

Dunleer Parish Bulletin

Rev. M. Murtagh P.P., Phone: 041-6851278, Mobile: 086 8795804
 Parish Website: www.dunleerparish.ie Email: gmmurtagh@eircom.net



Issue Date Dec 8th 2019

MASS INTENTIONS	
Dunleer	
Sat, 7 th -Dec-2019 @ 7.30 pm	
Av	Dec'd of Torris family Richard, Robert & Patrick Woods Brendan & Margaret Mc Evoy
Sun, 8 th -Dec-2019 @ 11.30 am	
BR Av	Bernadette Dowd Patsy Mc Mullan Lil & Tom Bellew
Mon, 9 th -Dec-2019 @ 10.00 am	
Av	Thomas & Michael Mc Kenna & family
Sat, 14 th -Dec-2019 @ 7.30 pm	
Av	Peter Carron & Caroline Carron Alice Mc Grane Cora & Tony Quinn & Alice & Joe Johnston
BR	Cameron Reilly
Sun, 15 th -Dec-2019 @ 11.30 am	
MM Av	Bartle Woods Dec'd of Mc Ardle family Peter & Loreto Landy

The essential characteristics of the Messiah are set out by Isaiah in the poem which forms our first reading. He is to be a descendant of Jesse, father of King David, the prototype of kingly behaviour. On him the spirit of the Lord will rest. He will be a person of wisdom and insight. He will have the wisdom which comes from fear of the Lord.

The Messiah will be a person of justice, judging not on gossip, hearsay or appearances. He will champion the poor and wretched of the earth and his words will condemn the ruthless and wicked. His lifestyle and ways will be those of integrity and faithfulness. He will also be a man of vision, a dreamer of things as they might be.

His vision is one of innocence, of peace within the natural world and an absence of violence. Knowledge of the ways of God will fill the land as the waters swell the sea. Justice and peace will be the touchstones of the new order. The psalm tells us of those closest to his heart, the weak, the needy and the poor.

The last of the prophets, John the Baptist, makes an appearance in the Gospel. He quotes the prophet Isaiah telling people of the need for preparation for the messiah. The preparation needed is that of repentance. He admonishes his people for being too sure of themselves. 'We have Abraham for our Father', they claimed as if that sufficed to redeem them. They lived off the spiritual capital of the past and of the fathers.

John admonishes them in symbolic terms too. He highlights their excesses by living a simple, even austere lifestyle. He lived in the wilderness being formed in the desert as had the exodus people of old. He washed away their sins in the waters of the Jordan and spoke of the fate of the tree which failed to produce fruit. The axe was to be laid to it: root and branch destroyed.

He spoke of the enormity of power and authority of the Messiah and the coming of the Holy Spirit. He spoke too of the judgement to come and the condemnation of the unrepentant.

What God wants to accomplish in the world he first accomplishes in one person. How might we fare if we were being judged on simplicity of lifestyle, on the peace and justice of our ways and words, and on our concern for the needy and poor. Preparation for the coming which brings judgement cannot be put off forever. Now is the favourable moment. The present is pregnant with possibility.

Trócaire Gift Cards available during Advent. See Parish/Trócaire Websites.

Irish Blood Transfusion Service – Scoil Uí Mhuirí Thursday 12th December from 5 pm – 8.30 pm.

LLR Xmas magazine in shops & Porches.

S.V.P. Church Gate Collection Dec 14/15th.

Dec 8th Immaculate Conception feast is not celebrated this year as the Sunday takes precedent.

Envelopes and calendars etc will go out in the coming weeks. Envelopes will be available at church porches. The Tax Rebate scheme took in 10K last year. Thanks to all who cooperated.

Pray For; Patricia (Patsy) Mc Donnell & Martin O Donoghue.

**Parish Collection
 01/12/2019 €1,885.00**