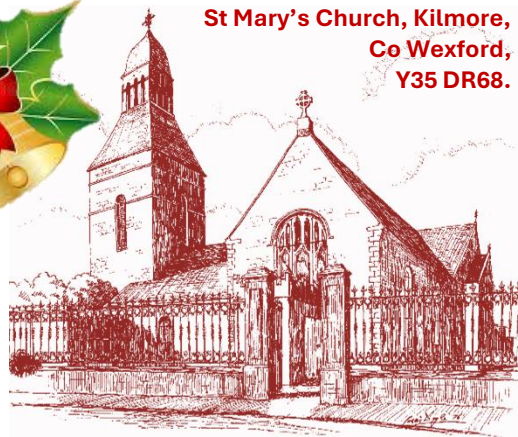


Kilmore Parish Newsletter



St Mary's Church, Kilmore,
Co Wexford,
Y35 DR68.

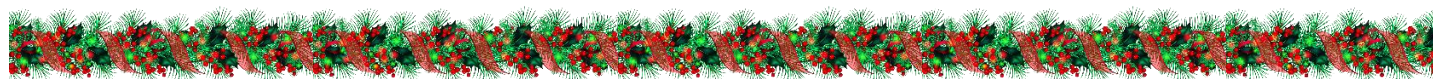


Parish Priest: Very Rev Fr Patrick Mernagh. **Mobile:** 086 225 6794.

Parish Office: Opening hours of the parish office in Kilmore church are 10.30am to 12.30pm, Tuesday to Friday; phone 053 913 5181.

Parish Website: www.kilmoreparish.com for all parish information.

Newsletter for the Christmas period: 20 December 2025 - 9 January 2026.



Parish notices

Reflection on the Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Today's Gospel highlights Joseph's faith and obedience in the face of uncertainty and his quiet yet courageous "yes" to God. In a moment of deep confusion and personal turmoil, Joseph learns that Mary is with child through the Holy Spirit.

His first instinct is to act with compassion — to protect her dignity — even before he understands the full picture. Then, through the angel's message, Joseph is called to something greater: to trust God's plan beyond his own reasoning.

By taking Mary as his wife and naming the child Jesus, Joseph steps into his role in salvation history. His obedience is not loud or dramatic, but steady and faithful — the kind of trust that changes the world. In this final week before Christmas, Joseph's example reminds us that God often works through the unexpected, the inconvenient, and the mysterious.

Faith sometimes means letting go of our carefully laid plans to embrace a path we don't fully understand — but one that leads to life and hope. May we, like Joseph, listen for God's voice in the quiet, trust His promises, and welcome Christ into our lives with open hearts.



Weekend Masses and Anniversaries

Saturday: 6.00pm Kilmore Quay

✠ December 20th: We pray for the soul of **Robert Moore**, The Beake, whose anniversary occurs now. We also pray for the deceased members of the RNLI and **Vinny Sinnott**, Kilmore Quay, at this time. We also pray for the soul of **Kathleen Crean**, née Culleton, Wicklow and Kilmore Quay, who died during the week; sympathy to her family and friends, and we also remember **Declan Bates**, Kilmore Quay, who died during the week, sympathy to his family and friends.

✠ December 27th: We pray for all those travelling back to their homes following the Christmas visits, may God keep them safe and protect them.

✠ January 3rd: We pray for the soul of **James O'Flaherty**, Kilmore Quay, whose anniversary occurs now.

Saturday: 7.30pm Tomhaggard

✠ December 20th: We pray for the soul of **Phil Kirwan**, Randalstown, whose month's mind occurs now.

✠ December 24th: We pray for the souls of **Robert and Dermot Cloney**, Tomhaggard, and the **deceased members of the Meyler family**. We also remember **Pat Sherry** at this time. We also pray for the soul of **Paddy Redmond**, Whitecross, whose 20th anniversary occurs now.

✠ December 27th: We pray for the soul of **Paddy Redmond**, Whitecross, whose 20th anniversary occurs now.

✠ January 3rd: We pray for the soul of **Ellis Ivers**, Dublin, whose anniversary occurs now.

✠ January 3rd: We pray for the soul of **Ellis Ivers**, Dublin, whose anniversary occurs now.

Sunday: 10.00am Kilmore

✠ December 21st: We pray for **Mick and Statia Purcell**, Duncormick, **Willie Whelan**, Saltmills and **Joe Sinnott**, Seaview, at this time. We also pray for the soul of **Phyllis Bates**, The Hill, whose anniversary occurs now and **Francis Moore**, Tullibards, whose anniversary occurs now.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve Wednesday: Kilmore: 5pm (Family Mass), Tomhaggard: 6pm, Kilmore Quay: 7pm, and Kilmore: 9pm.

Christmas Day Thursday: Mass Rock: 8am (wrap up well!), Mulran-kin: 11.30am.

St Stephen's Day Friday 26th: Kilmore: 11am.

Normal Mass times resume on the weekend of 27-28 December 2025.

We also remember **Declan Bates**, Kilmore Quay, who died during the week, sympathy to his family and friends. We pray for the soul of **John Gorey**, Riverview, Kilkenny, who died during the week, sympathy to Aoife and family. May he rest in peace.

✠ December 23rd: We pray for the soul of **James McGauran**, Dublin, whose anniversary occurs now.

✠ December 24th: We pray for the souls of

NEVILLE HOTELS

ROOM
TO ROAM
WITH NEVILLE HOTELS

ROYAL MARINE HOTEL
DRUIDS GLEN HOTEL & GOLF RESORT
RIVER COURT HOTEL
RAVENPORT RESORT
WHITES OF WEXFORD
Tower hotel & leisure centre

Margaret (Peg) Roche, Nemestown, whose 30th anniversary occurs now and the **deceased members of the Roche and Burke families**. December 23rd: We pray for the soul of **James McGauran**, Dublin, whose anniversary occurs now. We also pray for the soul of **John Keating**, The Village, whose anniversary occurs now and the **deceased family members**. We also remember **Mary Healy**, Dublin, at this time.

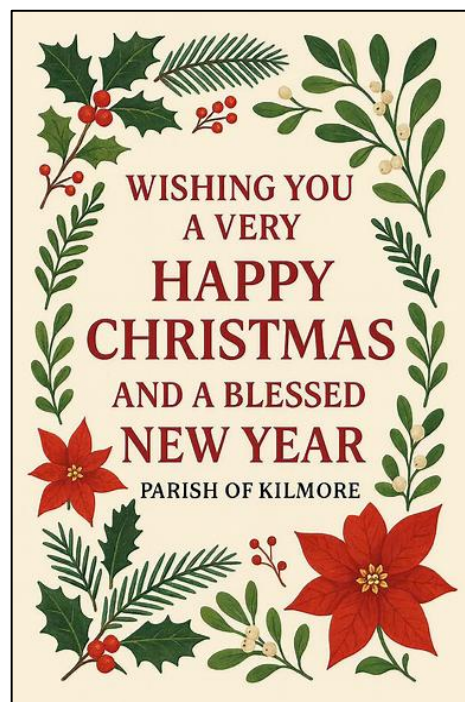
- ✠ December 28th: We pray for the soul of **Jimmy Furlong**, Bridgetown South, whose 10th anniversary occurs now, and we also remember his **grandson Eoin** at this time.
- ✠ January 4th: We pray for the soul of **Joe Sinnott**, Seaview, whose 6th anniversary occurs now, and **Kenneth Rowe**, Tullibards, whose 8th anniversary occurs.
- ✠ January 8th: We pray for the souls of the **Dullard and Moloney families**, whose anniversaries occur now.

Sunday: 11.30am Mulrankin

- ✠ December 21st: We pray for the soul of **Brenda Leacock**, who died during the week; sympathy to her family and friends.
Reader: Sharon Warburton.
- ✠ December 25th: We pray for all those remembering absent loved ones on this day.
Reader: Aiden Miskella.
- ✠ December 28th: Dec 28th: We pray for the soul of **Tom O'Leary**, Bridgetown, whose 3rd anniversary occurs now.
Reader: Mary O'Brien.
- ✠ January 4th: We pray for the soul of **Martin Kehoe**, Bridgetown, whose 23rd anniversary occurs now.
Reader: Mary Kehoe.

Mass times after Christmas

There will be no Mass celebrated in the Parish on the 30th and 31st of December. Mass on New Year's Day will be at 11am to ring in the New Year and Pray for World Peace in St Marys Church Kilmore; and Mass for the rest of this



Christmas Blessing and Parish Appreciation

Dear friends,

At Christmas we remember that God's love came among us in the simplest of ways—in a child, in a family, in a manger. And in our parish this past year, that same love has been made real through your kindness, your support, and your goodness.

I want to thank each of you for the countless ways you have helped our parish flourish. To those who serve in our liturgies—readers, choirs, musicians, sacristans, and ministers of Holy Communion—your gifts have lifted our worship. To those who care for the sick, comfort the grieving, welcome newcomers, and support the poor—you have shown Christ's compassion. To Jim and Mary for putting together our newsletters each week so faithfully; our parish councils, committees, cleaners, decorators, gardeners, caretakers, collectors, and those who tend lovingly to our parish cemetery—your steady work has kept our parish alive, welcoming, and dignified.

I also want to express my deep gratitude to all who have supported us financially—whether through online donations, the parish envelope system, or by faithfully taking part in the parish lotto. Every gift, every contribution, has helped us to maintain our four beautiful churches, ensuring they remain places of prayer, welcome, and peace for generations to come.

A special word of thanks goes to Mag, who is studying in Maynooth for the Pastoral Ministry course. Her generosity, dedication, and daily service in the parish and office have been a true blessing to us all, and we are deeply grateful for her presence and commitment.

At the same time, we hold close in prayer all those who have lost a loved one this year. May the light of Christ bring comfort to grieving hearts and may the promise of His birth remind us that love is stronger than death, and peace is His gift to us all.

As Pope Leo XIII reminds us: *"Peace is the work of justice and the effect of charity. It is born of truth, nourished by love, and perfected in freedom."* May that peace fill your homes this Christmas, and may it guide us together into the year ahead.

Finally, we welcome you to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with us this year at one of our Christmas Masses. May the light of Christ fill your hearts with gratitude and love, and may His peace warm you like a hearth in winter, now and always. May this Christmas bring you joy, courage, and hope. Have a lovely Christmas and a BLESSED NEW Year

Fr Pat

week will be at 11am each day. Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany 6th Jan will be at 10am with the boys and girls from the school to mark Little Christmas and the Feast of the Three Wise Men.

Penitential Service next Tuesday

Penitential Service next Tuesday 23rd at 11am in St Mary's Church, Kilmore, to facilitate people not having to travel at night time and it will be a very simple service, and Fr Pat will be available after the service for confessions that day also.

Parish Office opening hours

Please note the Parish Office will close on Christmas Eve 24th December and reopen again on Wednesday 7th January at 10:30am.

Bishop Ger's Christmas Message

To view Bishop Ger's full Christmas Message please go to our website www.kilmoreparish.com

The Feast of the Holy Family

The Feast of the Holy Family on Sunday 28th December will be celebrated with a Family Mass at 10am in Kilmore parish church.

Thought for the New Year

The start of a New Year offers a time of reflection on the past year and inspiration for the year ahead. Ending the year with a grateful heart for the past year is a powerful way to refocus and renew your outlook on life whether this past year brought you success, fulfilment, and joy, or you faced grief, setbacks, and struggle, New Year prayers are a great way to give thanks for the past year, seek guidance for the coming year, and ask for God's blessings.

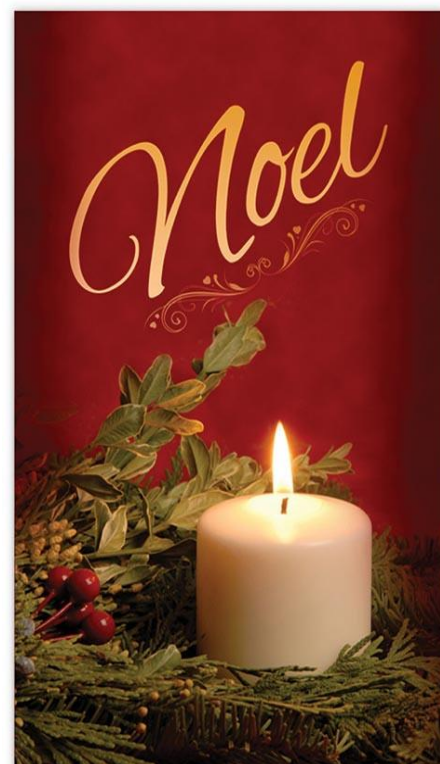
South East Radio

Christian Media Trust programmes on South East Radio (95.2-96.4FM) from Saturday 20th December to Christmas Day.

- Simply Divine Sat 20th Dec 2025 10.04-10.30am. Maria Colfer speaks with Bishop

Adrian Wilkinson, Bishop of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory who shares some of his favourite Christmas Carols.

- Sounds for Sunday 21st Dec 09.04am -10am. Presented by Patricia McNally. Selection of Hymns & Sacred Songs for the fourth Sunday of Advent and it includes listeners requests.



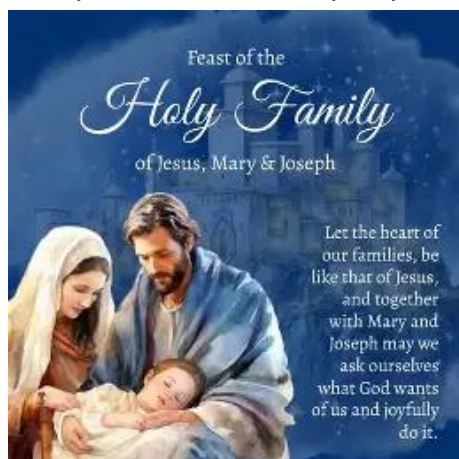
- Sunday Celebration, 21st Dec 10am. Rev David Curran.
- Sunday Reflection 21st Dec 8.30pm-9pm. Mary Ellen Hawkey speaks with Bishop Ger Nash, Bishop of Ferns, about his favourite Bible stories.

- The Most Wonderful time of the year, 22nd Dec 8.04pm -9.00pm. Christmas special with music and reflection with Fr James Murphy.
- Christmas special, 23rd Dec 8.04-8.30pm. Eric Driver shares a selection of favourite Christmas Carols.
- Christmas Vigil Mass, live broadcast 24th Dec 9pm, St Aidan's Cathedral, Enniscorthy.
- Sounds For Christmas with Patricia McNally, 25th Dec 9.04am - 10am. Christmas morning special programme ,includes messages from four church Leaders, Bishop Ger Nash, Bishop Adrian Wilkinson, Rev Fadzi Jongoro, and Rev David Curran.



Reflection on the Gospel for the Feast of the Holy Family

The Feast of the Holy Family reminds us that Jesus lived in a real family. He had a mother and a father who cared for Him and protected Him. Mary and Joseph did not have easy lives, but they trusted God and followed His plan. Their home was simple, but it was full of love. This feast helps us think about our own families. Every home has struggles. But like the Holy Family, we are called to listen to God and care for each other with patience. Love grows in quiet moments, hard choices, and daily kindness. This day is not only about Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. It is about how we can live with love and trust in our families today. God is with us in family life, no matter how ordinary it may seem.



Congratulations

Congratulations to **Taylor Kielthy** in fifth class who won the Parish Christmas Card Competition, pictured with our School Principal Michael Martin and Ms Flynn.



Second Place went to **Ollie Bates** in 6th Class and joint third places went to **Leyla Rose McGee** 5th Class and **Nathan O' Sullivan** in 6th Class. All the cards can be viewed in St Mary's over the Christmas. A Big thank you to Neville Hotels who sponsored our Christmas Cards and Calendars this year. We greatly appreciate their support now and throughout the year for sponsoring our Parish Newsletter.



Congratulations too to **Tilly Flaherty** who celebrated her 93rd Birthday recently. Wishing her every Blessing at this special time.



Congratulations also to our New Ministers of the Eucharist in Mulrankin who received their certificates of Commissioning recently in St David's Church. We thank them for their ministry and service and wish them every success.



Parish Newsletter

Our newsletter is available on the parish website each week at www.kilmoreparish.com. Please take home a copy home to a house-bound neighbour so that he/she feels connected to the parish.

Mass online and via the parish radio

To access Mass on the parish website, go to www.kilmoreparish.com. The webcam goes live 15 minutes before Mass. To access Mass on the parish radio, tune in to 103.90FM.

Requests for Anniversary Masses

All requests for anniversary masses must be made to the parish office. The office is open Tuesday to Friday between 10.30am and 12.30pm. We cannot accept any requests that are left on the answering machine in accordance with GDPR.

Child Protection Services

To seek support or advice, or to report any concerns you may have with regard to child protection matters, please contact the following parish safeguarding officers: Paul: 087 774 5546 (Kilmore area), Pat 087 278 5156 (Tomhaggard/Mulrankin area) and John 087 914 8009 (Kilmore Quay area).

Community notices

Tomhaggard Christmas treat

There will be a cup of tea/coffee, and some Christmas treats for everyone after 7.30pm Mass this Saturday evening (20th) in Tomhaggard. All welcome.



Kilmore Quay ICA

The ICA ladies had a most enjoyable time at the Christmas dinner hosted by Stella Maris staff and volunteers on Wednesday of last week. They would like to thank everyone involved in organising this great annual event and thank you to Kilmore Scouts for the lovely presents and cards all made by the scouts. A lovely gesture. The craft ladies had their Christmas lunch in Stella Maris on Thursday of last week thanks to Bernie and staff for looking after them so well. The guild will take a break now till February. Happy Christmas to one and all.





Festive Fun Table Quiz

Round off the year with a fun night of quizzing at the RNLI's Festive Fun Table Quiz in Kehoe's Pub & Parlour on Monday 29th December at 8pm.

Team of four €25. All welcome.



Parish Meals on Wheels

The meals on wheels service will continue until December 23rd. We will return to the service on Monday January 5th. To all our valued friends, great volunteer drivers, helpers, generous donors we wish you all a very Happy, Healthy and safe Christmas and look forward to all of this great community service in the New Year.



Community Lotto results

The numbers drawn in this week's Lotto were 7, 10, 11, and 26. There were six match-three winners each receiving €35. There was no jackpot winner. Next week's jackpot stands at €6400.



As this was the last draw for 2025 a sincere thank you to everyone who supported the church Lotto during the year and to those who sell the tickets. The first draw for 2026 will be held on January 5th.



Ballycogley Players

Rehearsals are ongoing for our 2026 full length circuit play "All My Sons" by Arthur Miller, directed by Brigid Scully. Tickets for the pre-festival performances at The National Opera House on Sunday 22nd and Monday 23rd February are now on sale online <http://www.nationaloperahouse.ie> or by phoning the box office 053 912 2144 - the ideal Christmas gift. Our

members Christmas party took place last Friday evening, December 12th in Mary Barrys, Kilmore and a great night was had by all. The committee and members of Ballycogley Players would like to wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. Thank you for your ongoing support to our group, in particular this year as we celebrated our 50th anniversary. Here's to many more great years of drama and togetherness with Ballycogley Players.

members Christmas party took place last Friday evening, December 12th in Mary Barrys, Kilmore and a great night was had by all. The committee and members of Ballycogley Players would like to wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. Thank you for your ongoing support to our group, in particular this year as we celebrated our 50th anniversary. Here's to many more great years of drama and togetherness with Ballycogley Players.

Kilmore Parish Journal on sale

The 54th edition of Kilmore Parish Journal is now on sale in most shops in the community and in bookshops in Wexford town. The Journal records the history, traditions, life and sporting achievements of the Kilmore Parish community. Enjoy reading it.

Stella Maris Community Centre Café



The Café and Centre will close Friday 19th December and we will reopen Café on Wednesday 7th January. Management and staff wish all our customers, volunteers, groups and supporters a Happy and

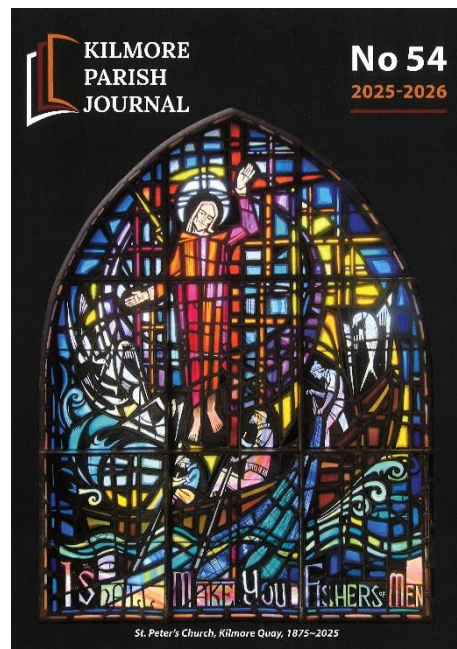
Peaceful Christmas and look forward to meeting up in 2026.



Bridgetown College musical on stage



High School Musical on Stage! follows the relationship of Troy, a high school basketball captain, and Gabriella, a new transfer student, as they fall



for each other while singing together during a vacation. Back at school, their budding romance and desire to audition for the school musical are met with opposition from cliques and the drama queen Sharpay. Their decision to audition together breaks down barriers, encouraging other students to defy their cliques and embrace new passions.

The show is directed by Eileen Creevey and goes on stage on Tuesday 27th January, Wednesday 28th, and Thursday 20th at 7.30pm in Bridgetown College Gym. Booking for the show is online at <https://www.gr8events.ie/sales/index.php?event=2441>. Adult ticket €15 plus booking fee, student €10, and non-attendance €10.



Next newsletter

There will be no newsletter on the weekend after Christmas. Items for publication in the next week-end's 'Community notices' are very welcome and should be submitted before 12 noon on Friday 9 January 2026 to kilmorenewsletter@gmail.com.

