


## Dunhill & Fenor Parish Notes, 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2012

WEBSITE: [www.dunhillandfenorparish.ie](http://www.dunhillandfenorparish.ie)

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✘ <b>Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup></b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	Mass in Fenor Church at 9.30 a.m. Mass in Dunhill Church at 11.00 a.m.	
<b>Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve</b>	Christmas <b>Vigil Mass</b> in Fenor Church at 8.00 p.m.	
✘ <b>Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup></b> <b>The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ</b>	<b>Midnight Mass</b> in Dunhill Church at Midnight <b>Dawn Mass</b> in Fenor Church at 9.30 a.m. Christmas <b>Day Mass</b> in Dunhill Church at 11.00 a.m.	
<b>St Stephen's Day – Bank Holiday</b>	Mass in Dunhill Church at <b>11.00 a.m. (No formal adoration)</b>	
<b>Thursday, December 27<sup>th</sup></b>	Mass in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 10.00 a.m.	
<b>Friday, December 28<sup>th</sup> – The Holy Innocents</b>	Mass in Fenor Church at 10.00 a.m. ( <b>No formal adoration</b> )	
<b>Saturday, December 29<sup>th</sup></b>	Mass in Fenor Church at 6.30 p.m.	

- We extend a very special '**Céad Míle Fáilte**' to all visitors to our parish this weekend; especially those who have come home to be with family members and friends this Christmas. We pray that you will enjoy your stay among us and carry treasured memories with you when you leave.
- 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 Society of Saint Vincent de Paul** has written to acknowledge all the donations made to their annual collection recently and to thank all those who contributed. The demands on the Society are increasing and they depend on the support they get from parishioners to deal with the needs of families and individuals. People turn to the Society as a last resort so it is essential that they can respond. It is never easy for people to contact them for help. People have their pride and it takes a lot of courage to ask a voluntary group for assistance. Being mindful of people's concerns, the Society always affords dignity, respect and total confidentiality in their dealings with people. Society volunteers provide their time but the donations you made make it possible for them to put food items on the table, to heat cold rooms, and to give children books and uniforms to attend school. For this they are very grateful. The lo-call contact number for the Society is 1850 200 551
- **Carols for our Times** will be sung by the Waterford & Omagh Peace Choir at Mount Sion Chapel this (Sunday) evening, 23<sup>rd</sup> December from 6.00 p.m. until 9.00 p.m. All are welcome.
- **Home Alone This Christmas?** Don't be home alone this Christmas if you would like some company. Senior Help Line is a national confidential telephone listening service for older people provided by trained older volunteers. They are open every day over Christmas, including Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, from 10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. (closed Christmas evening from 7.00 - 10.00 p.m.). All calls are treated as strictly confidential. They are there to listen. LoCall 1850 440 444 for the price of a local call.
- **Questions people ask** – Fr Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap. Email [silvesteroflynn@gmail.com](mailto:silvesteroflynn@gmail.com)  
**Question:** Easter is supposed to be the high point of the Church's year. How is it that Christmas seems to mean more to people? **Answer:** In the realm of theology, Easter is the most important feast but it seems to pass over the heads of many people. Christmas appeals more powerfully to the human heart. The Christmas story touches the familiar world of family, birth, animals, travelling, looking for accommodation, rejoicing and rejection (by Herod). It brings the story of God's intervention into human history with the naming of Roman rulers and local bosses. It locates the incarnation in places that can be visited to this day. Christmas appeals to the child within each of us.
- Last week's **Parish Collection:** Masses €453.10 & Envelopes €792.90 Thank you for your continued support.