

Dunhill & Fenor Parish Notes, 19th December 2010 www.dunhillandfenorparish.ie

☒ Sunday, December 19th <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	Fenor Church at 9.30 a.m. Dunhill Church at 11.00 a.m.
Monday, December 20th	Dunhill Church at 10.00 a.m.
Tuesday, December 21st <i>Reconciliation Service (Confession)</i>	Fenor Church at 10.00 a.m. <i>Dunhill Church at 7.30 p.m.</i>
Wednesday, December 22nd <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	Dunhill Church at 10.00 a.m. <i>Dunhill Church from after 10.00 a.m. Mass until <u>12.00 noon</u></i>
Thursday, December 23rd	Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 10.00 a.m.
Friday, December 24th <i>Christmas Eve</i>	<i>No formal adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Fenor today</i> Fenor Church at 8.00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass Dunhill Church at 12 midnight Christmas Midnight Mass
☒ Christmas Day <i>Merry Christmas everybody!</i>	Fenor Church at 9.30 a.m. Christmas Dawn Mass Dunhill Church at 11.00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass
☒ Sunday, December 26th <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</i>	Fenor Church at 9.30 a.m. Dunhill Church at 11.00 a.m.

- The **Annual Civic Carol Service** will take place today (Sunday) at 4.00 p.m. in Christ Church (Church of Ireland) Cathedral, Waterford. Many thanks to Dean Trevor Lester for the open invitation to each of us to participate in that very popular service of carols and readings.
- The **Annual Christmas Collection** for the support of the Bishop and the Priests will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Day. Please give as generously as you can. We offer our sincere thanks to the volunteers who prepare and distribute envelopes to all the homes in the parish. We deeply appreciate your commitment and service.
- There will be **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** in Dunhill Church on Wednesday from after 10.00 a.m. Mass until 12.00 noon but we **will not** have formal Adoration in Fenor on Christmas Eve.
- **Reconciliation Services for Christmas** will be celebrated in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, this Monday (Dec. 20th) at 7.30 p.m. and in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Dunhill, on Tuesday (Dec. 21st) at 7.30 p.m. Please try to join us for this celebration of Christ's love and forgiveness.
- An evening of **Prayer & Reflection for Christmas** will take place this Wednesday, December 22nd, from 7.30 to 8.30p.m. in St. John's Pastoral Centre, Waterford. Facilitated by Ann O'Farrell & Sr Antoinette Dilworth it will be an opportunity to slow down our hurried pace of life to prepare ourselves to receive the gift of Emmanuel.
- The Edmund Rice Brothers along with the Waterford Peace Choir invite you to an evening of **music, carols and reflection** on Wednesday, 22 December, 2010 at 8:00 pm in the Edmund Rice Chapel, Mount Sion, Barrack Street. Please join us in these final days of Advent as we prepare to celebrate the great feast of Christmas.
- Again this year the Rotary Club of Waterford is inviting people to remember their deceased loved ones by hanging name cards and bows on the **Memorial Christmas Tree** in John Roberts Square. All are invited to an Ecumenical Blessing which will take place at 3.00 p.m. on Christmas Eve in John Roberts Square. Those remembering loved ones may make a donation at the tree for the benefit of the Waterford Hospice Movement.
- It has long been a tradition to place a lighted **Candle in the Window** of Christian homes on Christmas Eve night. That light is a sign to that your home is a place of welcome with open doors and open hearts, especially for Christ. Please be careful with candles. Follow the maker's instructions and never leave burning candles unattended.
- As we prepare to celebrate Christmas **Trocaire** is asking us to bring light to Uganda by buying a solar-powered lamp to help children study after dark and improve their chances of a better future. www.trocaire.org/globalgift
- **Questions people ask** - Fr Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap. Email silvesteroflynn@gmail.com
 Question: Is the Christmas tree a pagan leftover or a Christian symbol?
 Answer: The custom of adorning an evergreen tree at mid-winter probably originated in pagan times. Catholics of the Middle Ages staged religious plays and an evergreen tree bedecked with apples was the usual stage prop for the Garden of Eden. Christ changed the tree of death into the tree of life, so they began to hang white wafers to symbolise the Eucharist. When the tree was linked to Christmas, stars and angels were added. Placing the family gifts under the tree can remind us of God's gift of the Saviour.
- Last week's **Parish Collection**: Masses €561.82 & Envelopes €648.00. Thank you for your continued support.