

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 24th December

On the fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the purple candle which symbolizes peace. This candle is called the "Angles Candle" reminding us of the message of the angles: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

MASSES

Vigil Saturdays: 6pm
Sundays: 9am & 11am
Weekdays: Monday to Saturday 10am

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 10.30am and 5.30pm

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WEEKEND MASSES AS NORMAL

Confessions Saturday 23rd December at 10.30am and 5.30pm



Sunday 24th December (Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass
9am and 11am)

Vigil Masses for Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December
6pm and 8pm

Christmas Day 25th December 9am and 11am

St. Stephens Day Tuesday 26th 10am

The collection at Masses for Christmas is for the support of the Clergy.

Dear People of Ballinlough,
I want to take this opportunity to wish each one of you grace and peace this Christmas. At this special time of the year, I also want to thank so many people who contribute in a particular way to the functioning of our parish. To our Sacristans, parish Secretary, Ministers of the Eucharist, Ministers of the Word, those who look after the flowers and decorating of the church, church cleaners, parish finance committee, people who distribute dues envelopes, our parish schools and so many others.



May I wish all our parishioners, a blessed and safe Christmas, and the graces of the Christ child to sustain us in 2024.

Beannachtaí Na Nollag,
Monsignor Gearóid Dullea.

'An individual is harder than iron, stronger than stone and more fragile than a rose.'

Every person is a complex mixture of strengths and weaknesses, toughness and gentleness, good points and not so good. We are delicate and fragile. Yet we are also capable of showing remarkable resilience. Everyone's personal story, beliefs and viewpoints are so varied and different. As life is complex, so are we.

At the heart of the message of Christmas, God is present in the middle of all our complexities. God is not present on the outskirts but right in the middle of whatever is going on for us. It may not be pretty, it may not be exciting, it may even be a huge struggle but that's where God wants to be. God is not the cause of complexities but is most definitely the cause of a sense of purpose, hope, and a guiding force through these complexities. This is not just for today Christmas Day but every single day that is God's gift to us.



