

Foxford Parish

St Michael's Foxford
Toomore Church
Attymachugh Church



Chapel Road, Foxford, Co Mayo
Very Rev Padraig Costello P.P. 087 242 2273
Parish Office 094 9257843 / 094 9256131
Parish Email: stmichaelsfoxford@gmail.com
Newsletter Items: foxfordparishnewsletter@gmail.com
Parish Website: www.foxfordparish.com
Diocesan Website: www.achonrydiocese.org

2nd Sunday of Christmas - 4th January 2026

Sat 3rd Jan 6pm	Toomore	For the Community
Sat 3rd Jan 7.30pm	Foxford	1. Brendan Kelly (5th Anniv) Pontoon Rd R.I.P. 2. Nancy & Tommie Burke Cloongee R.I.P.
Sun 4th Jan 9am	Attymachugh	Pat, Mary, John & Tony McGreal & deceased of the Convey & McGreal families R.I.P.
Sun 4th Jan 11am	Foxford	1. Gabriel O'Laimhin (4th Anniv), Brook Rd. R.I.P. 2. Bridget Ruane (2nd Anniv), Churchpark R.I.P. 3. Tom & Paddy Healy Shraheen R.I.P. 4. Philip Breslin (60th Anniv) R.I.P.

Feast of the Epiphany

Mon 5th Jan 6pm	Toomore	Vigil Mass
Mon 5th Jan 7.30pm	Foxford	1. Mary Ellen & John Molloy & their daughter, Sr. Marie, Boherhollagh R.I.P. 2. Ryan Roughneen (12th Anniv) Kiltimagh & Michael Timlin Knockmore R.I.P.
Tues 6th Jan 9am	Attymachugh	For the Community
Tues 6th Jan 11am	Foxford	For the Community
Wed 7th Jan 8am	Convent	
Wed 7th Jan 7pm	Foxford	Special Intention
Thurs 8th Jan 10am	Foxford	
Fri 9th Jan 10am	Foxford	
Sat 10th Jan 6pm	Toomore	Tim & Mary McDonagh R.I.P.
Sat 10th Jan 7.30pm	Foxford	1. Mary Lizzie & Johnnie Coleman, Clossagh R.I.P. 2. Michael (1st Anniv) & Maureen Healy, Boherhollagh & deceased of the Kelly & Healy families R.I.P. 3. Mary (7th Anniv) & Pascal (Snr) Cosgrave & deceased, Dispensary Rd. R.I.P. 4. John Walsh (10th Anniv), Craggagh & his parents, Martin & Bridget, Churchpark R.I.P.
Sun 11th Jan 9am	Attymachugh	For the Community
Sun 11th Jan 11am	Foxford	1. Lil Ginty (6th Anniv), her husband, Seamus & their son, Joe R.I.P. First Holy Communion children

Recent Death: Please pray for:

Angela Ruane, Cloongee

May she Rest in Peace

THIS WEEKEND:		READERS	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	ALTAR SERVERS
Toomore	Sat 3rd Jan 6pm	Carmel Gallagher	Mary Geraghty	
Foxford	Sat 3rd Jan 7.30pm	Angela Neary	Seamus Coleman / Maureen Noone / Bernadette Reape	Zoe Corcoran / Grainne McLoughlin / Sean Lally / Keith McDermott
Attymachugh	Sun 4th Jan 9am	Marcus Jones	Lily Ruddy	
Foxford	Sun 4th Jan 11am	Margaret Reilly	Teresa Ormsby / Bernie Flynn / Geraldine Brett / Helena Murphy / Anna Marie Walsh	Aoife Flannery / James Sugrue / Abbie McMahon / Kasia Berkowska / Frank Berkowski
NEXT WEEKEND:				
Toomore	Sat 10th Jan 6pm	Ciara Byrne	Mary Doherty	
Foxford	Sat 10th Jan 7.30pm	Julie McGeever	John Horgan / Bridie Howley / Teresa Ormsby	Oscar McHugh / Finnian Kirwan / Rory Kilroy
Attymachugh	Sun 11th Jan 9am	Kathleen Ruane	Chris Sheerin	
Foxford	Sun 11th Jan 11am	Teresa O'Malley	Stephen Giblin / Paula Ruane / Willie O'Hara / Maureen Lavin / Martha Guiry	Alex Domagala / James Sugrue / Hazel Prendergast / Saorflaith Burke / Emma Jane Burke

Hospital Visits: If you wish the priest to visit relatives or friends in hospital or at home leave a message at the priest's house.

Family Deaths: To put a notice of family deaths or general notices in the newsletter please email foxfordparishnewsletter@gmail.com

If you are unable to read, please contact Teresa Ormsby on 087 273 9680

OFFERTORY COLLECTORS	January	Vigil: Michael McDonagh / Martin Brogan / Gina Stenson
	Sunday: Joe Davitt / Anthony Ruane / Gerry Moran	
	February	Vigil: Martin McDonagh / Seamus Coleman / Bernadette Reape
	Sunday: Ben Burke / Siobhan Moran / Jerome Coleman	
Wedding Bells: Congratulations to:		Chris Nealon , Clooneygowan and Joanne Wang , China, who were married in St. Michael's church on Monday 22nd December.
Baptism: Welcome to the Christian community to: Cathal Pierre Meriott , son of Ruth and Nicholas, France and iarla Enda Gilmore , son or Hannah and Ronan, Cloongee, who were baptised in St. Michael's church on Sunday 21st December and Monday, 29th December, respectively.		
A Note of Thanks to all who were involved in our Christmas Liturgies in our three churches: those who erected the Cribs, decorated the churches and grounds and all who helped in so many ways. Our choirs, musicians, readers, Ministers of the Eucharist, servers, symbol bearers, collectors, counters, cleaners, members of the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council, distributors of cards/calendars and many others who helped to enrich our celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ . Your involvement, and indeed presence, is greatly appreciated. I welcome your involvement during the coming year, but above all your presence each week, in celebrating Mass in our community, is treasured. I wish you and yours a very Happy New Year and pray that you will receive all the blessings you need throughout 2026		
Blessing for the New Year.		
<i>In January the month of frost</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In February, the month of rain, wind and snow</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In March, the month of farmers, lambs and new life</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In April, the month of swallows, growth and green grass</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In May, the month of the Cuckoo, the flowers and summer</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In June, the month of examinations, the mid-summer and sun</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In July, the month of holidays, the dry grass and summers end</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In August, the month of the harvest, wheat & corn.</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In September, the month of fruits, schools and St. Michael</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In October, the month of falling leaves, nuts and Halloween</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In November, the month of the dead, the Souls and Saints</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
<i>In December, the month of the gift, the light and Our Saviour</i> ----- Be with us Lord.		
Baptism Teams: The Diocese of Achonry has requested that each parish would get Volunteers to train and become part of a Baptism team in the parish. The Baptism team is expected to help the local priest and be a support to the parents in preparing for the child's Baptism. We have four people who have done the training and been Garda vetted for this specific ministry in Foxford Parish/Community. I am very grateful to them. Their work entails two of the team visiting the parents, (at a time suitable to the parents) before the Baptism and explaining the various aspects of the Baptism ceremony and trying to answer any questions the parents may have. It is to be an informal visit and will last about fifteen minutes. Our Baptism Team members are: Geraldine Carroll, Annie Murray, Angela Neary and Marion Ryder.		
Thanks: Foxford Brass and Reed Band, Admiral Brown CCE & St. Michael's Choir would like to thank everyone who attended and supported their recent Christmas Concert in St. Michael's Church.		
Parking on church grounds: As you may have observed two new parking lots have been marked out for wheelchair users . Also, please leave free access for cars (or an ambulance) around the church at all times.		
Coolegraine Lights: Thanks to the Hughes brothers who have erected the Coolegraine lights. Donations this year will go to Mayo Down Syndrome Association .		
Foxford Meals on Wheels Service: We can provide meals from Monday to Saturday at a cost of €7 per meal. To avail of this service please contact Geraldine on mobile 087 904 0463 or on her landline 094 925 6614.		
Line Dancing Classes for Beginners on Thursday nights at 8pm in the Brown Memorial Hall , Modern and Country Line Dances. €10 per class. Enjoy a night of fun and exercise. All Welcome! Christopher Beirne (tutor) 086-8474744		
Foxford Bridge Club: Wednesdays at 7 pm in the Social Services. All are welcome.		
Grow Meetings: A self-help group helping people suffering from stress, anxiety, depression, panic attacks, loneliness etc meet every Tuesday night at 7.30 pm in Ballina Community Centre .		
Knock Shrine:- Prayer Guidance Training Course: Interviews are now underway for the new training programme for prayer guides which begins in Knock Shrine in January 2026. For further information, dates and application form please email prayerguidancetraining@gmail.com		
Bereavement Support Meeting in the Family Centre, Knock on Wednesdays at 11 am. No appointment is needed and all are welcome. Further information from Monica Morley on 094 9375320		
Fr. Peyton Centre Opening Hours: Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 9.30am to 5.30pm. Tel: 096-45374.		
For Young Women (18-40yrs) who are discerning a Vocation to Religious/Consecrated Life , monthly meetings are held in Charleville Retreat Centre, Cork. The day includes prayer, talks, Holy Mass, Adoration and a chance to meet and chat with religious sisters of different communities. If you are interested in attending please email womendiscern@corkandross.org		
The Irish Catholic newspaper is available each week. It costs €3.50 . Payment can be put in the candelabras.		
St Joseph's Secondary School Lotto €2.50 per line (€5 for 3). Lines can be purchased online at https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/stjosephsfoxford/ All support gratefully accepted. Contact 094 9256145 for more details.		

Eucharistic Healing Retreat with Fr. John Keane & Deacon Don Devaney in Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass on Sunday 8th February 2026. Limited places, booking essential, contact Nicola 087 9622800

Alone Volunteers: Would you be willing to provide companionship to an older person locally? ALONE are seeking volunteers in your area. Full training and support provided. If interested, please apply via the **ALONE** website at www.alone.ie or for further information please contact us on volunteer@alone.ie or call **0818 222 024**. *If you are over 60 and would like to know more about the services ALONE can offer you, please call 0818 222 024.*

Set Dancing Classes on Wednesday nights at **7pm** in the **Brown Memorial Hall**. New Beginners Welcome!

FACT Social Club: We are an independent community-based service here in Foxford, Co Mayo, and we support people living with Dementia or in rural isolation. We are open Mondays to Friday and provide social interaction, activities and much more in a safe and supported environment. If you would like more information on the services we offer, please contact us at: factsocialclub1@gmail.com or telephone **094 925 6662**.

Family Carers Ireland Christmas Raffle - you could win €1,000 cash, €500 select hotels voucher or a hotel voucher. Please support family carers in your community by purchasing a ticket at www.familycarers.ie/christmas

We're Hiring! -  **Office Administrator** in **Balla Community Resource Centre**  **Full-time | 39 hours per week (flexible hours required)**

Send your CV and cover letter to jobs@balla.ie by 9th January 2026. For more info, contact us at 087 1850860 or visit www.balla.ie

Workability: Making Plans for 2026

Do you have a medical condition, difficulty or disability? Are you looking for work, or wanting to improve your employment prospects? Do you want to make plans for 2026? Not sure where to start? Contact the Mayo North East Workability programme now to find out how we can assist you.

Email rosemariemangan@mayonortheastldc.com or call Siobhán 087 499 6605 for more info. Labhair linn i módh ruin. All confidential

Give Hope This Christmas with Double the Love: Mary's Meals provides life-changing school meals to more than 3 million children living in some of the world's poorest communities. The promise of a good meal brings hungry children into the classroom, where they can gain an education and better opportunities for the future. It costs just €22 to feed a child with Mary's Meals every day for a school year. Thanks to the Tom Cunningham Trust, donations will be doubled until 12th January 2026 or until the match funding limit has been reached. Together, through Double the Love, we can transform the lives of many more desperately hungry children waiting for Mary's Meals. To donate, go to www.marysmeals.ie or phone 01 853 5163. Every donation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Home Sharers Required: Western Care Ass. is looking for people to provide respite breaks for children and adults across Co. Mayo, in your own home. If interested or would like further information, please contact Ruth Kneafsey, Home Share co-ordinator on 094 9029148.

Foster Care: Have you ever thought about fostering? Change a child's life by becoming a **Tusla Foster Carer**.

Talk to Tusla Fostering today by freephone **1800 226 771** or visit www.fostering.ie to learn more.

Would you be willing to provide companionship to an older person locally? **ALONE** are seeking volunteers in your area. Full training and support provided. If interested, please apply via the **ALONE** website at www.alone.ie or for further information please contact us on volunteer@alone.ie or call **0818 222 024**. *If you are over 60 and would like to know more about the services ALONE can offer you, please call 0818 222 024*

Enable Ireland Mayo Services require Family support workers/PA in all areas of County Mayo to work with Children with a disability. Our staff usually work one-to-one with a child within their home but also within their community or at centres throughout Mayo. Hours required are usually afternoon/evenings and Saturdays. Training is also provided. If you are interested please email shehir@enableireland.ie for further information. This is a very rewarding role and our Staff are very positive about their experience.

Do you know a person or a community group who deserve to see their efforts recognised at Mayo County Council's civic awards? We are delighted to announce the **Cathaoirleach's Awards 2025** are now open for nominations!

The Cathaoirleach's Awards honour and celebrate the many groups that work quietly behind the scenes to make our communities stronger, more vibrant and caring, often inspiring and motivating others to become actively involved in their communities.

Unsung heroes are to be found in every town, village, street and road in County Mayo.

All winners will be presented with a specially commissioned trophy, hand crafted in Mayo, at the Cathaoirleach's Awards Presentation Evening in early 2026. Winners in each category will also receive a financial bursary to use for their community work.

Details of the Cathaoirleach Awards, including the Information Booklet and Nomination Form, are available at

<https://www.mayo.ie/cathaoirleachawards2025>

Pre Marriage Courses by Accord in Sligo & Co. Galway: Oranmore & Ballinasloe, & Online. Check for availability, by county, on www.accord.ie.

Sligo, Glass House Hotel: 12 places Fri. 30th./ Sat. 31 Jan.2026

MyMind provide mental health professional therapy with Free appointments for homeowners in Mayo affected by Defective Concrete Blocks: <https://www.mymind.org/free-counselling/>

Location in Mayo North East (MNE) Office, Kevin St, Ballina and Tacu Ballinrobe.

Registration and appointment: www.mymind.org or call 0818 500 800.

Defective Concrete Block (DCB) Alone Support Group : Homeowner led initiative, emotional support for Widowed / Divorced / Separated / Single property owners in Mayo affected by Pyrite / DCB, navigating this process alone. This is an independent and confidential support group. Please contact Anne on: 089 2666389

Balla Bingo – Every Sunday Night! Join us online or in the hall for a great night of fun and prizes! Every Sunday. Eyes down at 8 PM
Get your bingo books online at <https://shorturl.at/4GBMM>

The Adoration Chapel at St. Muredach's Cathedral, Ballina is open: Mon - Fri 2 - 8 pm. Sat - Sun 2 - 7pm. All welcome.

Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.

Preparing for Marriage? Weekend residential courses available. 6-8 March 2026 and 13-15 November 2026. Details: www.grasta.org or at info@grasta.org

Married Couples course? Weekend residential courses available. 22-23 November 2025, 7-8 March 2026 and 14-15 November 2026. Details: www.grasta.org or at info@grasta.org

Would you like someone to talk to? **SeniorLine** is Ireland's national telephone service for older people open every day of the year 10am-10pm, Freephone **1800 80 45 91**. You may feel isolated, alone, bereaved or far from family. SeniorLine's older volunteers are trained to listen, to support

Hospital Visits: If you wish the priest to visit relatives or friends in hospital or at home leave a message at the priest's house.

Family Deaths: To put a notice of family deaths or general notices in the newsletter please email foxfordparishnewsletter@gmail.com

and refer to other helpful services if necessary. So don't be alone, and lift the phone. Phone **SeniorLine 1800 80 45 91**, No problem too big or too small.

Foxford Inclusion Project. If you have recently moved to Foxford and noticed your country's flag is not included in our International flags flying at the Social Services Centre, please contact **Marion on 087 9233 928** where we will be happy to have your flag included.

Charity Donations: The Foxford Alzheimer's and Community Trust has asked supporters not to leave donations outside the door of its Charity Shop in Foxford as it leaves the area untidy and hinders the walkway for residents. Instead, please note the drop off times of 11am to 5pm on Tuesday to Saturday. Items accepted include clothing for all ages, shoes in wearable condition, crockery, glassware, kitchen utensils, books, records, jewellery and handbags. The Trust is sincerely grateful to everyone who donates their items to support Foxford Alzheimer's and Community Trust Support Services.

Craoibhín Ballina is on the move. They are moving to **St.Anne's school building on the grounds of St.Mary's Old Secondary School McDermott Street Ballina**. Turn in left at F26C9E8, keep left, Craoibhín Ballina Centre is between the Involve Centre and Ballina Men's Shed. They will be opening there on Monday the 12th of January 2026 at 9 am. If you need to get in touch with Craoibhín Ballina call them on 0872785365.

Mayo's Creamery Years Project - The project is preserving the voices and memories of people who remember life around Mayo's creameries. Supported by the Heritage Council, and led by Mayo County Council, it welcomes contributions from anyone with memories to share. To get involved, contact Mac Connara Heritage Consulting at 086 274 7230 or tara.macconnaraheritage@gmail.com.

St Joseph's Secondary School Lotto €2.50 per line (€5 for 3). Lines can be purchased online at <https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/stjosephsfoxford/> All support gratefully accepted. Contact 094 9256145 for more details.

Oral Recordings of times past: To compile a list of Mayo related voice recordings of folklore, oral history, tradition etc, the Heritage Office of Mayo County Council wants to hear from anyone with information on collections or recordings. To contribute or find out more, please contact Mac Connara Heritage Consulting, at macconnaraheritage@gmail.com or **086 778 4669**.

Family Carers Ireland: Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative or neighbour? Then you are a family carer! Become a member of **Family Carers Ireland**, the national charity supporting Ireland's 500,000+ family carers nationwide. **Contact 057 9370221** and hear how we can support you or for more info visit www.familycarers.ie

Atlantic Care is urgently recruiting compassionate Caregivers in the Foxford area to provide quality support, companionship, and assistance for seniors, ensuring comfort within their own homes. Competitive rates of pay, flexible hours and support network. If you are interested contact Nollag 0949014028. www.atlanticcare.ie

Westcare Homecare are currently recruiting staff in your local area and would love to hear from interested applicants. To apply or find out more, please **contact recruitment@westcarehomecare.ie** or call **071 9300034**.

Experienced a cardiac event? 'It's Cardiac Rehab!' A podcast series for you developed by the **Irish Association of Cardiac Rehabilitation and Irish Heart Foundation** to support your recovery. It's all about getting you better than before. <https://irishheart.ie/services-for-you/its-cardiac-rehab-podcast/>

SUPPORT HELPLINES

St. Vincent de Paul: 083 8887777 www.svp.ie Samaritans: 116 123 www.samaritans.ie Womens Aid: 1800 341 900 www.womensaid.ie

Pieta House: 1800 247 247 www.pieta.ie Childline: 1800 66 66 66 www.childline.ie SeniorLine: 1800 80 45 91 www.thirdageireland.ie