

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.

GREETING

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins:
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
May almighty God have mercy on us.
Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God, splendour of faithful souls, graciously be pleased to fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all peoples by the radiance of your light.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ,.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Ecc 24:1-2.8-12

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Wisdom speaks her own praises, in the midst of her people she glories in herself.

She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High, she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One.

Then the creator of all things instructed me, and he who created me fixed a place for my tent.

He said, "Pitch your tent in Jacob, make Israel your inheritance."

From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall remain.

I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle, and thus was I established on Zion.

In the beloved city he has given me rest, and in Jerusalem I wield my authority.

I have taken root in a privileged people, in the Lord's property, in his inheritance.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps.147:12-15.19-20

R. The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.

- O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your gates, he has blessed the children within you. [R]
- He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with finest wheat.
He sends out his word to the earth and swiftly runs his command. [R]
- He makes his word known to Jacob, to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations; he has not taught them his decrees. [R]

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-6.15-18

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ, for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved.

That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans; Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 1:1-18 (or *1:1-5.9-14)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

* In the beginning was the Word:

the Word was with God and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him.

All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men,

a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.*

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,

as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

*The Word was the true light

that enlightens all men;

and he was coming into the world.

He was in the world

that had its being through him,

and the world did not know him.

He came to his own domain

and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who did accept him

he gave power to become children of God,

to all who believe in the name of him

who was born not out of human stock

or urge of the flesh,

or will of man but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh,

he lived among us, and we saw his glory,

the glory that is his as the only Son

of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John appears as his witness. He proclaims:

'This is the one of whom I said :

He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'
Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received - yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.

No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines:

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

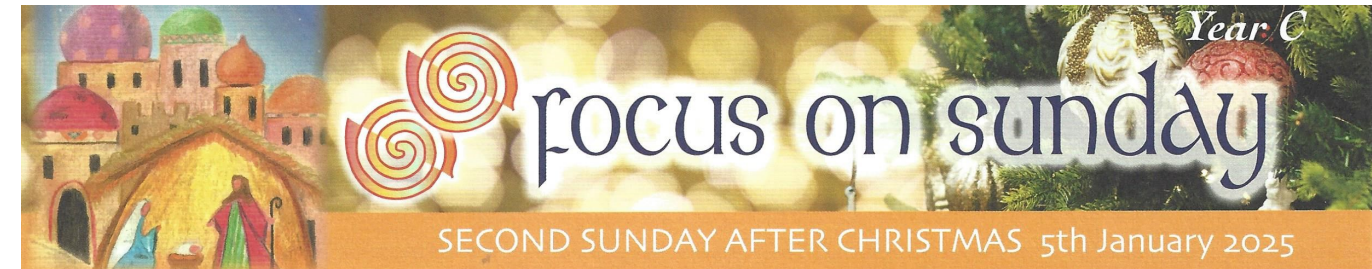
Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.



SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

To all who would accept him, he gave the power to become children of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord our God, we humbly ask you, that, through the working of this mystery, our offences may be cleansed and our just desires fulfilled. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

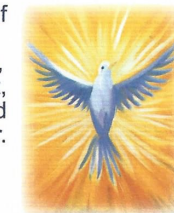
May God, the source and origin of all blessing, grant you grace, pour out his blessing in abundance, and keep you safe from harm throughout the year.
Amen.

May he give you integrity in the faith, endurance in hope, and perseverance in charity with holy patience to the end.
Amen.

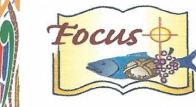
May he order your days and your deeds in his peace, grant your prayers in this and in every place, and lead you happily to eternal life.
Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.
Amen.

Go in peace.
Thanks be to God.



Jesus is the One sent by God who speaks to us about the wisdom and truth of God. By accepting him we too become children of God and are filled with grace and truth.



We all have certain fixed attitudes and views which have resulted from our upbringing, social class, culture, religious beliefs and experiences. If someone expresses very different attitudes and views, we can either reflect on what they say and allow them to challenge the way we think, or we can just simply reject them out of hand. In today's Gospel, the author expresses his amazement that Jesus, the Word of God, was rejected by the very people God had created and chosen as his own. What Jesus was saying and doing challenged the fixed views and attitudes of the people of Israel. When Jesus reached out to the tax collectors and sinners, who were considered to have been rejected by God because of their behaviour, the religious authorities could not accept that Jesus was carrying out God's will. Wealth was understood to be a sign of God's favour, poverty a sign of God's disfavour. So when Jesus criticised the accumulation of wealth by some, while others survived at a subsistence level, even the apostles were challenged: "Then, who can be saved?" (Luke 18 v26), they asked him. Jesus was seen as a threat to the religious beliefs of the people of God that the authorities believed that it was their religious duty to get rid of him. We too can often water down the radical demands of the Gospel when it challenges our lifestyles or comfort zones. Welcoming and reaching out to those who are poor and excluded, even at some cost to ourselves, is the challenge of Jesus to us today, just as it was then.

Fr. Peter McVerry

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

God Our Father wanted to share happiness. So God made the sun, the stars, the mountains, the oceans. They were "God's Voice," but they could not speak "words." Then, God made human beings, boys and girls who could speak words, like love, please, thanks, sorry. God made all people in the image and likeness of His Own Son, Jesus Christ, and He is called "THE WORD OF GOD." To be human and happy is to follow Jesus, and learn to love. The Angelus Bell always reminds us of God's Love Story.

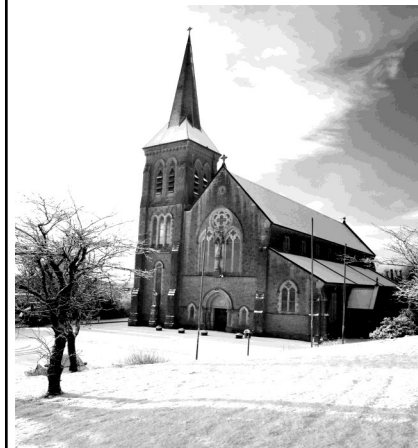
Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali: †Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin Other texts: cum permissu: †Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal: © 2010, International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Darton, Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & or Geoffrey Chapman Ltd. Swan image by Seamus Mc Gann. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballyboggan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK36 Phone (01 630 6751).

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, BALLYHAUNIS

PARISH NEWSLETTER 5th JANUARY 2025

Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Farragher, 094-9630006 / 087-9210305
Email: ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com **Parish Office:** 094-9630006
PARISH WEBSITE: www.ballyhaunisparish.ie
PARISH RADIO: 105.2FM *Newsletter on line: Parish website & www.mcn.live*
WEBCAM: www.ballyhaunisparish.ie or www.mcn.live
Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) Jacinta Flynn, (contact the parish office)

Emergency numbers:
 Knock: 094-9388100
 Fr. Feeney, Ballinlough: 094-9640155
 Fr. McGuinness, Bekan: 094-9313937

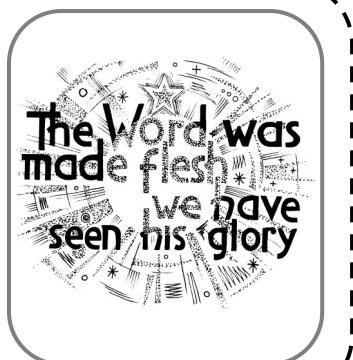


MASSES:
 Monday, Tuesday,
 Wednesday, Friday 10.00am.
 Saturday Evening Vigil:
 7.30pm
 Sunday: 10.00am.

CONFESSIONS:
 Before Saturday Vigil Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
 Between 9am & 7pm daily.

BAPTISMS
 First Saturday & third Sunday
 of the month at 11.00am.
 Minimum of four weeks'
 notice required. Contact the
 parish office, 094-9630006.



ANNIVERSARY MASSES 6th-11th JANUARY 2025

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am; Saturday 7.30pm.

Helen, Thomas & Bridget Meehan & decd. Curries & Dolores King, Ballaghadereen
 Frank Fetherston, Abbeyquarter
 Kieran, Elizabeth & Tom Carney, Classaroe
 Mary Dillon-Leetch, Main St.
 Ann Hunt-O'Sullivan & decd. of the Hunt family, Lecarrow
 Tom Flatley, Clare St.
 Timothy & Elizabeth Rabbitte, Timothy & Nora Rabbitte, Derrylea; Larry Farrelly & decd. of
 the Sullivan & Farrelly families
 Bernie Joe Lyons, Skeghard & decd. of the Lyons & Donegan families
 John, Greta & Micheál Murren, Upper Main St & Mary Commins, Knock
 Christina Phillips & Bernadine Mitchell
 Noreen Hopkins, Upper Main St.
 Jim & Mary Plunkett, Forthill & decd. of the Grogan family, Aghamore
 Séan, Bridie, Mary, Frank, Patrick & Catherine Regan, Killinaugher
 Kathleen, Pat, Patrick & Mary Ellen Regan, Derrynacong
 Rosie, Tom, Bernie, John, Paddy & Martin McDonagh, Castlebar

6th-12th Jan.	READERS	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST
Monday	Liam Devaney	Marion Regan, Marie Brennan
Tuesday	Tommy Caulfield	Breege Halpin, Frances Mulhern
Wednesday	Mary Donnelly	Irene Healy, Margaret Tarpey
Friday	Christina Concannon	Willie Broderick, Eileen Jordan
Saturday 7.30pm	First Communion Parent	Margaret Byrne, Breda Davis, Mary T. Griffin, Lorraine Waldron
Sunday 10am	Sophia Balbino	Bernie Quinn, Patricia Plunkett, Mary Sykes, Mary Murphy

COLLECTORS FOR JANUARY

Saturday 7.30pm	John Jordan, Ann Curley, Peter McCafferty, Hugh Rudden
Sunday 10am	Vincent Higgins, Seamus Coffey, Jaroslav Drunnik, Mike Griffin

MASS SERVERS FOR JANUARY

Saturday 7.30pm	Team C: Silmara Da Silva Nunes, Joao Miguel De Oliveira Guerra, Luis Philipe Da Cruz
Sunday 10am	Team D: Hazel Murphy, Fionn Finnegan, Natalie Dosek, Tjasa Barcanec

Recently Deceased - We remember in our prayers:

Phil Rattigan née Folliard, Island
 Annette Collins, Kilmihil, Clare—mother of John Collins, Island
 Maureen Hunt, Curry, Co. Sligo – sister of Bridie Costello, Bohogue;
 Gussie Dolan, Four-Mile-House- brother-in-law of Kay Curley, Hazelhill

All weekday and weekend Masses, and the daily Rosary at 9pm (when possible) Mondays to Fridays, continue to be broadcast on parish radio 105.2 FM and streamed on the parish webcam: <https://www.mcn.live/camera/st-patricks-church-ballyhaunis> or on our website: www.ballyhaunisparish.ie.

“GROW IN LOVE”: The preparation programme for children who will celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation & Holy Communion later this year continues at 7.30pm Mass next Saturday evening 11th January. Our focus this month is on teaching them about Baptism, the sacrament through which new members are welcomed into our parish family.

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY: Monday 6th January is the Feast of the Epiphany of The Lord. Mass will be at 10am .

PRIESTS' CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: Sincere thanks to those who have already returned their Christmas envelopes. Your ongoing support & generosity is appreciated. Envelopes for the Priests' Christmas Collection can be returned at Masses or to the parish office. For those wishing to make an online donation, the IBAN is **IE97 AIBK 9374 4421 3423 54**.

PARISH CALENDARS 2025 : Ballyhaunis Parish calendars / wall-planners are now available in the Church porch. Please take one home, and bring one to a neighbour or friend who might appreciate it.

LATIN MASS: The next Latin Mass takes place in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Knock on Sunday 12th Jan at 6pm.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2025: The Tuam & Killala Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Archbishop Francis Duffy, takes place from 29th August to 4th September 2025. 6 nights with direct flights from Knock, hotel accommodation & full board, and a full religious programme. Contact Joe Walsh Tours for more information on 01 2410800 or email info@joewalstours.ie

Offertory Collection
 Sunday 29th Dec. 2024
 €1,830

MEDJUGORGE PILGRIMAGE: Flights from Knock to Mostar and accommodation close to St. James Church from 17th to 24th September 2025 or from 24th Sept to 1st October, accompanied by Spiritual Directors. Early booking advised. Contact Anne on 086 3766293.

SYCAMORE PROGRAMME: If you're searching for the meaning of life, Tuam parish will be running the popular Sycamore programme from Thursday 23rd January for 7 weekly sessions at 7pm in the Tuam Parish Centre. This programme seeks to explore the deeper questions of life, truth, faith & God in a relaxed environment over light refreshments. The one-hour weekly sessions are primarily aimed at those who are lapsed Catholics or are non-Christian and wish to know more. For more details, contact Tuam Parish Office at 093 24250 or to register, email frmarkquinn@tuamparish.com

JOB VACANCY: The Irish Council of Churches is seeking to recruit a General Secretary, for the next phase of its work of developing opportunities for the churches in Ireland to work together to provide a Christian voice in society. Further details of the position are available on www.irishchurches.org Applications should be submitted by Friday 17th January to president@irishchurches.org

POPE FRANCIS' MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY OF PEACE, 1ST JAN. 2025: Forgive us our trespasses, grant us your peace.

Pope Francis began 2025 with a plea for peace, and the protection of human life “from conception to natural death”. He also called on Christian nations to set an example through debt relief for the world's poorest countries, and renewed his passionate plea for peace in global conflict zones. “Throughout this year, the Catholic Church celebrates the Jubilee, an event that fills hearts with hope. This is my prayer to God, as I offer my good wishes for the New Year:



Forgive us our trespasses, Lord,
 As we forgive those who trespass against us.
 In this cycle of forgiveness, grant us your peace,
 The peace that You alone can give to those who let themselves be disarmed in heart
 To those who choose in hope to forgive the debts of their brothers and sisters
 To those who are unafraid to confess their debt to you
 And to those who do not close their ears to the cry of the poor”.
(Read Pope Francis' full message for World Day of Peace on www.catholicbishops.ie)

ANAM CARA: Supporting Parents after Bereavement. First online Bereavement Information Evening of 2025 will be held on Tuesday 7th January from 7pm to 8.30pm. Guest speaker is Niamh Finucane, senior medical social worker with St. Francis Hospice, Dublin. For more details or the link to register, visit www.anamcara.ie

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets at 11am every Wednesday in the Family Centre, Knock. All welcome. Further information from Monica Morley at 094-9375320.

IRISH CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER: Copies are available in the church porch at a cost of €3. Please place money in candelabra coinbox.

AA & AL-ANON: For those affected by alcohol abuse, there are weekly AA and Al-Anon meetings in Ballyhaunis. AA meetings: Fridays & Sundays at 8.30pm in the Friary House. Al-Anon meetings, for families and friends of problem drinkers, are held on Sunday evenings at 8.30pm in Scoil Íosa. More information on www.al-anon.org

CHRONIC PAIN RELIEF CLASSES: Clinical Somatics uses slow, gentle exercises to relieve pain, reduce stress and improve your posture & movement. Classes every Wednesday at 6.45pm in Claremorris Family Resource Centre. Contact John Roe for more details on 087 7495573.

LINE DANCING CLASSES with Mary Kathleen resume in the Ballyhaunis Community Hall on Sunday 5th January from 7pm to 8.30. All welcome.

PARISH NEWSLETTER: Items for the newsletter can be emailed to ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com by Thursday, for inclusion that weekend.