

# Parish of St. Ultan

BOHERMEEN –CORTOWN- BOYERSTOWN

Fr. Andy Doyle. P.P.

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

25<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022

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www.bohermeenparish.ie

Office Tel: 046 907 3805. 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'.**

## ALPHA



**Special Invitation – Come & See**

**Online on Zoom starting 7.30 pm**

**Tuesday 10 January 2023**

**Who is Alpha for?** Around the world, over 40 million people have already participated in an Alpha programme. At any Alpha meeting there will be a fusion of people from every background, some with faith and some with none. They are curious and want to know more about life.

**What is Alpha?** We start off with an intriguing thought provoking video. It will take you on a little adventure to meet some fascinating people. You will hear what Bono, various gangland figures, Pope Francis' personal preacher, a multitude of interesting people have to say about life.

This will then lead into small group discussion, to explore some of the topics raised. There is an opportunity to talk in comfort and safety about some of life's big issues.....things that would not ordinarily be discussed in the pub, at work, at mass or around the dinner table.

**What do I need to do?** Simply email your interest in attending to [bohermeenparish1@gmail.com](mailto:bohermeenparish1@gmail.com)

**CHRISTMAS DAY** is an offering day. Please use the white envelope in your box of envelopes.

**Fr. Andy** calls to the sick and housebound on the first Friday of the month. If you have a relative or know of anyone who would like him to call to them, please contact the parish office on 046 907 3805.

**THE REASON FOR THE SEASON IS JESUS** by Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap.-The Irish Catholic

Have we forgotten why we celebrate Christmas? A friend told me she got a card wishing her a very merry winter festival? Could you beat that! People tell me they have to search in shops for cards that portray the Nativity but there is no shortage of snowy fir trees, red robins, reindeers and Santas. What are the so-called Christmas stamps celebrating? Do we have to be so politically correct that we cannot publicly celebrate our Christian heritage?

A few years ago, the renowned soprano Celine Byrne was asked on Lyric FM's Marty in the Morning why did Christmas mean so much to her. Her answer was marvellous. **"The reason for the season is Jesus."**



The popularisation of the Christmas crib is attributed to St Francis of Assisi. This Jesus invites us to come to him with our problems and broken parts. Come to me with whatever needs to be fixed in your life. Come to me with your burdens and heavy loads – and I will give you rest. Come with your darkness, questions and difficulties of faith – *I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not be walking in the darkness but will have the light of life.*

Bring me your questions – your inner needs and search for meaning – *I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, whoever believes in me will never thirst.* Come to me when you are feeling lost, aimless, searching for direction – *I am the Good Shepherd who will guide you along the right path.* Come when you are lonely or deserted– *I shall not call you servants any more – I call you friends.* Come when you feel crushed, wronged, angry or agitated – *Peace I leave you, my peace I give you.* Come when you feel guilty or hopeless – *I am the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.* Come when you are sad or suffering a bereavement – *I am the resurrection and the life...I am going now to prepare a place for you.*

Today a Saviour has been born for you – his name is Jesus whose name means one who saves.

**Saviour** We are celebrating the coming of the Saviour, the one who can fill the empty space in the heart, who can fix whatever is broken.

**Seeing your life through the lens of the Gospel.** In Jesus we get a glimpse of God and of the love of God. But as 'Jesus people' in the world today we also are called to be witnesses to the light.

**Mass Intentions** Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. to Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2023

**Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. Christmas Eve**

Cortown at 5.00pm  
-for the people of the parish

Boyerstown at 6.30pm  
-James & John O'Brien-Ann. Mass

Bohermeen at 6.30pm  
-Seamus & Josie Kavanagh-Ann. Mass

**Sun. 25<sup>th</sup> Dec. Christmas Day**

Boyerstown at 10.00am  
-Patrick & Elizabeth Smyth-Ann. Mass

Cortown at 10.00am  
-for the people of the parish

Bohermeen at 11.30am  
-Angela, Pat & Deirdre Travers-Ann. Mass

**Mon. 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. St. Stephen's Day**

Bohermeen at 10.00am  
-St. Joseph's Young Priests

**Tues. 27<sup>th</sup> to Fri. 30<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

Bohermeen at 10.00am

**Sat. 31<sup>st</sup> Dec.**

Boyerstown at 6.00pm  
-John Rogers-15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Bohermeen at 7.15pm  
-for the people of the parish

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023**

Cortown at 10.00am  
-for the people of the parish

Bohermeen at 11.30am  
-Noel Dolan-1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

**Mon. 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan. 2023**

Bohermeen at 10.00am

**Ministers of the Word:**

Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> Dec: Dympna Herward

Sun. 25<sup>th</sup> Dec & 1<sup>st</sup> Jan: Ann Ryan

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec: Joe Murtagh & Cathal O'Reilly

Sun. 25<sup>th</sup> Dec: Julie Yore & Sheila Kenny

Sat. 31<sup>st</sup> Dec: Tracy Mulvany-Cahill

Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023: Joe Murtagh & Cathal O'Reilly

**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. It is greatly appreciated. Offerings can be made by;

- leaving your weekly envelopes into the envelope boxes in the Churches or 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 €513.00 Priests Offerings €0.00**

**Offertory Collections: Bohermeen – €355.00**

**Cortown –€131.00 Boyerstown – €121.00**

**Thank you to all who contribute, collect and count.**

**Confirmation Ceremony**

will take place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023 at 12 noon in Bohermeen Church.

**Thought for the day**

Children – adults too! – often love to add to the nativity scene other figures that have no apparent connection with the Gospel accounts. Yet, each in its own way, these fanciful additions show that in the new world inaugurated by Jesus there is room for whatever is truly human and for all God's creatures. From the shepherd to the blacksmith, from the baker to the musicians, from the women carrying jugs of water to the children at play: all this speaks of the everyday holiness, the joy of doing ordinary things in an extraordinary way, born whenever Jesus shares his divine life with us.

*Pope Francis, 'Admirabile Signum: The Meaning and Importance of the Nativity Scene'*

**Meath Holy Wells Project**

A survey of Meath's Holy wells has been commissioned through the Heritage Office. It is being delivered by Archaeology Plan on behalf of Meath County Council and will draw upon documentary sources, local knowledge, folk tradition, material heritage and landscape evidence to document Holy Wells in the county. It is an initiative on behalf of Meath County Heritage Forum and is an action of the County Meath Heritage Plan. People are encouraged to get in touch with the organisers to share some of the traditions, folklore and stories associated with Holy Wells in their locality. Email [meathhw@archaeologyplan.com](mailto:meathhw@archaeologyplan.com)

*Wishing all our parishioners a very Happy and Blessed Christmas.*

