



PARISH OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS Email office: info@keadyparish.net Tel 02837531242. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 10.30am – 5pm. **OFFICE CLOSED TUESDAY**

Sunday 25th December 2022 Christmas

Parish Office Nuala McKenna Parish Administrator/Secretary (02837531242)
info@keadyparish.net

V Rev John McKeever PP, VF (02837531246)
john_mckeever@yahoo.com

Rev Deacon Martin Barlow
martin@thebarlows.biz (07765 405902)

CHURCH NOTICES FROM Monday 26th December – Sunday 1st January 2023

KEADY

Monday: 26th Dec No Mass

Tuesday: 27th Dec No Mass

Wednesday & Friday: Mass at 10am

Thursday No Mass

Saturday Vigil Mass at 6.30pm

Sunday Mass at 11.30 am

Confessions: Saturday 5.45-6.15pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

No Adoration on Monday. Adoration in the Upper Room on Friday only this week from 3-6pm.

DERRYNOOSE

Thursday 29th December NO Mass

Saturday 1st January 2023 NO Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: Adoration will be held only when Thursday Mass follows (which is every 2 weeks)

MADDEN

Thursday 29th December Mass at 7pm

Sunday 1st January 2023 Mass at 10am

Eucharistic Adoration: Adoration will be held only when Thursday Mass follows (which is every 2 weeks).

LATELY DECEASED

Brendan Fay, Clare Duffy nee McCooey, Castleblayney, formerly Keady,
Frank McGeown – London, formerly Granemore, Kelvin Dobbin, Ann Nugent,
Paddy Woods, Patrick McKenna, Michael Burke

MONTHS MEMORY

Patrick McKenna – Friday 30th December 10am in Keady

Michael Burke- Sunday 1st January at 11.30 in Keady

Paddy Woods - Sunday 1st January at 10am in Madden.

NEW YEAR MASSES

Keady

Saturday 31st Dec Mass at 6.30pm (vigil)

Sunday 1st January Mass at 11.30am

No Mass on 2nd, 3rd & 4th January

Derrynoose

Sunday 1st January No Mass

Thursday 5th January Mass at 7pm (Vigil Mass for Epiphany)

Madden

Sunday 1st January Mass at 10am

BAPTISM SCHEDULE: PLEASE NOTE NEW DATES

St Mochua's Derrynoose: Saturday 21st January at 3pm.

St Joseph's Madden: Saturday 18th February at 3pm

St Patrick's Keady: every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 12.30pm.

BAPTISM COURSE.—Our Baptism team have resumed the baptismal course.

The course will now be held in **The Upper Room above the sacristy at St. Patrick's Church Keady. The next course is on Wed 4th January 2023 at 7.30pm.** Parents of children who are due to be baptised are asked to attend. Contact Parish Office for further details.

ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY

We ask any local members to contact the parish office please.

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS HOURS

The office will be closed from Friday 23rd December 2022 and reopens on Wednesday 4th January at 10.30am.

Anniversaries should be left directly with the sacristans during this period to avoid an anniversary being missed.

In case of emergency please contact Fr McKeever 02837531246 or clergy of local pastoral area:

Ballymacnab Parochial House: 028 37531641

Middletown Parish 028 37568406

Armagh Parochial House: 028 37522802 / 07596899031 (emergency mobile only)

PARISH DRAW DECEMBER WINNERS

Congratulations to our December Winners!

1st Prize £1000 NO 552 P Muldoon , 2nd Prize £500 NO 526 R Kelly, 3rd

Prize £300 NO 206 D & Y Warner, 4th Prize £150 NO 459 S McGonnell,

Sellers £50 L McGuinness, £25 P Digby, £25 R Keenan.

Hamper winners No 442 P & A O'Neill, 296 M Gorman, 165 J & P

McSkeane, 053 A McNally, 488 H McElvanna, 647 B McKenna, 410 M

Cassidy, 378 K & M Feeney, 733 B McNamee.

Thank you for your continued support.

follow us on FACEBOOK

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

A four-year-old girl went with a group of family and friends to see the Christmas lights. At one Church, they stopped and got out to look more closely at a beautiful nativity scene. "Isn't that beautiful?" said the little girl's grandmother, "Look at all the animals, Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus." "Yes, Grandma," replied the granddaughter, "It is really nice. But there is only one thing that bothers me. Isn't Baby Jesus ever going to grow up...? He's the same size he was last year!" As we come to the end of yet another year in an era that seems as uncertain and unpredictable as ever, we may well wish that like the Baby Jesus, life could just stay the same at least for a while. Every year inevitably brings changes: some good like a new baby or a wedding, others painful like an illness or bereavement. However, the cost of living crisis and the war in Ukraine, following on so closely from Covid, have placed added burdens on many people both here and around the country. We can feel shaken or anxious and yearn for a time of stability and peace. Christmas invites us to turn yet again to the Lord Jesus with renewed faith and devotion, for he is the true Rock of our salvation, the centre of all history, the Saviour whose birth began the numbering of our calendar years. Although the world may change, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Heb 13:8). God promises us: "Though the world and all in it may rock, it is I who uphold its pillars" (Ps 74:3). We thank him for being able to worship him this Christmas and ask him to guide us toward all the Christmases yet to come.

The parish clergy and staff would like to express our thanks to everyone who has contributed their time and talents to looking after our three churches and to helping us by means of various ministries to continue the worship of God and his work of pastoral care and evangelisation in our parish. **Special thanks to the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate for their work here during the summer. Mother Maria Catherine would love to send the sisters back here in 2023. Pray that her plans will come to pass!** Thank you especially to the pastoral and finance councils, church cleaners, flower arrangers, the choirs and musicians, altar servers, ministers of the word and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, the counters and collectors, the parish draw sellers and Mass card promoters, and most of all to the many parishioners who support the parish through their prayers, good works and financial support. May the Lord bless you and your families and reward you with many graces now and in the coming year.



CLEA P.S. OPEN EVENING Thursday 12th January 2023 at 4.30-6.30pm

All welcome to view the school and newly refurbished facilities.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Keady £1672.87, Madden £649.28, Standing Orders £112, Paypal £27.80

Total £2461.95 Thank you for your support.

The Mass

Christmas Day, 25th December

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Stand

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us;
his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder,
and his name
will be called Messenger of great counsel.

PENITENTIAL ACT (3)

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so
prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Priest: You were sent to heal the contrite of
heart: *Lord, have mercy.*

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: You came to call sinners:
Christ, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Priest: You are seated at the right hand of
the Father to intercede for us:
Lord, have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 52:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah:

How beautiful on the mountains,
are the feet of one who brings good news,
who heralds peace, brings happiness,
proclaims salvation, and tells Zion,
"Your God is king!"

Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices,
they shout for joy together,
for they see the Lord face to face,
as he returns to Zion.

Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of
Jerusalem;

for the Lord is consoling his people,
redeeming Jerusalem.

The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth
shall see the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalms 97

[R] All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

[1] Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation.**[R]**

[2] The Lord has made known his salvation
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel.**[R]**

[3] All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy.**[R]**

[4] Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp
with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, the Lord.**[R]**

SECOND READING Hebrews 1:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews:

At various times in the past and in various
different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through
the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he
has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has
appointed to inherit everything and through whom
he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of
God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature,
sustaining the universe by his powerful command;
and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin,
he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right
hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the
angels as the title which he has inherited is higher
than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my
Son, today I have become your father; or: I will be a
father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he
brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all
the angels of God worship him.

The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Stand

Alleluia, alleluia!
A hallowed day has dawned upon us.
Come, you nations, worship the Lord,
For today a great light
has shone down upon the earth.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 1:1-18

[Shorter form: John:1: 1-5;9-14 <>]

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark:
People: Glory to you, O Lord.

«In the beginning was the Word: the Word was
with God and the Word was God. He was with God in
the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not
one thing had its being but through him. All that came
to be had life in him and that life was the light of men,
a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness
could not over power.»

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He
came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light,
so that every one might believe through him. He was
not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

«The Word was the true light that enlightens all
men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the
world that had its being through him, and the world
did not know him. He came to his own domain and his
own people did not accept him. But to all who did
accept him he gave power to become children of God,
to all who believe in the name of him who was born
not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of
man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he
lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is
his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and
truth.» John appears as his witness. He proclaims:

"This is the one of whom I said; He who comes after
me ranks before me because he existed before me."

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us,
received – yes, grace in return for grace, since,
though the Law was given through Moses, grace
and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one
has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest
to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY (Sit)

THE CREED (Stand)

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
(At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS (Stand)

◀◀ SIT ▶▶

PREFACE DIALOGUE (Stand)

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: And with your spirit.
Priest: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right and just.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. ...

◀◀ KNEEL ▶▶

THE MYSTERY OF FAITH (3)

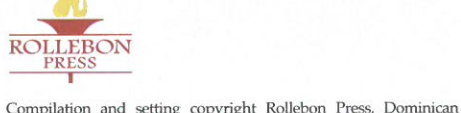
Priest: The Mystery of Faith.
People: Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and resurrection,
you have set us free.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

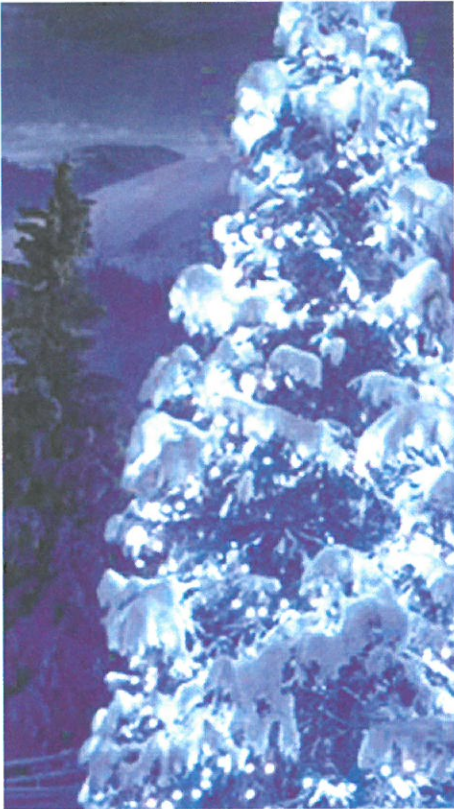
Priest: Behold the Lamb ...
People: Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.



Compilation and setting copyright Rollebon Press, Dominican
Priory, Tallaght, Dublin 24 [Tel (01) 404 8100 or 087-2841341]; Excerpts
from the English translation of the Roman Missal © 2010,
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All
rights reserved. Readings from the Jerusalem Bible published and
copyright 1966,1967 & 1968 by Darton Longman & Todd Ltd and
Doubleday & Co Inc, 245 Park Avenue, New York 10017. Psalms ©
1963 The Grail, England. Some graphics copyright 123RF.com.
Printed in Ireland. Issued "Cum Permissu Superiorum" by Rollebon
Press, Dominican Priory, Tallaght Village, Dublin 24; Tel: (+353-1) 404
8100 or (+353) 087 284 1341; Fax:(+353-1) 404 8192; email:
rollebonpress@eircom.net Nihil Obstat: John Harris OP; Printed in
Ireland; Christmas Day Mass; 25th December. .



Series: The Seasons; Christmas Day; 25th December

There are so many truths to ponder about the birth of Christ,
so let's start with just one. Who exactly does Mary hold in her
arms in Bethlehem? The manner in which we answer this is
what makes us Christian; it is what shapes the way we live
our lives.

Have you heard the song "Mary did you know"? It is a
beautiful meditation that helps us identity the baby Jesus:
-0-

*"Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This child that you've delivered, will soon deliver you.
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will calm the storm with his hand?
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?
When you kiss your little baby, you kiss the face of God."*
-0-

The last line comes with a punch. The deepest identity of this little
baby is that he is the Son of God. He is truly God. Mary kisses God.

Summary

*We are called to look into his
innocent eyes, whose gaze has
the power to transform and
soften our hearts in love.
God became one of us so that we
would not be afraid to draw
near to him.*

Question

*Who exactly does Mary hold in
her arms in Bethlehem?*

Prayer

*Lord Jesus, may I not be afraid of
letting you come close to me.*

The Invisible Becomes Visible.

Something extraordinary happened that first Christmas: the
invisible God became visible to human eyes, had a human
face and was audible with a human voice. Jesus is truly God,
but also truly human. In his face we see divine love made
visible. We look into the innocent eyes of one whose gaze has
the power to transform our hearts in love.

Small, So We Can Draw Near

There was once a man who found it very difficult to grasp the
Incarnation – why would God become human? One day he
finally got it. When he saw a bird trapped in a fence, he went
over to free it; but the bird panicked when he came too close;
the bird was so afraid of him and his size. After withdrawing
some distance the man observed other birds coming with food
for the trapped bird, and this time the bird remained calm.

One of Us

It then dawned on him that God became one of us so that we
would not be too afraid to draw near to him. Because God
has become one of us, we can open our hearts more easily for
him to love us. Had God come, without his power being
veiled by the humanity of Christ, our sinfulness would

frighten us away from him.
However, the Good News is that
God loves us so much that he
humbled himself in a little baby,
and so could raise us up. ■