

**Weekday Mass Times:** Glenisland Church at **7pm** & Islandeady Church at **8pm**.  
**Weekend Mass Times:** Glenisland Church **SAT 7pm** & Islandeady Church **SUN 11am**.

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**Remembering in our Masses this week:** (Sun 27<sup>th</sup> Dec – Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan)

Sat 26 <sup>th</sup>	- Maureen, Agnes, Ashlene & James McLoughlin, Beltra.
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>	- Ann & Frank Reid, Derrycoosh. - Patsy O'Flaherty (15 <sup>th</sup> Anniv) & DFM.
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup>	- Bridie & Alfred Sammon, Ballinamorogue - John & Bridie Sammon, son Jack, son in law Patrick O'Donnell & DFM.
Tues 29 <sup>th</sup>	- Patsy O'Flaherty (15 <sup>th</sup> Anniv) & DFM. - Lena O'Donnell (15 <sup>th</sup> Anniv), Knockbawn.
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup>	- Anne Ayrton (3 <sup>rd</sup> Anniv)
Thurs 31 <sup>st</sup>	- Bridie Joyce (29 <sup>th</sup> Anniv) & her husband Paul, Keelogues.
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup>	- New Years Day Mass for All the People of the Parish.
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	- Frank & Annie Moran. - Lena O'Donnell.
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>	- Maidie Fitzgerald & her brother Willie, Keelogues.

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**People of God ministering / helping in CHURCH next Week: Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> / Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan**

Ministry:	Glenisland:	Islandeady:
Mass Servers:	Team 1.	Team 1.
Music:	Anne & Choir.	Nora & Choir.
Readers:		
Ministers of Eucharist:		
Offertory Collectors:		

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- Monday:** Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs.  
**Tuesday:** Feast of St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr.  
**Wednesday:**  
**Thursday:** Feast of St. Sylvester, Pope.  
**Friday:** Feast of Mary, The Holy Mother of God.  
**Saturday:** Feast of St. Basil, Bishop (330 – 379) & St. Gregory, Bishop (329 – 389).  
**Sunday:** Feast of St. Munchin, Bishop.

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Anyone wishing to have an **Anniversary Mass** should do so in **writing** and place it in the Parochial House, Islandeady or drop it into the box to collect the weekly offerings. Please provide your name and phone number.

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The **Christmas Collection** for the **Priest** took place recently at **Christmas Eve & Christmas Day** masses. If you overlooked your envelope, you can still drop it into the Parochial House in Islandeady or post it to the priest. Fr. Chris appreciates your continued support and only asks if you can give **whatever** you can afford.

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The Church Rotas for the different Ministries in Islandeady is being finalised for **2021** and will be **posted** out to the different Ministers in the coming weeks. With masses temporarily suspended again, these won't take effect until masses resume.

The **Deadline** for items for inclusion in the Parish Newsletter is **12 noon** each Friday.  
 ➤ **Phone** or send a **text message** or leave a **voicemail** to Liam on (087) 1361 895.  
 ➤ You can **email** Liam at [islandeadyadm@gmail.com](mailto:islandeadyadm@gmail.com)

# Islandeady-Glenisland Parish Newsletter

**St Patrick's Church, Islandeady and the Holy Rosary Church, Glenisland.**  
**Websites:** [islandeady.ie](http://islandeady.ie) / [glenislandnewsflash.ie](http://glenislandnewsflash.ie) / [mayo.ie](http://mayo.ie) / [tuamarchdiocese.org](http://tuamarchdiocese.org)

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Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020 – **Feast of the Holy Family**



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*“Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel”.*

**Priest:** Fr Chris Brennan **Mob** (087) 1962 674 **Email:** [parishig2017@gmail.com](mailto:parishig2017@gmail.com)  
**Newsletter:** Liam Keaveney **Mob** (087) 1361 895 **Email:** [islandeadyadm@gmail.com](mailto:islandeadyadm@gmail.com)

*The Holy Family is seen as the model for the human family, the religious community and the church itself. The celebration of the Incarnation has brought us to see God's closeness. In the Holy Family we see the ordinariness of the life of Jesus, the simple acceptance by Mary and Joseph of the marvels of God. In the daily life of family and community we can touch the divine, we can come close to God. But we have to learn to live centred on God, with respect and love for each other.*



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**COVID-19 Support Line for Older People** - ALONE has a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the COVID-19 (Corona virus) pandemic. Professional staff is available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is **open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm**, by calling 0818 222 024. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

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**Pastoral visits to the sick and housebound** are an important part of Parish life. Anyone who was receiving a pastoral visit by Fr. Chris before the outbreak of the virus & would like to receive the **Sacraments** again needs to contact the Priest & make the necessary arrangements. It is very important that we all take care of each other & that every effort is made to protect public health.

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Many thanks to those who have continued to contribute to the Church collection and to Priest revenue over the past months. Over the last months many parishes have seen a dramatic decline of church income. The weekly envelopes goes towards the upkeep and care of both Churches in the Parish.



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Please **take care** and **drive safely** on our roads in the **coming days & weeks** and over the Christmas period with the bad weather, dark mornings & evenings, road-works and trees being cut along the roads throughout Islandeady.

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**Masses** are available on TV RTE News now daily at 10:30am (Saorview 21) & RTE 1 on Sundays at 11am. ETWN 6pm, Sky Channel 588 & Radio Maria daily at 10am, Saorview Radio channel 210. Mass on Midwest Radio every Sun, Wed & Fri mornings at 10am. Everyone is welcome to tune in.

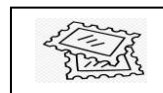
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**Islandeady Community Centre** is now connected to Vodafone **Superfast WiFi**. This is available to people who live in the community who have poor internet connection. People who are now **working from home, school/college students** who need to download or email tests etc this is suitable for them. A **small nominal fee** will be charged for **light/heat**. For further info, contact Liam on (087) 1361 895.



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This year there is a fundraiser for Christmas called '**Gift A Light**'. In this year of Covid-19, it gives people the opportunity to remind family and friends that they are not alone; they are remembered, cherished and in our prayers. Lights can be dedicated to a person or family at home or abroad, or in memory of a loved one who has died. For further details please look up and click on [www.giftalight.com](http://www.giftalight.com) to get started.



Please save **any used stamps** from Christmas Cards and kindly send them to or drop them off to Concepta Moran, Drimneen, Islandeady. For a worthy cause, please support.

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We **welcome** into the Christian community of Islandeady/Glenisland Baby Caoimhe Ava Corcoran, daughter of Imelda & Kevin, who was baptised recently in Islandeady. Congrats to the Parents, Grandparents & the Godparents.



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**Islandeady Golf Society** outing to Mulranny on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> December. New and past members welcome. Please contact Brian McCormack on (087) 613 0882 to book a time. Places are limited and must be booked in Advance in compliance with Covid regulations.

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**Fr. Chris & The Pastoral Council** want to wish **All Parishioners** a Healthy & Peaceful New Year spent with your families & loved ones. Everyone is encouraged to **keep safe** & be mindful of Covid Restrictions this Christmas & New Year Period. The Church will be open for anyone who wishes to light a candle and pray quietly for their intention.

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### The Greatest Gift

I don't care about presents laying under the tree,  
Silver & Gold mean nothing to me.

It's not about Money or what Joy it can bring,  
It's about being wanted and loved, not the Material things.  
Possessions can't hold you or give you a kiss,  
Christmas with loved ones is the things that I really miss.  
Christmas presents are temporary; the Joy is short lived,  
Only Love lasts forever; it's the Greatest of Gifts.

*Happy Christmas 2020*

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### A Letter from Jesus

If you look for me at Christmas, you need a special star.  
I'm no longer in Bethlehem, I'm right where you are.  
You may not be aware of me amid the celebrations,  
You'll have to look beyond the stores and all the decorations.  
But if you take moment from your list of things to do,  
And listen to your heart, you will find I'm waiting there for you.  
You're the one I want to be with, you're the reason that I came,  
And you'll find me in the stillness as I'm whispering your name.  
Love, Jesus.

While we are all aware of the limitations of the current situation and the risk and danger that C19 continues to present to each and every one of us. None the less life can and must continue even if with limitations. This Christmas will be celebrated in a different way but the essence remains the same, the great gift of God's love for each one of us. Saint Paul tells us, "that nothing can ever separate us from the love of God". Masses will be celebrated in both churches of the parish on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We will not have the packed churches as in the past, but a limited number of people will be able to enter the churches, the outside speakers will be on and people will be able to follow mass either standing around the church or sitting in their cars. Holy Communion will be distributed to those who will be gathered outside the Churches. Social distancing will be required and all are asked to remain two meters from others. Masks are to be worn. The use of hand sanitizer is required for all entering and leaving the church. The Christmas Crib will be in place but in a simpler form and in a more open space. People are asked not to gather around the crib in groups.

**WANTED:** Musician(s) to join Padraig Heneghan as an accompanist in the **Islandeady Church Choir**. Padraig has kindly agreed to lead the Choir for the next few months. A keyboard/guitar player would be welcome to join once Masses resume again. If you can **give 30 minutes** of your time **each Sunday**, kindly call Padraig on (087) 2258 012.

**This Year there will be No CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS: A Message from POPE FRANCIS**  
Many people today would tell me, "Father, where can I find a priest, a confessor, because I can't leave the house? And I want to make peace with the Lord. I want him to embrace me. I want the Father's embrace." The pope said his response would be;  
"Do what the Catechism of the Catholic Church says. It is very clear.  
If you cannot find a priest to confess to, speak directly with God your father, and tell him the truth.  
Say, 'Lord, I did this, this, this. Forgive me,' and ask for pardon with all your heart." Make an act of contrition and promise God, "I will go to confession afterward, but forgive me now." And immediately you will return to a state of grace with God."  
The Catechism of the Catholic Church, N. 1453, says: "When it arises from a love by which God is loved above all else, contrition is called 'perfect' contrition of charity.  
Such contrition remits venial sins; it also obtains forgiveness of mortal sins if it includes the firm resolution to include having recourse to sacramental confession as soon as possible."  
"As the catechism teaches, you can draw near to God's forgiveness without having a priest at hand. Think about it. This is the moment."

The Parish Collection Envelopes are now available. Parishioners are asked to collect their envelopes in the usual way. In an administrative change many numbers have changed so please look for your name and not the number. By making these changes it is hoped that the numbers will remain the same over the coming years. If anyone is new to the Parish and would like to receive a box of envelopes or if anyone has been missed out please make contact with the Priest on 087 1962 674 or email [parishig2017@gmail.com](mailto:parishig2017@gmail.com)

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Due to an increased interest in enrolment with **Bilberries Playgroup** it currently appears that we are full for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 and have a waiting list for spaces. We are also taking names for 2022/2023 We are therefore considering offering an afternoon session (approx. 1.30pm - 4.30pm) should there be sufficient numbers and would request that parents contact us ASAP to express interest Tel. **087 6026947** or Email [bilberriesplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:bilberriesplaygroup@gmail.com)

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**Are you Thoughtful?** Some elderly & housebound parishioners in **Islandeady & Glenisland** have remarked how very much they appreciate it when a neighbour or family member are thoughtful enough to bring them a copy of the weekly **Sunday Bulletin ... &** how much it helps to keep them in touch with life in the parish especially now with the Covid 19 restrictions still ongoing for some in isolation etc. **So... are YOU Thoughtful?**

**Church Envelopes** are now available for the coming 12 months. They will be available in the Church Porches from this weekend. Please take your box of envelopes & if you see a neighbour's one please kindly take it & deliver it to them. If you would like to take a box of envelopes to contribute to the weekly upkeep of our two churches, please let Fr. Chris or James O'Malley know & they will organise.

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Thank you for keeping **catering in St Aidans & the Presbytery simple!** Again please remember these rooms are in a Church setting & for the sake also of minding expensive carpet & chairs ... please NO egg sandwiches, salad sandwiches, cream or jam buns etc. Confine food to biscuits, buns, brack, simple sandwiches or cake that doesn't fall apart! Just use common sense. Remember most people have a mug in one hand and food in the other.

The Pastoral Council wish to remind all local groups & charitable organisations that for 2020 all **Church Gate Collections** held in Glenisland & Islandeady Churches must be held **OUTSIDE** the Church Gates as per conditions of the permit & **NOT** inside at the Church Doors. There will be no exception to this.

Thank you for keeping Catering in St Aidans & the Presbytery simple! Again please remember these rooms are in a Church setting & for the sake also of minding expensive carpet & chairs ... please NO egg sandwiches, salad sandwiches, cream or jam buns etc. Confine food to biscuits, buns, brack, simple sandwiches or cake that doesn't fall apart! Just use common sense. Remember most people have a mug in one hand and food in the other.  
For **catering** in the Presbytery & St Aidans – on occasions of Weddings, Funerals, Aniv & Months Mind – nice customs emerged whereby **neighbours** offer to help out OR **a family** can make their own arrangement for catering ... OR members of the **Pastoral Council** kindly step in to organise ...OR ... just thoughtful **kind parishioners** from any **village** offer to help out. **Thank you** for keeping this nice custom alive in our Parish, it is nicely remarked on by people '*within*' & visitors '*outside*' our Parish.

**New Singers & Musicians** of **ALL ages** are always **WELCOME** to join either Glenisland or Islandeady church choir each weekend to uplift our Spirits – please let Nora or Ann know that you would like to join to use & share your **TALENTS...!!** & **THANKS** Nora & Ann for organising the choir every weekend

### 5 Special Requests from the Priest....

- 1) **Readers:** 5 mins before Mass please pop into Sacristy & let priest know YOU are reading today.
- 2) Ministers of **Eucharist:** Please sit in **front** seat with your family or the other Minister so that priest sees/knows there's help for Communion.
- 3) **For Offertory Collection** please take baskets from outside of seat & move baskets towards the back & hand it to Collector (or mass server).
- 4) In the event there aren't enough mass servers, please take a newsletter which will be already placed in the holders at each of the 3 doors in Islandeady Church.
- 5) Prayer Cards are available in church seats; please use them to assist you saying the prayers during mass.

### Islandeady 2020 Yearbook/Covid-19

The Community Council want to document the events of the year related to the Corona virus lockdown. It's a major event in world history so it's important to record it from a Parish/Community perspective. Were you off school, college or work? Were you working in a different way? Maybe you were confined to the house? Had you a major event planned and couldn't go ahead with it? Are you a frontline worker? Were your sporting or social outings

curtailed? Did you volunteer to help others? Did you do something new or learn a new skill? Why not write out the effect it had on your life and the lifestyle changes you had to make. Stories, poems & pictures welcome from all age groups. Email items to [islandeadynewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:islandeadynewsletter@gmail.com)

All **Islandeady/Glenisland news items** are available in the weekly newspapers the 'Mayo News' & 'Connaught Telegraph', the Church Newsletter, everything will be on the Facebook page *Whats on in Islandeady* & on the Community website [www.islandeady.ie](http://www.islandeady.ie)

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** – (Adoration Times in our Parish)

**Glenisland:** Monday & Wednesday Nights **7-8pm.**

**Islandeady:** Sunday & Monday **7-8pm** / Tuesday **7-8pm**, Thursday Night **8-9pm.**

**A Parish Prayer**

Lord, bless our parish community at this difficult time.

Give me patience with myself and others so that I will not make these times any more difficult than they already are.

Grant me the ability to acknowledge my fears so that I will not hide from acting in a responsible manner.

Give me courage to overcome any selfishness that hinders any concern for others.

Grant me the grace to reach out to others by safe means and in a helpful way.

Give me courage when I am feeling lonely and the knowledge that isolation is a good thing for now and that I am never fully alone.

Grant me the gifts of kindness, patience and love.

Give me your blessing: in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen.



***Footprints in the Sand***

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord.  
Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky.

In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand.

Sometimes there were two sets of footprints,

Other times there was one only.

This bothered me because I noticed that during the low periods of my life,

When I was suffering from anguish, sorrow or defeat,

I could see only one set of footprints,

So I said to the Lord:

“You promised me Lord, that if I followed you,

You would walk with me always.

But I have noticed that during the most trying periods of my life

There has only been one set of footprints in the sand.

Why, when I needed you most, have you not been there for me?”

The Lord replied:

The times when you have seen only one set of footprints,

My child, is when I carried **YOU**”.

**Local Link Mayo** currently provide a grocery & essential supplies collect & deliver to the elderly, vulnerable & cocooning as well as providing essential travel for shopping and work. Local Link have repurposed during Covid-19 & as we move from one phase to the next of the Government roadmap for reopening society & business we aim to provide as much support to individuals and community organisations through current services. To avail of the service contact (094) 90 05150, email [mayo@locallink.ie](mailto:mayo@locallink.ie) or text 086 029 3278.

**Remember Me**

*Speak of me as you have always done,  
Remember all the good times, the laughter & fun.  
Share the happy memories we've made,  
Do not let them wither or fade.  
I'll be with you in the summer's sun,  
and when the winter's chill has come.  
I'll be the voice that whispers in the breeze,  
I'm peaceful now, put your mind at ease.  
I've rested my eyes and gone to sleep,  
but memories we've shared are yours to keep.  
Sometimes our final days may be a test,  
but remember me when I was at my best.  
Although things may not be the same,  
don't be afraid to use my name.  
Let your sorrow last for just a while,  
Comfort each other and try to smile.  
I've lived a life filled with Joy and Fun,  
Live on now & make me proud of what you'll become.*