

**Sunday 18th December 2016**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Cycle A Week 4 Newsletter Issue No. 964

The Parish Carol Service, with the Folk Group and choirs from Manor House & De La Salle Schools, will take place on **Sunday 18th December** at 7p.m. in the Church. All are welcome.

**St. Joseph's Young Priests Society**

Next meeting will take place on **Monday 19th December** at 2:30p.m. in the Old Baptistry.

We welcome **Hugo Zeng, Annabelle Zeng, Roisín Taaffe & Kyle Brophy** who were baptised recently into our Christian community. We also remember their parents and godparents at this special time.



The next **Baptism Preparation Meeting** will be held at 8p.m. on Tuesday 10th January in the Church to prepare for Baptisms taking place on Sunday 15th January 2017.

**Christmas Masses in our Parish**

**Christmas Eve ~ Saturday 24th December:**

**6p.m.** Children's Mass

**9p.m.** Mass with Adult Choir

**Christmas Day ~ Sunday 25th December:**

**8:30a.m.**

**10a.m.**

**11:30a.m.** Mass with Folk Group

**Sacrament of Reconciliation in our Parish**  
**Monday 19th December:**

**7:30p.m.** Penitential Service

**Saturday 24th December:**

**10:30 to 11a.m.** Confessions

**12:00p.m.** Reconciliation Service



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**When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him... (Mt 1:24)**

Joseph is the central character in today's Gospel. Through his quiet heroics, unselfish spirit and generous and fearless action, Jesus came to be born. Joseph's action means Emmanuel: God-is-with-us. Throughout Advent we've sung 'Come, O Christ, our Lord.' We've exclaimed: 'Stir up your power O Lord and come to save us. Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.' But if Christ is to be born for us we must look beyond the melting candles of the Advent wreath and see deeper than the clay moulded figures of the crib. We have to seek the face of our new-born Saviour in the melting hearts of troubled and discontented people, in the brittle bodies of the sick and the poor and fickle light of innocent children needing our guidance and care. We must become the central actors in the Christian drama of life. The name Joseph in Hebrew means 'let him add'. We too can add to the saving plan of God. As Pope Benedict put it: 'Do not be afraid of Christ! He takes nothing away, and he gives you everything. When we give ourselves to him, we receive a hundredfold in return.'

*Fr. Iomar Daniels, Loughrea, Co Galway*

**Mass Intentions for this week**

<b>Sat:</b>	<b>6.00p.m.</b>	Peter Daly (M. Mind) Rose Dardis (Anniv.) Gerard Hanafin (Anniv.)
<b>Sun:</b>	<b>8.30a.m.</b>	Marcella Baldwin (Anniv.)
	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	John & Martin Heneghan (Anniv.) Nellie Curran (Anniv.) Sinéad Montague (Anniv.)
	<b>11.30a.m.</b>	Jim Dooley (1st Anniv.) Eddie Fagan (Anniv.) John & Michael Matthews (Anniv.) Lily Gallagher (Anniv.) Evelyn O'Sullivan (Anniv.) Anne Dunne (Anniv.)
<b>Mon:</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	Requiem Mass ~ John Davis
<b>Tues:</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	Andy Moran (R. I. P.)
<b>Wed:</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	Patrick & Julie Egan & Kate Cronin (Anniv.) Paddy Atkins (R.I.P.)
<b>Thurs:</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	James & Josephine McNeill (Anniv.)
<b>Fri:</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	Paul Martin (Rec. Dec'd)

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of **Catherine Ryan** and **Lorcán MacCumhaill** whose funerals took place in our parish church this week. We also remember **John Davis**, whose funeral Mass will be on Monday next at 10a.m. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

**Next Sunday's Readings (The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ):** Is 52:7-10. Ps 97:1-6, R/ v 3. Heb 1:1-6. Jn 1-18.