

# Parish of Botha

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## First Sunday of Advent

*First Sunday of Advent invites us to reflect on my daily life – for what do I ask forgiveness? For what do I give thanks? We also look forward to a new beginning and a chance to start again on the way of discipleship. Both thanksgiving and renewal are to be found in today's readings. The Gospel is an invitation to wake up, to keep watch, to live fully the present moment under God, in whom we live and move and have our being.*

## Masses for the Week

### Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 10am Mass. **Anniversary:** Kevin Gilbride, Farnaconnell; Rose Anne McGrath and Deceased of the McGrath Family, Coolarkin.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 10am Mass. **Anniversary:** Sarah McBrien, Toneel;

### St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 11.30am Mass. **Anniversary:** Patricia Garrity, Enniskillen; Tommy and Kathleen Brennan, Braade; Anthony and Bridie Carr, Sillees Grove; Paddy and Molly Cassidy, Derrygonnelly; Patrick and Katie Treacy, Carrickreagh.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 7pm Mass and Novena to St Peregrine.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 10am Mass. **Anniversary:** Nellie and Benny Swift, Fairview Park.

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December **St. Ambrose** 10am Mass.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** 7pm Mass. **Months Memory:** Francie Jones, Corr.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 11.30am Mass. **Anniversary:** Frank and Josie Flood, Main Street; John Melanophy, Tobradan; Vera, Francie and Mary Kate Treacy, Rosnarick Close; Mollie and Packie Gallagher, Mill Green; Deceased of the Gallagher Family, Drumgormley and Stratore; Vincent Haren, Drumbeggan.

### Lighting of the First Advent Candle



As we light our First Advent Candle this week may we open our hearts to the light of Christ. May his light increase in brightness, through our love and efforts this Advent. Amen.

### Prayer for Advent

God, Lord of eternity,  
Your Son came to visit us in time.  
Grant to each of us the heart of a child  
which never ceases to marvel at your  
wonders, so that once again this day you  
may find us watching in hope.  
We ask you this, because of your love for us,  
God blessed for ever and ever. Amen.

This week's Bulletin is sponsored by the Swift Family, Sandhill  
and in memory of Kevin Gilbride, Farnaconnell.

**Parish Calendars:** The 2024 parish calendar is now available at the back of our churches. Please take one for those who may be housebound.

**Altar Society December:** Derrygonnelly – Leeanne McGovern, Siobhan Hodgson, Gerald and Bridget Greene. Collection after 11.30am Mass on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December in St Patrick's, Derrygonnelly.  
**Monea:** Collector – John Gosling and Kieran McGullion.

**Trócaire:** Christmas Gifts: From Gaza to Ukraine, from Ethiopia to South Sudan right now, children and their families are enduring such suffering. Your compassionate support will help rush survival kits, emergency dignity kits, and essential food baskets, as well as supporting critical work across Trócaire's global programmes. Gifts cards will be on sale after Masses today.

**PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION  
Feast Day 8<sup>th</sup> December**

**O Most Holy Virgin, immaculate in body and spirit,  
look kindly on me as I implore your powerful intercession.**

**O most Holy Mother,  
receive my prayers as I present them to God.**

**O Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother,  
you intercede for us with your Son.**

**O Mary conceived without sin,  
pray for us who have recourse to thee.**

**Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, pray for us.**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.**

**Our Lady Queen of Christendom, pray for us. Amen.**



**Derrygonnelly Harps GFC:** Jackpot £8100. £20 Donal Fee, online player, Darcy Grainger, Monea, Joe McGullion, Sandhill. Draw in Doogies tonight. Thanks to everyone who supports and promotes the Harps Lotto. The clubs **AGM** is scheduled for **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December** in the clubrooms. Condolences to the Gilroy family on the passing of Kathleen and to the James family, Monea on the passing of Mr Patsy Bradley, Swatragh. Both of the deceased had grandchildren who play for the club.

**Killyhommon PS Open Afternoon:** We invite our prospective parents and pupils to take the opportunity to come along to the school and see what we have to offer. We have an Open Afternoon on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December** at **2.15pm**. If this date and time does not suit you, then do not hesitate to phone the school and rearrange another time. 0286634128.

**Save Our Acute Services:** It is now one year since Emergency Surgery has been suspended at our South West Acute Hospital in Enniskillen; one year ago they said this was a "temporary" suspension. A Public Meeting will take place in the **WESTVILLE HOTEL** on **THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER** at **7PM**. All our political parties have been invited to speak. Come along and have your say.

**Pope's intentions for December:** **For persons with disabilities** - We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

**Seeing your Life through the  
Lens of the Gospel Mark 13:33-37**

1. It is easy to interpret this passage as a warning about impending death or disaster. Recent wars and tragedies are examples. Yet the coming of the Lord is not just the moment of death, but any moment of grace. Recall unexpected graces – good things that happened when they were not anticipated.

2. Perhaps some of these were moments when you were particularly alert and aware of what was going on in you and around you and this enabled you to be open to the moment of grace. Recall the contrast with moments when that alertness and awareness were not present.

3. The servants were given charge of the household 'each with their own job'. See yourself as a person given responsibility within the household of God's people. What is it like for you to see yourself trusted in this way by God? What has it been like for you when you have been shown trust in this way by another person?

4. Jesus says that what he is saying to his disciples he is saying to all. Have there been times when you have been a messenger of hope to others, encouraging them to wait for a moment of grace. Who have been the ones to encourage you?

*John Byre OSA*