

Christmas Mass Bouquets

Christmas Mass Bouquets at €3 per card are now available from the Parish Office and part of the proceeds will go to St. Vincent de Paul East Clare.

St. Vincent de Paul

SVP have a long held tradition of organising different appeals and events in the lead up to Christmas. These include giving trees, food, toy and clothes donations as well as church gate collections - all of which are vital in order for our local volunteers to be able to continue to support people in need in our local communities. This year, being different in so many ways, means that we need to approach things differently. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions we will now not be able to accept donations of toys and food, there will be no giving trees in the churches and our annual church gate collection is cancelled. Therefore, we are asking if you would please make a monetary donation, directly to SVP East Clare, by bank transfer or in branch. This year we need your support more than ever. Many thanks.

Account Name: East Clare SVP

Bank of Ireland. IBAN No: IE91 BOFI 9044 1363 2045 45 BIC No: BOFIIE2D

Bodyke NS Board of Management and Parents Association wish to highlight concerns about safety on the public road in the vicinity of the school. There is great concern for the safety of children being dropped off and collected each day and the hope is that a solution can be found before there is a serious accident. Since there is no designated parking area, parents and teachers must pull up onto the footpath to drop and pick up from school. With increasing volume and speed of traffic on the Bodyke-Limerick road it makes the situation as it currently stands dangerous for all and we would ask that this matter be taken with the urgency it deserves. Offroad parking and a safe turning area near the school are urgently required. Clare County Council and Clare TDs have been asked to look at how this might be made possible. Local community support is hugely valuable and we would urge you to sign a petition and help draw attention to this local issue. You can sign the online petition on the Bodyke NS facebook page or the parish website at www.bodyketuamgraney parish.ie

Just click on the link: <u>http://chng.it/dwppXQCWCP</u> To sign the petition you need to provide your first name, last name, a valid email address and general geographic location. You do NOT need to make a donation.

Useful Helplines

- East Clare Community Response 085 8659889
- Clare Community 1800 203600
- ALONE (for older people) 0818 222 024
- WomensAid Helpline 1800 341900.
- Clare Haven 065 6822435

Collection Envelopes

During these weeks when the public celebration of Mass is not permitted 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.*

Important note from the Diocesan Secretary

"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.killaloediocese.ie. The full 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". Ger Nash.

Bodyke GAA Lotto in now online at **www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/bodykegaa/lotto** Next draw is on Monday 30th November at 9pm. Cut off time for purchasing online lotto tickets is 10pm on Sunday 29th. Lotto tickets purchased online after this cut off time will be entered into the next draw.

Do you have an illness, injury or disability? Would you like support around career choices / support while in employment? Contact EmployAbility Clare on (065) 6844007 or e-mail <u>karen@employabilityclare.ie</u>

Reflection

Advent: A time of Hope

It is said that while there is life there is hope. This has an even deeper meaning in reverse:

while there is hope there is life. Hope is strength.

Hope is strength. Hope sheds light into despairing hearts. It inspires the will to live.

It is the doctor's most powerful ally. It is a shield against defeat and failure. It revives ideals and renews dreams.



As long as there is hope, no situation is impossible. Advent summons us to wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. In the final analysis, he is our hope.



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** or Tel: **087 - 1498763** website: **www.bodyketuamgraneyparish.ie**