

PARISH LINK DECEMBER



In December we remember.....

7th St Parick's 10am: Kieran D'Arcy (A)
St Mochonog's 10am: Tony Prendergast (A)
St Mary's 11am: Una Mattimoe (RD)
14th St Mary's 11am: Bernard Byrne (2nd A)
21st St Parick's 10am: Maeve and Joseph Burton
St Mary's 11am: Peter Nolan (RD) Hogan Family (living Intention) Lil Callan (A)
28th St Mochonog's 10am: Thomas Sherlock (1st A). Patrick Cahill (2nd A) Owen Roche (A) Joseph Fisher (A)



Website <https://brayandenniskerry.com/>

Reminders.....

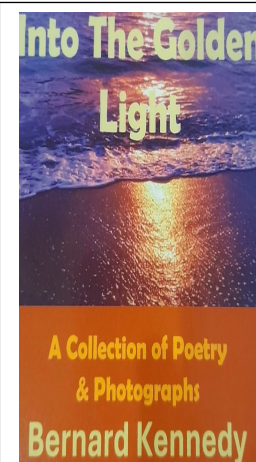
- VDP Collection next weekend
- Advent Scripture reflection continues every Thursday till the 18th December
- Exposition takes place every Friday morning after the 10.15 mass in St Mary's for 15 minutes till 11 am
- The Living Room will next take place on, Wednesday 4th of February in St Mary's at 11 am
- This month we celebrate St Francis Xavier 3rd, St John Damascene, 4th and St Lucy, 13th.

A Christmas Poetry Reading.

This will take place on **Saturday the 13th of December at 3pm in St. Mary's Church, Enniskerry.**

Fr Bernard will read from his recent poetry collection 'Into the Golden Light.' Musical interludes will be provided by David O'Doherty.

Join us for a little mulled wine, mince pies (or tea/coffee) Signed copies will be available for purchase on the day.
A special parish occasion not to be missed!



Coffee and Connect

Each month we will create a space, with St Patrick's Powerscourt, where we can share ideas and support each other around a particular topic. We will have a speaker to give a 15-minute input at each gathering and alternate the venues.

The first "Coffee and Connect" will take place at 11 am on Saturday 31st January in St Mary's Church and will focus on ADHD. Rónán Johnston, our first speaker, has a Masters in CBT from ICHAS, a BACS (hons) from DCU and a Diploma in Counselling and Psychotherapy. Rónán has a wide experience of working with adults and adolescents in the areas of stress, anxiety, depression, anger, OCD, online and cyber issues, couples therapy, adoption, grief and bereavement. He Knows his stuff!

Looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible for our new collaboration with St Patrick's and sharing coffee and ideas!



Advent -How the Gospels speak to us

Lectio Divina - what is it? It is the prayerful reading of scripture, taking time to absorb and understand the Word of God more deeply. It is a journey into the Word of God and helps us to see how it relates to our everyday lives and how God might be speaking to us personally. We are currently running a group for **Advent on Thursday evenings in St. Mary's Church from 7.30pm-8.30pm** where we read the upcoming Sunday scriptures together and gently explore what they might mean. We include a cup of tea or coffee, of course. If interested please contact Anna on 087-0956520



St Vincent de Paul

It is that time of year again when your local conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP) appeals to parishioners for their support in our annual Christmas Appeal. We do not have monthly collections and are very dependent on parishioner's support in this appeal. You can donate in any of the following ways:

By bank transfer to our account: IBAN: **IE17 BOFI 9010 3614 1342 53** BIC: BOFIE2D

At all Masses on the **7th of December - the 2nd Collection** will be for SVP

In the Blue Envelopes which will be available at all churches

Online using the **QR Code** which will be available on our posters in the churches and in premises in the village or using this link

<https://www.svp.ie/fundraiser/svp-enniskerry-annual-appeal-2025/>

We may also have a "Tap & Pay" facility at the churches this year.

Ciaran Ennis
Treasurer
SVP Enniskerry



CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY COMPETITION

18TH DECEMBER 2025

WEEKLY FUNDRAISER DRAW + BONUS NATIONAL COMPETITION



PARISH LOTTO CHRISTMAS DRAW

Thought for the month

"If you cannot do what you want to, then try to want to do what you can." -Saint Francis Xavier.

Scripture quote of the month

2 Corinthians 4:6 God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness, made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ



Kilmacanogue

HISTORY

Local historian, Built Heritage Consultant and Archaeologist, Rob Goodbody, a founding member of the Industrial Heritage Association of Ireland, will hold a presentation at the next Kilmacanogue History Society lecture at 8 pm on Monday December 1st. in Kilmacanogue Parish Hall (Eircode A98 YD98). This talk will focus on "The Stone Bridges of County Wicklow."

While we drive over these bridges almost daily, we often don't notice them. All with great character, contributing to the scenery of a river or railway- the Talk promises to be a real eye-opener!

Also we invite all our members to stay on for about 45 minutes after the Talk for our annual A.G.M.

Have Your Say about your Catholic School



For Attention of Parents of children attending Primary Schools or have yet to start The Department of Education is currently conducting a Primary School Survey that will determine the future provision of Primary Schools and crucially could lead to lasting changes in **your** school. In simple, direct terms, you are being asked if you want your school to stay a Catholic school or if you want that to change. Don't leave it to others, have your say before 16 December 2025 <https://www.gov.ie/en/departments-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey>

Advent 2025



The main themes are the traditional four: **Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love**, with some sources also highlighting related ideas like "**God with us in the wilderness**" or "**The will to dream**". These themes are applied to reflect on current events, find comfort and a call to action amidst uncertainty and hardship.

We warmly welcome anyone who is with us for the first time today

What is a church for?

Excerpt from the Homily of Archbishop Dermot Farrell
Friday, 14th November 2025

A church is not only a place, built of bricks and mortar to keep the rain and wind out, but is a place that is alive: "*like living stones, you yourselves are being built into a house in the Spirit,*" says the Second Reading [see 1 Peter 2:4-5].

This cathedral is not a museum or a monument, but a community of people.

Through our Baptism, every person is part of "God's building," as Paul calls the Christian community in First Corinthians (see 1 Cor 3:9). This place is a place of people, and a place *for* people, and particularly a place for the Christian community. The community that gathers here witnesses profoundly to a church that is changing, and that is changing rapidly and profoundly. **If we are honest, we must admit that much of this change is being forced upon us by a changing Ireland, and by a particular lack of vibrancy in the way we have come to live our faith.** As always, there are at least two sides! What is crucial is how we understand where we are, this crisis, as some might call it. It is possible to dismiss it, as if what we are living through were just another iteration of the trials and tribulations of the Church in every age, as if "the present crisis were primarily a matter of "ecclesiastical machinery and liturgical forms," to use the expression of one theologian, and failing to see that the ongoing crisis of the Church in the West, "is concerned with what the Church is in its depths, the encounter of God with humanity, in sin and in grace." (See J. M. Cameron, "Jesus and the Church." Pages 149–162 in Daniel Callahan (ed.), *God, Jesus, and Spirit* (Geoffrey Chapman, 1969); here 154–55.)

To the extent that this cathedral (church) is a place for people, it will be a place where the encounter of God and all God's children can happen, and be valued, celebrated, and proclaimed.

Archbishop Dermot Farrell

