

# SACRED HEART CHURCH ROSCOMMON

PARISH NEWSLETTER

9th January 2022

## BAPTISM OF THE LORD



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### OUR NEW YEAR BACK UP

As a result of Covid restrictions, the first baptism of 2021 in the Sacred Heart Church, didn't take place, believe it or not, until Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

Between then and the end of the year, 52 children in total were baptised. In the midst of the despondency of the pandemic, the resumption of baptisms was certainly a cause of great joy and promise for our parish and indeed the parents of the newly baptised.

One must ask, however, what is our hope for these children as they are welcomed into our church and introduced to Christ? A clue to the answer to this question is found perhaps in the Scripture for this Sunday's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

It seems that the sacrament ought to give to these children, as they face the journey of life not just hope but also courage. The prophet Isaiah urges us to stand on a mountain and 'Shout without fear: Here is your God' - A task not entirely that easy as we deal with various kinds of stresses and hostilities of every day life and are bombarded with many difficulties even now as we have just started this New Year of 2022.

What's important to remember also is that what gives us confidence isn't our own achievements, strengths and successes but rather the strength of Christ who is at our back, as he was for John the Baptist who openly exclaimed that the Messiah was coming after him.

It reminds of an incident during my first stint in Roscommon when I woke up in the middle of the night to the blaring of an intruder alarm. However, once I saw the Garda car outside and an officer approach the door I had no fear of venturing downstairs as I knew back up was at hand.

Despite our meagre resources, we should have no fear in life, as Christ is there as our back up.

As we celebrate the baptisms that have taken place over the past 12 months we also draw courage from our own baptism, however long ago that was, and how Christ was poured into our hearts to face a world, not unlike that of Christ's, where hostility and opposition can sometimes abound.

FR. KEVIN

**Mass Intentions for the coming week:**

MONDAY	11 am	Eithne & Denis Doran
TUESDAY	11 am	Morning Mass
WEDNESDAY	11 am	Caroline Noone
THURSDAY	11 am	Morning Mass
FRIDAY	11 am	Dan & Una Doolan, Ann Birmingham, Maureen O' Keeffe & deceased members of the Doolan & Morris families
SATURDAY	10 am	Pauline & Tom Mullen
	7 pm	Vigil Mass
SUNDAY	9 am	Morning Mass
	11:30 am	Morning Mass



We also remember Michael, Ellie & Tom Mongan & deceased family members whose anniversaries occur around this time.



**RECENT DEATHS:** Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of -

**Billy McKeogh**, Ballymurray, Roscommon & formerly of Carrowroe.

**Gabriel Finn**, Riverside Avenue, Roscommon.

We offer sincere sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to their bereaved families and friends.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES-THANK YOU**

*Sincere thanks to all parishioners for their recent support and cooperation as we again arranged Christmas Masses using a ticket system. We estimate that 1800 people were facilitated to attend over the two days.*

*Thank you also to all who dropped in their Christmas and parish envelopes over the Christmas period. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please keep safe and well and every blessing for 2022.*



**PLEASE NOTE :**

There will be no 8 am Mass until Tuesday 1st February 2022.

**Altar Society** - Week starting Monday 10th January - Group 5.

The Altar Society wish to express sincere thank you to all who made donations/ poinsettias at Christmas.

**BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL** - Adorers for the following hours are

urgently required: **Sunday:** 2pm - 3pm, 4pm - 5pm. **Monday:** 2pm - 3pm. **Tuesday:** 1pm - 2pm, 4pm - 5pm.

**Wednesday:** 1pm - 2pm, 2pm - 5pm. **Thursday:** 4pm - 5pm, 5pm - 6pm. **Saturday:** 11am - 12noon, 2pm - 3pm.

Thank you for your support. If you can help out with any of the above hours, please contact Mae McBrien 086 8622354 or Tom Beirne 086 3861954.

**Sunday's Offertory Collection:** €1,740.00

Thank You