The Meals on Wheels service** operates in Enniskerry and Kilmacanogue and delivers hot meals every Tuesday and Thursday to older people in their homes. It's an opportunity to connect with the community and provide a hot meal and social contact call to older people in the area. We are looking for volunteer drivers who can give up 2 or 3 hours twice a month to facilitate this much needed service.

Interested volunteers may contact Maoiliosa Kelly on 086 832 2466 for further information.

## TROCAIRE

This Christmas, Trócaire will deliver life-saving support to thousands of families across the developing world. As well as supporting people living through conflict and natural disasters, Trócaire has launched a special appeal to support families who have not been able to grow food or earn money due to Covid-19. Please consider supporting this vital work this Christmas. You can purchase one of 17 special gifts for families, or else make a general donation to the Trócaire Christmas Appeal. Trócaire's Christmas Gifts range allows you to buy goats, chickens, water and many more vital items. This year, there is a special Quarantine Care Kit Gift. By buying this gift you are providing vital daily care to families who have to isolate due to Covid-19. Please visit [trocaire.org](https://trocaire.org) to make a donation or buy a gift. (Photos for websites can be downloaded from here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmLCKCGq>)

**Irish Cancer Society** are looking for volunteers to drive patients to and from their chemotherapy treatments. Drivers with a free weekday availability and who can commit to driving twice a month.

Please email Gail at [gflinter@irishcancer.ie](mailto:gflinter@irishcancer.ie) or call 01 2310 566 for an application form. Due to the impact of the Coronavirus we are seeking drivers under the age of 70 years.

Please be aware that there are **CCTV** cameras in the Car Park (as well as the Church). This is to enhance the safety of all who use the carpark and to assist in the prevention of antisocial behaviour and ensuring that people are social distancing as is essential outside the Church.

**REFLECTIONS OF ARCHBISHOP DIARMUID MARTIN  
ON THE CURRENT COVID 19 SITUATION  
3 December 2020**

I draw your attention to the Pastoral Message of the Bishops of Ireland on our preparations for the celebration of Christmas, issued after our on-line meeting yesterday.

The Bishops address the challenges linked with the celebration of Mass during the Christmas period. The thoughts are the same as our diocesan policy. Allow me to quote some paragraphs:

*“Clearly it will be impossible for our usual large congregations to assemble for Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. We wish to remind Catholics that the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days remains suspended during the pandemic. But Christmas is about more than just one day. Families are welcome to attend Mass at some point during the twelve days from Christmas Eve to Epiphany. Christmas Masses will also be widely available over webcam and we strongly encourage families to “tune in” from the “domestic churches” of their living rooms and join with those who are gathering in their local churches in welcoming the birth of the Christ-child.*

*It is possible to experience the spiritual richness of this special season in many ways. Our homes can become “little churches” where we invite the Christ-child in. The age-old tradition of having a Christmas crib in the home and gathering there as a family to pray or to sing a carol will be especially meaningful this year. We also invite families or “household bubbles” to pay a visit to their local church at some time during the twelve days to offer a Christmas prayer at the crib and pray together for their families and for those particularly impacted by the pandemic”.*

I am aware that at the moment parishes are reflecting of different solutions. I respect that. I would ask that in any decision you take into consideration the effects of your decision on neighboring parishes and that you ensure that your decision is well explained to parishioners and that you elicit understanding and ownership by them.

We have to be careful not to focus only on the liturgical celebration of Christmas. We have to see where our parishes can generate an atmosphere of care and kindness for those for whom this Christmas will be one tinged with sadness. We celebrate the birth of Jesus both within our Church buildings but also by bringing the message and the magic of Christ to those we encounter. Our ministry is not limited just to sacramental ministry. We have to witness in society to what the sacraments means. I quote again from the Bishops’ message.

*“We are particularly conscious of those whose livelihoods have been seriously threatened by the pandemic. We keep in mind those for whom Christmas time may bring feelings of sadness – people coping with bereavement, families that cannot be together, those in care homes who can only have limited visits from their loved ones. Christmas can be difficult for Irish emigrants and migrants living in Ireland, who are unable to travel home”.*

We know also how much organisations such as the Saint Vincent de Paul Society and Crosscare need financial support to help them carry out their work over Christmas.

We have also to be cautious about hopes that the approval of vaccines will quickly change the need for vigilance. Vaccines will not radically change the situation overnight. It will be some considerable time before a wide sector of the population will be vaccinated. The battle with this virus will take much longer than many imagine and that in the meantime the current norms of hygiene, safe distancing and strict limitation of personal contacts are still then fundamentals.

We have to ensure that we restrict our gatherings to what is essential and use good sense and prudence to avoid risk especially to children and the elderly. Where safety cannot be respected then better show restraint.

Finally I draw your attention to the on line video “retreat” videos which have been prepared by the Office for Clergy and which are coming on line in these days.

**Diarmuid Martin - December 3, 2020**