

## CONFESSIONS

Monday 22nd: After 9.30am Mass  
Wednesday 24th: 10 to 11am



## **MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS DAY**

Christmas Eve: Tullow 6pm & Ardattin 8pm  
Christmas Day: Grange 9am & Tullow 11am

## **MASSES FOR THIS WEEK**

Monday 22nd:		9.30am
Tuesday 23rd:	Service of the Word	9.30am
Wednesday 24th:	Tullow: 6pm	Ardattin: 8pm
Thursday 25th:	Grange: 9am	Tullow: 11am
Friday 26th:		11am

*There will be Mass on New Year's Day at 11am.*

### A Family Prayer Before the Crib

Loving God, as we look upon our family crib we thank you for all who are part of the Christmas story and part of our story, too. We thank you for the gift of Jesus, your Son, who was born like us, lived with us, struggled like us, and who has shown us how to be fully human; to our lives, he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy and love.



May this crib be a beacon of hope for us and the whole world.  
May the star of Bethlehem which shone brightly over the first crib stand guard over our home, filling it and all the earth with your light and peace.  
And may we know, believe, and share the Christmas message of Emmanuel, God is with us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



May the blessing of joy abide within you.  
May the blessing of peace rest upon you.  
May the blessing of love flow out through you.  
May all the blessings of the Lord be yours  
at Christmas and in the New Year.

*Sincere thanks to all of you for the warm welcome I have received since coming here in February. Fr. Ger*

## **TULLOW, GRANGE & ARDATTIN PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**21st December 2025  
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

### **PARISH CONTACTS**

**Parish Office:** 059 9151277  
**Email:** tullowparish@outlook.com  
**Fr. Ger Ahern PP:** 059 9180222  
**Registered Charity No:** 20015848

**SEE INSIDE  
FOR  
MASS TIMES**



### **Christmas Message from Bishop Denis**

There is a sameness and a beauty about every Christmas. We send the same people greeting cards, promising to meet in the New Year; we hear the same scripture readings at Christmas Masses, but they don't in any sense lose their freshness; we share in the same rituals, and if we are honest, we wouldn't want to change a thing. I love Christmas. I hope all of you do.

I am conscious there are people who will be on their own for Christmas. Christmas can be a day of contrasts. In one house, several family members will be crowded around the one table wearing their party hats and pulling Christmas crackers. Next door, a solitary figure might be sitting alone with a microwave meal. Let's look out for one another this Christmas. Some of you have suffered bereavements this past year, be gentle with yourself, Christmas mightn't be so easy.

Christmas this year comes as the Jubilee Year of Hope draws to a close. We will gather in the Cathedral on the Feast of the Holy Family to formally close it in the diocese. A year ago, at the launch of the Jubilee Year I made the front door of every home a place of pilgrimage to be reconciled with one another. Last weekend during the Jubilee for Prisoners I designated every cell door in itself a place of pilgrimage, a place where prisoners might pass through renewed, refreshed and reconciled with God, with themselves and with those on the outside. And of course the designation of the Relic of St. Brigid in the church in Kildare Town.

It may look like I didn't designate many Jubilee Places of Pilgrimage around the diocese, but truth be told I probably designated more than anywhere else and that is because of the particular Jubilee it was, the Jubilee of Hope. Hope is a faithful companion through all our ups and downs. Whenever you walk through a door, remind yourself of the hope we have in Christ our Lord.

We have been blessed in many ways this year throughout the diocese; the ceremony last month as I installed the relic of St. Columbanus in the Church in Myshall allowed us to complete the circle of a very memorable few days last July as we hosted the 26<sup>th</sup> International Columbanus Weekend; we have seen lay pastoral ministers commence formal training for ministry in our parishes; the establishment of Pastoral Areas where we can avail of greater opportunity of collaborating with neighbouring parishes has begun and we pray that this may deepen in the coming year.

As always, I warmly thank our priests, our deacons, our religious and lay women and men who are the backbone of every parish and our diocese.

May you all be blessed with the graces Christmas and a New Year bring.

Bishop Denis Nulty



## WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

**R.I.P.** Liz Mullen, (nee Savage), Rosses Point, Sligo and late of Church Street, Tullow who died recently.

### MASSES FOR SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER, 7.30 P.M.

Lar & Christopher Brophy, Nurney. James, Mary, Seam & Joe Brophy, Kilnock, Ballon. Mick & Maureen Brophy, Kilcoole. Tony & Nellie Maher, 20 Pairc Mhuire. John & Catherine Maher & family, 8 Pairc Mhuire. Delia & Joe Maher, 8 Pairc Mhuire. Chris & Eileen Maher, 67 Pairc Mhuire. Michael & Mary Elliot & family, Hacketstown. Peter McCann, Armagh. Hannah Nolan, Rathoe. Colum Doyle, 74 Pairc Mhuire. Paddy Rooney, Dublin Road. Catherine & Bill Maher & deceased family members, Rathlyon. May Fitzgerald, Crosslow. Katleen McEvoy, Ballymurphy. Dr. Pat & Veronica Alymer & Vera Longe, Carlow. Mary Kealy, Rathglass. Jim & Kathleen Maher, late of Pairc Mhuire. Mary McDonagh, Ballymurphy Road. Peter & Marie Smithers, Mill Street. Ellen & Tom Guinane, London. Myles & Eileen O'Keeffe, Hillbrook Estate and grandson Kevin Doran. Michael & Julia Murphy, 12 Pairc Mhuire. Seamus Tobin, Mill Street.

### MASSES FOR SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER, 11 A.M.

**MONTHS MIND:** Martin (Sam) Savage, Bishop Street.

Jim & Rita Savage, The Square. Tomás Orbinski, Bellwood Drive. Ger O'Brien, The Abbey. Mary O'Neill, 67 Dublin Road, son Ian, Dublin Road & Darren, Rathrush, Rathoe & daughter Geraldine Bolger (nee O'Neill) Dublin Road. Mr & Mrs Bolger, Kearnstown. Phil & Patty McCabe, Bunclody Road and formerly of Bridge Street.

### MASSES FOR SATURDAY 27TH DECEMBER, 7.30 P.M.

Kathleen O'Brien, Tullowland. Edward Farrell Senior, Pairc Mhuire. Pat Sutton, Rath. James (Jimmy) Smithers, St. Patrick's Park and also his parents Johnny & Josephine Smithers, Myshall. Patricia Brien, Hillbrook Estate. Christine Norris, 8 Courtview. Connie Dunne, late of Tintean Phadraig. Eamon Hogan, Ballymurphy. Richard & Anne Farrell, Leaney. Seamus Coady, Mill Street. Sylvia Coughlan, 8 Courtlawns.

**The Flower Committees** in Tullow, Grange and Ardattin would be very grateful for flowers, greenery or money towards decorating the Churches for Christmas. For Tullow Church we would appreciate if you could leave the flowers before the 22nd December please. We will be using Red and White flowers.



### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesdays 23rd 10am—6pm    Wednesday 24th 10am—3pm

### PARISH COLLECTIONS W/E 13th/14th December

Envelope Collection: €1,551. Basket Collection: €725. Many thanks.



### Christmas Community Carol Service

with Guest Singers from Cairdeas Centre Choir  
St. Columba's Church, Tullow this Sunday 21st at 7 p.m.

### Christmas Collection for The Clergy Fund

Please use your special envelope from your envelope box or from your seat in the church. Thank you sincerely for your support throughout the year.



### St. Stephen's Day Walk

in Bro. Leo Park from 11 am to 1 pm in aid of The Cairdeas Centre,  
Tullow. Teas & coffees provided by The Cairdeas Centre.

### PARISH ENVELOPES 2026

We would appreciate it if Distributors could collect their envelopes for distribution at the Parish Office. Thank you for your help.

### "Naomh Brid Gaelteacht Anios"

Irish Conversation Group in Teach Bhríde will resume on Tuesday 13th January.

Morgan's Medical Hall, The Square, Tullow  
will be open on Sunday 21st December from 11am - 3pm.