

<p>✠ Sunday, December 25th <i>The Nativity of the Lord</i></p>	<p>Mass in Fenor Church at 10.00 a.m. <i>Anniversary Mass for Gay Hearne</i> <i>Pray for Jimmy & Josephine Gough</i></p>
<p>Monday, December 26th – <i>St Stephen, First Martyr</i></p>	<p>Mass in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 7.30 a.m. & 10.00 a.m.</p>
<p>Tuesday, December 27th – <i>St John, Apostle</i></p>	<p>Mass in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 7.30 a.m. & 10.00 a.m.</p>
<p>Wednesday, December 28th <i>The Holy Innocents</i> <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i></p>	<p>Mass in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 7.30 a.m. & 10.00 a.m. <i>Dunhill Church from 11.00 a.m. until 12 noon</i></p>
<p>Thursday, December 29th – <i>St Thomas Becket</i></p>	<p>Mass in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 7.30 a.m. & 10.00 a.m.</p>
<p>Friday, December 30th – <i>The Holy Family</i> <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i></p>	<p>Mass in Holy Cross Church, Tramore, at 7.30 a.m. & 10.00 a.m. <i>Fenor Church from 11.00 a.m. until 12 noon</i></p>
<p>Saturday, December 31st <i>New Year's Eve</i></p>	<p>Mass in Fenor Church at 6.00 p.m. Anniversary Mass for John Connolly</p>

- **The Christmas Collection** for the **Support of the Priests** will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Day.
- **The Annual Michael Power Memorial Swim** Will be taking place at Kilmurrin Beach at 12.00 p.m. today, the money being raised is going to Nadine's Cancer Battle Trust. Come on down to have a splash and raise money for a good cause.
- We would like to wish **Lexi Murphy a Big Welcome Home.** We would also like to wish Lexi and her Family the most Magical Christmas and Best Wishes in the New Year!!
- **The Parish Office will be closed** for the Christmas period and will re-open on the 5th of January. As the office is closed there will be no newsletter until mid January. Merry Christmas & Best Wishes for the New Year.
- **A CHRISTMAS PRAYER FOR LOVED ONES**
For those who have an abundance of love, a bounty in heart and home, keep them mindful of the world's poor, lift their voices often to you in gratitude, loving God.
For those who carry hurts and angers and other heartaches, help them to feel the peace which only You can give and the grace to let go of long burdening memories.
For those who struggle with the lack of this world's riches, those who know what unemployment and empty pockets feel like, gift them with a counting of blessings which are often hidden and far more valuable than earthly treasure.
For those whose faith has grown dim and whose sense of You seems far away, raise in their hearts a great yearning for You that will not cease and a desire for the truth that cannot be ignored.
For those who are tired, weary, worn from a constant generous giving of their lives in love, be their energy and enthusiasm, be a great and deep spark of light and happiness within them.
For those who grieve the goodbye of a loved one and whose hearts are very lonely this time of year, touch them with dear memories and transform the inner missing and heartache into a vision of what lies far beyond this time and space.
For those whose lives speak of growing old. bless again and again with peace and serenity, let them know what gentle witnesses they are to all of us who still ponder the meaning of life and growth. And finally, O God, for those with young eyes, keep their hearts full of wonder, and thank You for slipping some of their delight and simplicity into our own hearts each time we celebrate the Christmas moment. Amen.
- *Would you have thoughts on how we can make **our Parish a better community**, a focal point for all the different strands of our community, that would promote the participation of more parishioners in the affairs of the Parish. Then **The Parish Pastoral Council** wants to hear from you.*
- **New Years Day: Some old Irish Customs** It was called the night of large portions. The belief was that one ought to eat large portions of food on this night to ensure plentiful supply during the year. Another custom was opening the back door at midnight-this symbolised leaving the old year out. The front door was opened to welcome in the New Year. Lets open the back door of memories of pain, suffering, stress, hardship and open the front door of new beginnings and hope.
- **A New Year's Prayer** May God make your year a happy one! Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain, but by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes, not by making your path easy, but by making you sturdy to travel any path, not by taking hardships from you, but by taking fear from your heart, not by granting you unbroken sunshine, but by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows, not by making your life always pleasant, but by showing you when people and their causes need you most, and by making you anxious to be there to help. God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.
- **Last week's** Parish Collection: Masses €227.67 and Envelopes €447.25. Thank you for your continued support.