



# Bodyke and Tuamgraney Parish News



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MASS TIMES		
<b>Saturday</b>	Bodyke	7.00pm
<b>Sunday</b>	Tuamgraney	9.30am
<b>Wednesday</b>	Tuamgraney	10.00am
<b>Friday</b>	Bodyke	10.00am

Mass will also be live streamed on weekdays at 10am and on Sundays at 9.30am. Please check our website for details of the broadcasts.

4th Sunday of Advent

20th December 2020

Vol. 36 No. 51

## THIS WEEK'S MASSES & ANNIVERSARIES

### Bodyke - Church of the Assumption

Saturday 19th December 7.00pm Mass  
 Thursday 24th December 9.00pm Christmas Eve Mass  
 Friday 25th December 10.30am Christmas Day Mass  
 Saturday 26th December 7.00pm St. Stephen's Day

### Tuamgraney - St. Joseph's Church

Sunday 20th December 9.30am Margaret Dillon / Jack Walsh  
 Thomas Hogan  
 Wednesday 23rd December 10.00am Mass  
 Friday 25th December 9.00am Christmas Day Mass  
 Sunday 27th December 9.30am Patrick Hussey

*Please note* There will be a change to Parish Office Opening Hours for next week - see panel on the right.

The Parish Office is located in the TUAMGRANEY PARISH HOUSE  
 Opening hours this week are:

- Tuesday 22nd - 9am to 12noon
- Wednesday 23rd - 9am to 1pm

Contact number - 087 1498763

Please call the number above with newsletter items, to be issued with sacramental certificates, to book anniversary masses or to get Mass Cards & Bouquets.

### Envelope - Basket Collection

Up to 13th December 2020

Total - €1,196.65

Thank you for your continued kind and generous support.

Our Bodyke & Tuamgraney Parish Child Protection Representatives can be contacted through Fr. David or the Parish Office

## Lay Ministers

### 24th December 2020 - Christmas Eve

#### Bodyke - Thursday December 24th 9.00pm

Reader: Fiona O'Brien  
 Eucharist: Jo McGrath

### 25th December 2020 - Christmas Day

#### Tuamgraney - Friday December 25th 9.00am

Reader: Teresa Browne  
 Eucharist: Damian Heaney

#### Bodyke - Friday December 25th 10.30am

Reader: Seán O'Halloran  
 Eucharist: Mike McNamara


### 26th/27th December 2020 (Feast of Holy Family)

#### Bodyke - Saturday December 26th 7.00pm

Reader: John McNamara  
 Eucharist: Philip Moreau

#### Tuamgraney - Sunday December 27th 9.30am

Reader: Eileen Harrington  
 Eucharist: Anita Ryan

 The Priest's Christmas Collection will be taken up at Masses on December 24th & 25th and at all Masses over Christmas. You can also drop your envelopes in to the parish Office. Thank you.

## PARISH NOTES

### Christmas 2020

The Advent season is filled with preparations for Christmas; the carol services and the Christmas music demand a cheerfulness that for a lot of people jars with the experiences of loneliness, sickness and sadness through mourning the loss of their beloved. But the feast of the Nativity calls to each of us to slow down for a moment and take note. The birth of the Christ Child took place in a bleak situation, full of uncertainty and full of awe. It brought mystery and wonder and it tells us that in the ordinary moments of our work and life, the extraordinary can happen. This is Christian Hope offered to a world that needs Good News. This is Christian Hope offered to You. This year, more than any, we need that hope to shine brightly in our lives. There are many who have made huge sacrifices throughout this year and continue to do so. I invite you to come and visit our churches during the Christmas season, either as part of the worshipping community or just a few moments in quiet prayer or reflection. To know that the Christmas celebration is about Light and Hope and it starts in the most ordinary of places. We pray for you and for all our parishioners scattered over the face of the earth; may you know Christmas Peace, Hope and Light now and throughout 2021. Fr. David

## Christmas Liturgies

### Christmas Eve

• **Prayer Around the Crib at 6pm.** This liturgy is online only and will be broadcast from Bodyke. It will be a very special ceremony especially for families and you are encouraged to watch it as you gather with family by your crib.

• **9pm Bodyke** – all places have been reserved for this mass but you can watch it online.

### Christmas Day

• **9am Tuamgraney** - all places have been reserved for this mass but you can watch it online.

• **10.30am Bodyke** - there are still a number of places available for this mass. Please call 087 1498763 to book a seat.

Apologies that we cannot accommodate everyone at our Christmas liturgies. Unfortunately current restrictions on capacity mean that we cannot have more than 50 people in the church for mass or other liturgies (25 for funerals and weddings).

There is a **drive-in mass at the O'gonnelloe GAA grounds on Christmas Eve which begins at 4pm.** This is open to all and if attending, please stay in your car to help us comply with restrictions.

**Please attend only one Mass over the Christmas season so that as many people as possible will be able to attend Masses. Thank you for your understanding.**



A very Happy Christmas to all our parishioners and to those who are abroad and unable to come home this year and who may be joining us online for Christmas Masses.

The new rota for **Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for Tuamgraney (Dec 25th 2020 to Jan 24th 2021 incl.)** is now available in the Prayer Room, on the parish website under **groups**, and on the church notice board.

**FOOT CARE: MOBILE** Foot Health Practitioner Service. House Calls Available - Daytime and Evening. Contact Maura on 086 8053671 to arrange an appointment.

### **Tuamgraney Park & Christmas Lights Fundraiser**

The renovation works in the Memorial Park are complete, the Christmas lights are on and the park is now back open. These works have been made possible due to a successful application for funding under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2020. However, as part of funding requirements the community must make a sizeable contribution to the cost of the works. If you would like to support the fund-raising efforts please go online to [GoFundMe.com](https://www.gofundme.com) and search for "Tuamgraney park and Christmas lights" or a donation can be given to any TDA Committee member. Thank you for your on going support.

**Collection Baskets:** Please note that for the moment no collection baskets will be passed around at Mass - instead boxes are available at each church door for your donation. **See also notice below.**

If you are not attending Mass at present you may wish to drop your **collection envelopes** at the Tuamgraney parish office. **Please make sure that you drop them through the letter box of the inner RED door!** You may also contact the parish office for information on how to contribute through your bank or by using the links on the Diocese of Killaloe website. **See note below from Fr. Ger Nash.**

*"In these times of Government lockdown and restrictions on attendances at public masses, many people who are unable to attend church services are interested in contributing to the support of their parish or their priests. Sincere thanks to all our parishioners who have contributed during this time. It has been possible for a while to make a contribution by credit or debit card directly to your parish using the Diocesan Website which is [www.killaloe-diocese.ie](http://www.killaloe-diocese.ie). The contribution as received by the Diocesan website will be fully paid to your parish. Simply go to the Diocesan Website and click on the red "Donate to your Parish" button on the top of the page. You will be invited to select your parish and the parish fund you wish to contribute to. Your support is greatly appreciated".*

### **Bereaved by Suicide and Christmas.**

Christmas can be a difficult time for people bereaved by suicide, especially this year with COVID. Clare Suicide Bereavement Support volunteers are available to help you. Support and help is only a phone call away. Phone/text us at one of our numbers below. Confidentiality assured. 086 0565373 / 087 3698315.  
[www.claresuicidebereavementsupport.com](http://www.claresuicidebereavementsupport.com)

## Reflection

### **Lonely at Christmas**

You sometimes hear people say,  
'I always find Christmas Day a lonely day.'

I think what they are really saying is:

'I always feel lonely on Christmas Day.'

Loneliness is caused chiefly by two things:  
absence and emptiness.

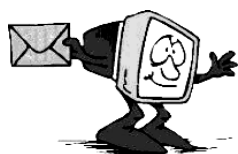
Let us spare a thought, a prayer, and maybe a visit for someone who will spend Christmas alone.

And if while spending Christmas in the midst of others, we still feel lonely, let us not be alarmed.

Our hearts are always longing for something more, or rather, for someone else.

In every human heart there is an empty chamber waiting for a guest.

That guest is God.



**Newsletter Deadline:** News items for inclusion in the Parish Newsletter should be with the Parish Office by **9.00am on Thursday.**

Email: [bodykeparishnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bodykeparishnewsletter@gmail.com) or Tel: **087 - 1498763**  
website: [www.bodyketuamgraneyparish.ie](http://www.bodyketuamgraneyparish.ie)