

## Advent 2002

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# Kilbrittain Parish Bulletin

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### \*\*ADVENT\*\*

The message of Advent is a message of hope. The two great prophets of Advent are Isaiah and John the Baptist. Isaiah the cry of a people in captivity, in Babylon, to be forgiven, to be rescued, freed and lead back to their homeland. "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand."

Then the message of consolation "O comfort my people., Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid." "See, the Lord GOD comes with might, He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom."

But there is no room for complacency, not everyone will hear his message, his coming is challenging. "The Lord GOD has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted." "For as the earth brings forth its shoots, so the Lord GOD will cause integrity and praise to spring up before all the nations."

John the Baptist calls on us to "stay awake," "Make a straight path for the Lord." "Someone is coming, more powerful than I am."

The message of Advent today is still for a people in captivity, a people who are prisoners of materialism, greed and selfishness. It is only when we realise that we are captives that we can seek freedom and cry out to the Lord. The danger is that we become captives of advertising, of consumerism and of the commercialism of Christmas and miss the message of Advent and even miss the whole point of Christmas.

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### Arrangements for Advent and Christmas 2002

#### Ecumenical Carol Service

Sunday, 15th December, 8.00 p.m.

Readings, Carol Singing, Prayer,

#### Penitential Rite

Thursday 19th December 8.00 p.m.

Visiting priests from the neighbouring parishes will attend to give absolution.

#### Christmas Mass Times

**Christmas Day:** "Midnight Mass" - 10.00 p.m.

Morning Masses - 9.00 a.m. & 11.30 a.m.

**St. Stephen's Day:** Thursday 26 December Mass - 11.00 a.m.

#### Times of Confessions:

Saturday 21st 12.00 noon



**Feast of the Holy Family**  
is celebrated on Sunday 29th December 2002

**The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord**  
is on Monday 6th January 2003,  
and is a Church Holiday

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### **The Sacrament of Penance**

The Father has shown forth his mercy by reconciling the world to himself in Christ and by making peace for all things on earth and in heavenly the blood of Christ on the cross. The Son of God made man lived among people in order to free them from the slavery of sin and to call them out of darkness into his wonderful light. He therefore beginning his work on earth by preaching repentance and saying: "Turn away from son and believe the good news." The Penitential Rite

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### **Sunday Collection**

Sunday 24h November €572.50

St Anne's Adoption Society

Sunday 24th November €600.00

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### **Christmas Concert, St. Patrick's Church, Bandon**

Monday 9th December at 8.00 p.m.  
Tickets €10. Proceeds to local charities.  
West Cork Singers and guest soloists

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### **Stations**

Some people will be thinking of the Spring Stations at this stage and making plans to host the Station in their home. I would ask people to keep the month of February free from stations since I will not be available at that time. Lent will begin on the 5th of March, which is Ash Wednesday.

*Tom Riordan P.P.*

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