Dunhill & Fenor Parish Notes, 20th December 2015

₩ Sunday, December 20 th	Mass in Dunhill Church at 9.30 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Advent	Mass in Dunnin Church at 9.50 a.m.
Monday, December 21st – Peter Canisius	Mass in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 10.00 a.m.
Tuesday, December 22nd – St Flavianus	Mass in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 10.00 a.m.
Wednesday, December 23 rd	Mass in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 10.00 a.m.
Thursday, December 24th	Vigil Mass in Our Lady's Church, Carbally at 7.00 p.m.
Christmas Eve	Vigil Mass in Holy Cross Church, Tramore at 9.00 p.m.
Friday, December 25 th The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Christmas Day	Mass in Sacred Heart Church Dunhill at 9.00 a.m. Mass in Immaculate Conception Church, Fenor at 10.00 a.m. Mass in Our Lady's Church Carbally Church at 11.30 a.m. Mass in Tramore Church at 8.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m. & 12 noon
Saturday, December 26 th – St Stephen's Day	Mass in Fenor Church at 6.00 p.m.

- <u>Christmas wishes from the Priests of Tramore</u> We wish you all a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your kind support throughout this year. May Christmas be a time of peace and joy for you and your family.
- We extend a very special 'Cead Mile Fáilte' to all visitors to our parish this weekend, especially those who have come home to be with family and friends this Christmas. We pray that you will enjoy your stay among us and carry treasured memories with you when you leave.
- The <u>Annual Community Care Christmas Party</u> takes place today, Sunday, December 20th, in the G.A.A. Centre, Dunhill. It is always a great occasion when the seniors in our community come together. We hope that all the usual volunteers will help out today and new volunteers are always welcome.
- The Dunabratin /Annestown Community Group invite you to attend their Annual Carol Singing event in the Church of St John the Baptist, Annestown this Sunday evening December 20th at 8.00 p.m. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Seaview Celtic Clubhouse. All are welcome to this wonderful community Christmas event.
- <u>A Penitential Service</u> with an opportunity to go to Confession will take place tomorrow night Monday, December 21st, in Holy Cross Church Tramore starting at 7.30 pm.
- A <u>Carol Service</u> will be held in Dunhill Church on Monday, December 21st at 7.30 p.m. All donations on the night will go to the Lexie Murphy Transplant fund. All support will be greatly appreciated.
- An evening of <u>Christmas Reflection</u> will take place tomorrow Monday, December 21st, in St. John's Pastoral Centre from 7.30 p.m. till 8.30 p.m. Facilitators Antoinette Dilworth rsj & Ann O'Farrell offer an opportunity to slow down our hurried pace of life to prepare our minds and hearts to receive the gift of Emmanuel. All are welcome.
- <u>Brendan Gallagher</u> will visit the sick and housebound this coming Wednesday with the Blessed Sacrament. If you know of anybody that would like a call please give your name into the Sacristy of both churches.
- A <u>Nightfever</u> event will be held in the Cathedral, of the Most Holy Trinity, Barronstrand Street on Wednesday December 23rd, beginning with the 5.30 p.m. Mass and finishing with the benediction Mass at 10.00 p.m. This is an evening of 'Open Church' where street missionaries go in pairs onto the streets of Waterford and invite people to come inside and experience a special atmosphere of music, prayer, confession and candlelight, allowing you spend some time in prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. All are very welcome. Feel free to come and go as you want. For more information check out www.nightfever.org.
- The <u>Annual Christmas Collection</u> 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.
- <u>Christmas</u> is always a mixed time of year. For some it is a joyous occasion, for some a sad time, for others a very lonely time. As we celebrate Christmas let us be mindful and conscious of our neighbours and friends. Christmas is also a time of Liturgical celebration, a time when many attend Church. Whether you are regular or occasional you are welcome. If regular, thanks for your commitment and faithfulness, if occasional, you are welcome, we miss you from our regular gatherings. Perhaps this Christmas you might make a resolution or commitment to try and come more often. You have nothing to fear. The doors of the Church are always open and welcoming.
- The Christmas Tree In pre Christian Ireland evergreen trees and branches were brought into the home during the winter. During the long dark nights they kept the promise of spring alive in people's hearts. The Christmas tree became part of European culture during the 17th century, when legends and tradition began to link it with the Tree of Knowledge in the Garden of Eden. It was said that the wood Eden for the cross on which Jesus died came from that tree. In the Garden of Eden, the tree had fruit and flowers and when Eve removed the apple, it grew only needles, blossoming once only on Christmas Eve. Later the Christmas tree came to represent Christ, bringing light and colour into a dark world. The evergreen colour became a symbol of Hope and Resurrection. The triangular shape of the tree represents The Trinity.
- Last week's <u>Parish Collection</u>: Masses €423.53 & Envelopes €569.00. Thank you for your continued support.