

New Year 2003

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Kilbrittain Parish Bulletin

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ANOTHER YEAR

We wish one another a "Happy New Year" at the start of each year. We hope that the year ahead will be a good one. Sometimes we hope that it will be a lot better than the one past especially if we have had a difficult year. Last year was not good for many people. As the "Celtic Tiger" recedes we find that the plenty is not there any more. Then there have been many who have not only not benefited from the boom years but have been put at a disadvantage because of them.

There is no doubt that the year ahead will not bring prosperity to us. We are going to have to cut back and live more moderately than in the recent past. Even then we will be among the world's most prosperous nations. In the long run having to cut back may not be a bad thing. It is noticeable that often when we have plenty we are not as generous. There have been signs of that in recent years. The prosperity that attracted refugees to our shores did not make us welcoming towards them. So often it is the poor who are generous and good at sharing.

We reflected at the end of last year that "The message of Advent today is still for a people in captivity, a people who are prisoners of materialism, greed and selfishness." If the need to cut back that we are facing helps us to see the blessings that we do have it would be a blessing in itself.



Mysteries of the Rosary

John Paul has proposed five new Mysteries of the Rosary. He has suggested that we could say them on Thursdays and transfer the Joyful Mysteries to Saturday, the day we devote to Our Lady. He has called them "Luminous Mysteries" to celebrate Christ the Light of the World.

These mysteries are:

- (1) his Baptism in the Jordan,
- (2) his self-manifestation at the wedding of Cana,
- (3) his proclamation of the Kingdom of God, with his call to conversion,
- (4) his Transfiguration,
- (5) his institution of the Eucharist, as the sacramental expression of the Paschal Mystery."



A Heartfelt Thanks.

As we look back on the year we must thank all those people who have taken an active part in Parish life and ministry. There are many who serve in Church regularly; Ministers of Word, Eucharist and Music as well as our Altar Servers, Collectors and paper sellers. There are those who keep the Church beautiful, Altar Society, Cleaners and those who rally round on the special occasions. Above all we thank Mary Bradley for all she does for us.

Income and Expenditure 2002

Income €78,382.42
Expenditure €28,406.35
Credit Balance over the year €49,977.07

A sum of €29,686.49 paid out, last year, for work done on Kilbriain School was recouped from the Department of Education during the year. This will help in the repairs to be done to the leaning wall.
