

Parish of St. Ultan

BOHERMEEN
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
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CORTOWN
Fr. Andy Doyle. P.P.

BOYERSTOWN
5th DECEMBER 2021
www.bohermeenparish.ie
Mon-Fri 9.30-1.00

'We are called to be a welcoming caring faith community who bring people to Jesus who sends us out with Good News for all'.

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**Today's Gospel –by Fr. Silvester O'Flynn. OFM. Cap. The Irish Catholic**

Advent is the season of hope in the middle of winter. The Church here is experiencing winter in many ways: very few priests under the age of 70 and there are very few seminarians studying for the priesthood. How many young people are coming to Mass? Society has huge problems relating to drugs, breakup of marriage and virtually every night the news tells of another murder. The restrictions, anxieties and financial problems due to the prolongation of the Corona virus have plunged many people into a dark place.

**The turn of the tide** Having grown up beside the sea I am aware that the tide has to go out fully before it starts to come back in. How long do we have to wait for the turn of the tide? When will it happen that people will realise that we need something more in life...some sort of belief, some sturdy code of morality, some basis for hope? We are in a right mess, a wilderness. I draw hope from the line in today's Gospel that the Word of God came to John the Baptist in the wilderness. It wasn't in Rome, the political centre, or in Jerusalem, the religious capital, but in the wilderness.

**Great saints** Church history shows that the lowest times produced the greatest saints and reformers. Back in the 12th Century people like Saints Dominic and Francis returned to a simple style of living according to the Gospel. Without planning to be reformers, they hit the right button and thousands followed them. Somebody said that nothing can stop an idea that has reached its time. Similarly, in the mess of a very political Church in the 16th Century, all of a sudden there emerged an extraordinary bevy of saints and reformers like Ignatius of Loyola, Francis de Sales, Philip Neri, Charles Borromeo, Jane Frances de Chantal and many more, too many to mention. The wilderness of the time was quickly transformed into a wonderful garden of humble administrators, enthusiastic missionaries, founders of hospitals, preachers, spiritual writers.

**What can I do?** As we wait in hope and expectancy for the turning of the tide at the reform of the Church and society, we can apply to ourselves the imagery of the road of return. I may have paths to straighten where I have been devious and deceptive, or less than totally honest. The valleys to be filled in are the areas where I have neglected prayer. I may have allowed my mind to be taken over by misleading thoughts and allowed the flame of faith to be reduced to dying embers. The mountains to be laid low are the obstacles which I imagine to be insurmountable because I have forgotten to trust in God. The hills to be levelled are those areas of pride and superiority when I looked down on others and judged them in an unfavourable light. The rough ways to be made smooth are the jagged edges of my personality which irritate others or make me rub them up the wrong way – my insensitivities, my lack of generosity, being unwilling to compromise, my dominance of others in subtle ways. All God wants of you in Advent is that you would prepare the way for the coming of the Saviour, the bringer of life, light and love.

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Finances - Thank You-We wish to acknowledge and thank all those who have sent in their Offerings and weekly envelopes and all those who pay by standing order. This really helps our finances. Thank you for your help. It is greatly appreciated.

Offerings can be made by;

- leaving your weekly envelopes into the Parish Office.
- go online and do a weekly/monthly direct debit to

Bank of Ireland, Navan, IBAN IE04 BOFI 903509 8059 7424 BIC BOFIE2D (please include your box no.)

Building Fund €334.50 Priests Offerings €60.00

Offertory Collections: Bohermeen - €449.60 Cortown - €132.29 Boyerstown – €125.21

PLEASE PLACE ALL ENVELOPES INTO THE BOXES AT THE ENTRANCES.

Tap to Donate- We have a new Tap to Donate facility in Bohermeen Church. It is an easy, secure and confidential way to donate to our parish finances. The limit is set at €5.00.

Mass Intentions 4th – 12th December 2021

Bohermeen Church

Mass every weekday morning at **9.30am** - (Funeral replaces daily Mass)

Sat. 4th December – Boyerstown at 6.00pm- for the people of the parish
Bohermeen at 7.15pm – for the people of the parish

Sun. 5th December – Cortown at 10.00am – MM-Mary (May) McNamee
Bohermeen at 11.30am – Joe, Mary, Michael & Noel Vahey-Ann. Mass

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Boyerstown Tues. 7th at 7.30pm-Vigil Mass
Cortown Wed. 8th at 10.00am
Bohermeen Wed. 8th at 11.30am

Sat. 11th December – Cortown at 6.00pm-MM-Kathleen Henry
Bohermeen at 7.15pm-Liam Clogher-2nd Anniversary

Sun. 12th December –Boyerstown at 10.00am –Tommy Rogers-8th Anniversary
Bohermeen at 11.30am – Paddy Flanagan-1st Anniversary

Ministers of the Word: Dec. 4th – Helen Mallon Dec. 5th Rachel McCormack
Dec. 11th –DTiM Parent Dec. 12th DTiM parent

Eucharistic Ministers: Sat. 4th Dec. Margaret Farrell & Carmel McQuaid
Sun. 5th Dec. Dorothy Rennicks & Sheila Kenny

Pray for Margaret Quinn (nee Dolan) Bellinter (formely of Bohermeen), Richard Lynn, Bohermeen, Emily Condren, Allenstown and Kathleen (Kate) Walsh (nee Farnan) England (late of Moyaugh and sister of Johnny Farnan) who died during the week. May they rest in peace.

St Ultan's Historical Society historical calendars are now on sale in local shops and from members, this year there is a limited print run. The calendars are €7 each.

St. Vincent de Paul will hold their annual Church gate collection this weekend at all Masses. Your donations as always are greatly appreciated. Anyone in need of assistance for the Christmas period please contact the St. Vincent de Paul helpline – 1800 677 777.

Boyerstown Parents Council Clothes Collection will take place on Tuesday 7th December between 8.30-9.30am in Boyerstown Hall. Ladies, Gents, Children's clothes, paired shoes, handbags, curtains and bed linen. Must be clean and in bin bags. Enquiries to 087 216 3710.

St. Ciaran's Community School are holding a Charity fundraising Christmas Craft Market in the school this Sunday, 5th December, from 11 – 5pm in aid of SVDP/Kells Meals on Wheels. Lots of stalls and Santa arriving at 2 p.m.

'The Word' book/gift shop - Kells Parish Opening times: Wed - Fri 10.30am - 1pm. Sat 11.30am - 3.30pm
The shop is staffed by volunteers and has a wide range of stock which we hope will be of interest and relevance.

An Advent prayer

O God of life, come to winter's branches where our lives bear no fruit, where our efforts have failed, where our hope has faltered and the sap of energy has dried up. We are poor and we need a Saviour. Come, Lord Jesus, come. O God of light, come our dark areas where we have been taken over by fears, anxiety and untamed powers of temptation. We are poor and we need a Saviour. Come, Lord Jesus, come. O God of love, desiring to dwell in our hearts, come and heal the unredeemed areas where we block your love, areas of jealousy, lust, impatience, pride, anger and bitterness. We are poor and we need a Saviour. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

