**The Church of Ireland (Anglican/Episcopalian)**

**Services in Drogheda, Ardee and Kilsaran Unions of Parishes**

There is a mid-week celebration of Holy Communion in St. Peter’s on Wednesdays at 10am

**Sunday 12th December - 3rd Sunday in Advent**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 08.15am | Holy Communion | St. Peter’s, Drogheda |
| 09:45am | Morning Prayer | St. Mary’s Abbey, Ardee |
| 10.00am | Holy Communion | Castlebellingham |
| 11.30am | Carol Service | St. Peter’s Drogheda |
| 4pm | Evening Prayer | Drumcar |

**Friday 17th December**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 7.30pm | Carol Service | Castlebellingham |

**Sunday 19th December – 4th Sunday in Advent**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 08.15am | Holy Communion | St. Peter’s, Drogheda |
| 09:45am | Holy Communion | St. Mary’s Abbey, Ardee |
| 10.00 am | NO SERVICE | Castlebellingham |
| 11.15 am | NATIVITY DRESS UP | Dunleer |
| 11.30am | Holy Communion | St. Peter’s Drogheda |

**Sunday 24th December – Christmas Eve**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4pm | Holy Communion | Dunany |
| 11.30pm | Holy Communion | Castlebellingham |
| 11.30pm | Holy Communion | St. Peter’s, Drogheda |

**Sunday 25th December – Christmas Day**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 08.15am | Holy Communion | St. Peter’s, Drogheda |
| 09:45am | Holy Communion | St. Mary’s Abbey, Ardee |
| 11.15am | Holy Communion | Dunleer |
| 11.30am | Holy Communion | St.Peter’s, Drogheda |

**Sunday 26th December – 1st Sunday of Christmas**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 08.15am | **No Service** | St. Peter’s, Drogheda |
| 09:45am | **No Service** | St. Mary’s Abbey, Ardee |
| 10.00 am | Carols | Drumcar |
| 11.30 am | Holy Communion | St. Peter’s Drogheda |
| 4 pm | **No Service** | **Dunany** |

**Sunday 2nd January – 2nd Sunday of Christmas**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 08.15am | Holy Communion | St. Peter’s, Drogheda |
| 09:45am | Holy Communion | St. Mary’s Abbey, Ardee |
| 10.00 am | Morning Prayer | Castlebellingham |
| 11.15 am | Morning Prayer | Dunleer |
| 11.30 am | Holy Communion | St. Peter’s Drogheda |

In Touch

**Drogheda, Ardee and Kilsaran Union of Parishes**

**DECEMBER 2021**



The season of Advent has begun. The dull days of winter are enlivened by the cheerful lights beginning to appear in homes and shops. Those lights are a symbol of the light of Christ which dispels all darkness.

Advent was traditionally a time of fasting and mourning. Symbolising this, we use the purple mourning colours in church. However, symbols are worthless if they do not spur us to action: to think about our spiritual life and to think about our less fortunate neighbours.

**FUNDRAISING- Christmas Tractor Run for CFR**

On Sunday 5th December, Sandra Byrne has organised a Christmas Tractor Run. The proceeds will be given to CFR, the local First Responders Group. It costs €20 to enter a Christmassy Tractor. Approximate times are:

4.20 pm Dromiskin//4.55 pm Stabannon//5.00 pm Dromin School//5.25 pm Dunleer

**Bags of Hope**

Sandra and her daughter Sarah are also collecting ‘Bags of Hope’. Please fill old school-bags with toiletries, gloves, socks, non-perishable food items or anything you think might be of use to someone without adequate shelter this winter. Bags can be left with Joyce or Sandra or in any of the churches on Sundays before Christmas.

**Carol Service Collections**

Carol service collections are traditionally given to local charities: our churches may be low in funds but there are people who are desperate.

**Our Church**

Our church too needs support: covid has seriously affected our income. For two years in a row, we have cancelled the Kilsaran Fête, the Summer Fair and now our Christmas activities are under threat. St Peter’s Christmas Moods Concert had to be cancelled. Money must be raised by some other way.

Kilsaran Union is having a GIFT MONTH during December. Gift envelopes are available in church and from Charlie Treadwell. In St. Peter’s a Christmas Hamper Raffle is taking place – details below.

If you have not already paid your annual sustentation subscription, all treasurers, Clive Bagnall, Ronnie Kavanagh and Charlie Treadwell, would be grateful to receive it.

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

There is a full list of December services on the service rota. Our festive services will be slightly curtailed because of covid. St Peter’s and Ardee are planning Morning Carol services. The KU carol service will go ahead on Friday 17th December at 7.30 pm, but sadly, without Kilsaran Choir.

Government guidelines discourage Nativity plays, so in Dunleer, on 19th December, at 10 am, we will have some carols and readings with a younger focus. All members of the congregation, big and little children are encouraged to come in Nativity Dress: angels, stars, shepherds, sheep, wise men, Mary, Joseph, Herod, Prophets, innkeepers. THERE WILL BE NO SERVICE IN CASTLEBELLINGHAM ON THAT MORNING.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

We have not yet resumed Sunday School. This will be decided by the SV, when risk assessment and mitigations have been completed. Children’s services continue on the second and fourth Sundays of each month in Kilsaran . St Peter’s children’s service has been cancelled for the month of December but it is hoped to start again in January. However this will depend on the Covid situation at that time.

**CONFIRMATION**

The Archbishop has given us a date for Confirmation: Sunday 5 June at 11:30 in St. Peter’s.

It is hoped that classes will start in St Peter’s Parish Hall on 1 March at 6 pm

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

TUESDAYS 6-7 pm on 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 MARCH and 3, 10, 17, 24 MAY

REHEARSAL IN CHURCH: TUESDAY 31 MAY 6-7 pm

ALL ABOVE DATES TO BE CONFIRMED

Classes will be conducted by the rector, Ian Moore (DGS Chaplain) and Joyce.

We are still accepting registration for the classes. Please register with Joyce.

Email: [moorejoyce72@gmail.com](mailto:moorejoyce72@gmail.com) and please supply the following information:

Child’s Full name

Date of birth

Date of baptism (as accurately as you can remember)

Place of baptism

Parents’/guardians’ names

Home Address

Contact number for at least one parent/guardian

Email of parent/guardian

**PRAYERS**

Please remember in your prayers:

Those ill in hospital, nursing home or their own homes.

Those whose work means that they interact with large groups regularly.

Those affected by war or civil instability.

Those for whom Christmas brings only bitterness and an increased sense of unfulfilled needs.

**ADVENT PRAYER**

Make us, we beseech thee, O Lord, watchful in awaiting the coming of thy Son, Christ our Lord, that when he shall come in glory, he may find us, not sleeping in carelessness and sin, but awake and rejoicing in his service and the service of all people; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Happy, Holy and fulfilled Christmas to you all.

**CONCERT AT ST. PETER’S - Wednesday 8th December at 7.30pm**

**At time of going to press this concert is still taking place**

**Fiachra Garvey (piano), Musici Ireland (Strings) and Niall O’Sullivan (Trumpet)**

**Unfortunately due to the current Covid situation we have had to cancel our**

**Fundraising Concert – “Christmas Moods” due to be held Friday 3rd December.**

**We will continue fundraising with our Christmas Hamper Raffle - our only fundraiser for this year. We need to make a colossal effort to sell tickets and bring in much needed funds. If there are any parishioners not attending Church at the moment and who feel that they could sell tickets to friends and family, please call Lizanne Allen on 086 277 4271 and she will happily drop some tickets to your house.**

**Tickets €2 each or a Book of 6 for €10**

**You can purchase tickets on line at** [**https://drogheda.armagh.anglican.org/**](https://drogheda.armagh.anglican.org/)

**or via the QR code below.**

**Organising Committee: Jill Sloan 086 890 2325/**

**Lizanne Allen 086 277 4271/ Hazel Spearman 087 211 7560**

**/Eugene McParland 085 830 9904/James Black**

**087 919 1258 or eMail** [**stpetersfundraising@outlook.ie**](mailto:stpetersfundraising@outlook.ie)

**We also have a dedicated webpage for this fundraising event. Please check in regularly:** [**https://drogheda.armagh.anglican.org/fundraising/**](https://drogheda.armagh.anglican.org/fundraising/)

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO IN TOUCH**

If you have any contributions/noteworthy dates which you would like included in

In Touch please email details to hazelspearman@icloud.com

Clergy

The Rev’d Dr, Iain Jamieson, Tel: (041) 9870073/ 083 8640133

The Rectory, Drogheda Email: [i.jamieson@hotmail.com](mailto:i.jamieson@hotmail.com)

The Rev’d Canon Joyce Moore Tel: (041) 6851327/087 7468866

Dunleer, Co. Louth Email: [am.drogheda@armagh.anglican.org](mailto:am.drogheda@armagh.anglican.org)

If you are a newcomer to the parish, please fill in this form and hand it to the clergy or a churchwarden as you leave.

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ <Tel:__________________>

Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_