

☒ Sunday, December 18th <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	Fenor Church at 9.30 a.m. Dunhill Church at 11.00 a.m.
Monday, December 19th	Dunhill Church at 10.00 a.m. <i>Reconciliation Service in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 7.30 p.m.</i>
Tuesday, December 20th	Fenor Church at 10.00 a.m. <i>Reconciliation Service the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Mount Sion, at 7.30 p.m.</i>
Wednesday, December 21st	Dunhill Church at 10.00 a.m. with the children from Dunhill N.S. <i>Adoration in Dunhill Church from after 10.00 a.m. Mass until 12.00 noon</i>
Thursday, December 22nd	Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 10.00 a.m.
Friday, December 23rd	Fenor Church at 10.00 a.m. <i>Adoration in Fenor Church from after 10.00 a.m. Mass until 12.00 noon</i> <i>Confessions in Fenor Church at 10.30 a.m.</i>
Saturday, December 24th <i>(Christmas Eve)</i>	<i>Confessions in Dunhill Church at 10.30 a.m.</i> Christmas Vigil Mass in Dunhill Church at 8.00 p.m.
☒ Christmas Day	Midnight Mass in Fenor Church at Midnight Dawn Mass in Fenor Church at 9.30 a.m. Christmas Day Mass in Dunhill Church at 11.00 a.m.

- By very ancient tradition, a priest may celebrate Mass three times on Christmas Day: the Midnight Mass or “Mass of the Angels”; the Dawn Mass or “Shepherd’s Mass”; and the Day Mass or “Mass of the Divine Word”. He may also celebrate the Vigil Mass of Christmas which is still an anticipation of the birth of the Lord. Each of these Masses has its own readings and prayers. The Vigil Mass prepares us for what is about to happen – ‘the Virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son and they shall call him Emmanuel’. The Midnight Mass celebrates the actual birth – ‘I bring you news of great joy. This night a child is born for us, a son is given to us’. At Dawn Mass we hear how – ‘the shepherds found Mary and Joseph and the baby: and glorified God’. And at the Mass during the Day St John reminds us that – ‘the Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory’. Each Mass has its own message and meaning so come and join us for any or all of them. The times are listed above.
- 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.
- The Annual Candlelight Carol Singing Service in Annestown Church will be held (tonight) Sunday, December 18th, at 8.00 p.m. There will be refreshments afterwards in the Seaview Centre.
- 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.
- There are lots of opportunities for Confession listed above in addition to places like the Franciscan Friary which has confessions regularly. Please make a special effort to celebrate Christ’s love and forgiveness this Advent.
- The Eucharistic Congress Bell is making its way around the country. We will join the people of Tramore & Carbally for prayer in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, on January 6th and 7th. More details next week.
- 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 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.
- **Questions people ask** – Fr Silvester O’Flynn OFM Cap Email silvesteroflynn@gmail.com

Q. The religious meaning of Christmas seems to mean less to me every passing year. Any suggestions on how I can rediscover the religious excitement of my younger years?

A. Do you have a crib at home? Read the Christmas story in the Gospel of Luke and, like Mary, ponder on these things in your heart. Take time to reflect on the Angelus, or at least the Hail Mary, this week. Attend a Carol service. Bring Christmas cheer to somebody who needs it. Be moderate in spending and do not overindulge in eating and drinking. Each day welcome Jesus into your life and your home. Bring Christ back into Christmas.
- Last week’s Parish Collection: Masses €481.18 & Envelopes €591.91. Thank you for your continued support.