



<p>Sunday 05 January Killeen 10.00 a.m. Mike McNamara, 3rd anniversary and deceased of the McNamara & Keane families. Michael and Elizabeth Sammin, Cross. Eileen and William Ferrins.</p>
<p>Sunday 05 January Louisburgh 11.30 a.m. Nora and Peter Foye & deceased of the Foye family. Peter O Grady, Glen Keen, 10th anniversary. Robert Powers, U.S.A., 9th anniversary. Fr. Eugene Duffy. Patricia Anne Hartley (Pray for healing)</p>

<p>Sunday 12 January Killeen 10.00 a.m.</p>
<p>Sunday 12 January Louisburgh 11.30 a.m. Anna Kilcoyne. John and Mollie Gallagher. Joe maxwell. Thomas Kilcoyne, Cregganacopple, 55th anniversary, his wife, Annie, son, Michael, daughter, Anne and deceased of the Kilcoyne family.</p>

Feast of the Epiphany			
Monday	06 January	Killeen	10.00 a.m.
		Louisburgh	11.30 a.m.
Tuesday	07 January		10.00 a.m.
Wednesday	08 January		No Mass
Thursday	09 January		10.00 a.m.
Friday	10 January		10.00 a.m.

<p>Liturgical Ministries Killeen: January 12 Eucharistic: Michael Joe O Malley Reader : Eileen O Malley</p>
<p>Liturgical Ministries Louisburgh: January 12 Eucharistic : Mary B Durkan, John Joe Gibbons Reader : Chris Cruise Fields</p>

R.I.P. Pray for Fr. Michael Coyne, formerly of Ailemore, who died in New Jersey recently.

St. Vincent de Paul:

For assistance, please contact 087 921 0885 in confidence.

Adoration in Killeen Church Monday evenings, 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

Sick calls: If anyone would like fr. Nelson to attend the sick at their home, phone the parish office on 098 66198.

Priest's Christmas Collection is taken up at this time. The weekly collection is used exclusively for the upkeep of parish property and the running expenses of the parish. Cheques for this collection should be made out to 'Louisburgh Priests Acc. Thanks to all who contribute so generously to all church collections throughout the year.

06 January – Feast of the Epiphany

There are twelve days of Christmas and they begin on Christmas Day and end on 06 January. The twelve days of Christmas end with the Feast of Epiphany also called "The Adoration of the Magi" or "The Manifestation of God." It is known as the day of the Three Kings (or wise men/magi)

According to an old legend based on a Bible story, these three kings saw, on the night when Christ was born, a bright star, followed it to Bethlehem and found there the Christ child and presented him with gold, frankincense and myrrh. Christmas is intertwined with Epiphany.

In some records Christmas and Epiphany were referred to as the first and second nativity; the second being Christ's being made known to the world.

Newsletter notices: Anniversary Masses and notices for the newsletter must be sent in no later than Thursday Morning.

The Louisburgh community will be celebrating its recent success in winning **"Pride of Place 2024"** on 6.30 p.m. Saturday 11 January 2025, in Louisburgh Town Hall. Everyone please come along, it will include refreshments and entertainment.

Pope Francis invites everyone to be pilgrims of hope for humanity in 2025

Jubilee 2025 began in the church on the theme conferred by Pope Francis: 'Pilgrims of Hope'/'*Spes non Confundit – Hope Does Not Disappoint*', (Romans 5:5). Each Jubilee at its core commemorates and celebrates the great event of the birth of Jesus Christ, and the 2025 theme of hope encourages each of us to be a messenger of hope in our very troubled world. Everyone is invited to participate in this special year of faith through prayer, by supporting liturgies and events locally in dioceses, and/or in Rome for the global celebrations.

The concept of Jubilee has deep roots in our biblical tradition. It is a time of giving thanks for the providence of the Lord and the fruits of the harvest. Jubilee is a time of celebration, a time of singing, sounding of trumpets, an expression of praise to God. It is a time of looking back in gratitude and anticipation of more from a God who is close to us and provides through all seasons. Jubilee is associated with rest, relaxation, reviving the spirit, a period of taking stock and planning ahead with renewed resources, rejuvenated by that celebratory time of sabbatical. It is a special time to avail of what the Church calls a plenary indulgence, an assurance of grace or favour from the Lord in response to that faith assent.

So why will Jubilee 2025 be the most significant for humanity of all of the jubilee years held to date?

We'll look at the world around us at this time, at home and abroad. Jubilee is a time associated with mercy and forgiveness. It is a time of amnesty, forgetting past wrongs, wiping the slate clean, giving those in debt a second chance, a time to start afresh. So many of our neighbours deserve such mercy in 2025.

Jubilee is also a time of pilgrimage. As 'pilgrims of hope' we embark on ritual and real journeys to sacred places in search of that hope that we long for. For Jubilee Year 2025, each diocese in Ireland will nominate a local pilgrimage site, and the bishops of Ireland have designated the following three as national pilgrimage sites: Our Lady's Shrine, Knock, Co Mayo; Croagh Patrick, Co Mayo; and, Saint Patrick's Purgatory, Lough Derg, Co Donegal.

In the last few weeks Pope Francis has published a book on the theme pilgrims of hope called *Hope is A Light in The Night*, wherein he states that hope is both a gift from God and a task that must be cultivated by all Christians.

Jubilee 2025 will be a time of transition. This movement from old to new is captured symbolically with the ritual of opening of 'Holy Doors'. Holy doors are liminal spaces in sacred spaces, Cathedrals, Basilicas, places of Pilgrimage. In continuity with that great tradition, Pope Francis opened the Holy Door in Saint Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve, and every diocese in Ireland and around the world is encouraged to launch their own Jubilee of Hope this Sunday, 29 December, inaugurating the great year of Hope.

The purpose of Jubilee Year 2025 is to allow pilgrims to share our faith as well as opportunities for reconciliation, indulgences, prayer, and reception of the sacraments. All of these activities will strengthen our personal relationship with Jesus Christ and enrich our faith journey.

The Journey of the Magi



A cold coming we had of it,
Just the worst time of the year
For a journey, and such a long journey:
The ways deep and the weather sharp,
The very dead of winter.
And the camels galled, sore-footed, refractory,
Lying down in the melting snow.
There were times we regretted
The summer palaces on slopes, the terraces,
And the silken girls bringing sherbet.
Then the camel men cursing and grumbling
And running away, and wanting their liquor and
women,
And the night-fires going out, and the lack of shelters,
And the cities hostile and the towns unfriendly
And the villages dirty, and charging high prices.
A hard time we had of it.
At the end we preferred to travel all night,
Sleeping in snatches,
With the voices singing in our ears, saying
That this was all folly.

Then at dawn we came down to a temperate valley,
Wet, below the snow line, smelling of vegetation;
With a running stream and a water-mill beating the
darkness,
And three trees on the low sky,
And an old white horse galloped away in the
meadow.

Then we came to a tavern with vine-leaves over the
lintel,
Six hands at an open door dicing for pieces of silver,
And feet kicking the empty wine-skins.
But there was no information, and so we continued
And arrived at evening, not a moment too soon
Finding the place; it was (you may say) satisfactory.

All this was a long time ago, I remember,
And I would do it again, but set down
This set down
This: were we lead all that way for
Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly,
We had evidence and no doubt. I have seen birth and
death,
But had thought they were different; this Birth was
Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.
We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,
But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,
With an alien people clutching their gods.
I should be glad of another death.

T.S. Eliot

**Wishing you every blessing
and
a very Happy New Year**