

Parish of Stranorlar

Church of Mary Immaculate

PRIESTS: Rev. Kieran McAteer, P.P. Tel. 9131135
Rev. Anthony Briody, C.C. Tel. 9131157
St. Mary's Parish Centre Tel. 9175853
St. Vincent de Paul Tel. 087 9955351
Parish Website - www.stranorlarparish.ie
Email - stranorlarparish@gmail.com
Facebook - St Mary's RC Parish Stranorlar
Live Streaming - churchservices.tv/stranorlar

1st Sunday of Advent - 28th November 2021

MASSES: Weekdays: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 10am. Friday 10am & 7.30pm.
Saturday - 6pm (Vigil) Sunday - 9am & 11am.

All masses can be viewed on churchservices.tv/stranorlar

CONFESSIONS: Thursday 7pm - 7.30pm
Saturday 12 - 1pm & 5.15pm - 5.45pm

ADORATION: Thursday from 10.30am - 7.30pm.

BAPTISMS: Every Sunday & 1st Saturday of the Month.
To book contact the Parish Office on 9131135 on Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays between 10am - 12.30pm.

Advent Holy Hour: There will be a Holy Hour in the church this Sunday from 7pm - 8pm in preparation for Christmas. We invite you to join us in the church or on our live streaming.

Months Mind's: The 7.30pm Mass on Friday 3rd December will be offered for the repose of the soul of Dom Espey, Woodlawn.

The 6pm Mass on Saturday 4th December will be offered for the repose of the soul of Mena Gallagher, Donegal Rd.

Ministers of the Word for December:

Saturday 6pm - Vigil - Mary McGinley
Sunday 9am - Catherine Gillooley. Sunday 11am - Ailish O'Donnell

Ministers of the Eucharist for December:

Saturday 6pm - Mary O'Connor.
Sunday 9am - Evelyn Gildea. Sunday 11am - John Patton

Parish Draw: Our parish draw will take place next Sunday 5th December. Anyone who has not yet dropped in the envelopes for the draw is asked to do so by **Friday 3rd December** as the draw numbers have all to be uploaded on the computer before the draw date. Online entry can be found on St Mary's RC Parish Stranorlar Facebook Page or via <https://www.idonate.ie/raffle/StMarysChristmasParishDraw> Envelopes are also available in Andies, Stranorlar and Alexanders, Ballybofey and in the church porches. You can return your money in the completed envelope to Fr Kieran, Fr Anthony or the church collection box.

St. Vincent de Paul: St. Vincent de Paul Christmas annual appeal collection will take place each weekend until Christmas. Your help would be very much appreciated. Any family requesting help please ring 087 9955351.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje 2022: 7th September 2022 for 7 days with Spiritual Director. Cost €765 per person. **EARLY BOOKING OFFER** - €50 off if paid in full by 10th December 2021. For further information and to book please contact Kathleen at 074-9121641 or 086-3721962

First Sunday of Advent: *Advent calls on us, as we await the birth of Jesus to be a light for all who hunger for justice, peace and truth.*

As we begin the season of Advent our thoughts turn towards the wonderful mystery of God entering our world in the person of a helpless child. It is the mystery of God's love for each one of us and St Paul prays in the second reading in today's Mass "May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race".

The Christian invitation and challenge is not just to love those who love me but to love all people. In this regard Christ has shown us the way in his special love for the poor and the broken. We live in a world where most of us have more than we need. Sadly in so many other parts of our world millions of people are poor and broken, living permanently in dire poverty. What better way to prepare for this Christmas than to make a serious contribution to Trócaire or other such charities which works for the relief of poverty and to promote human development helping people to live lives of dignity. The work of Trócaire depends to a great extent on our contributions and it has suffered a significant fall in these contributions this past year because of the Covid pandemic.

In recent times we have become aware of the urgency of the threat of climate change. We have also learned that it is these poorer countries who are suffering most from the fallout of climate change. We are called to listen to the voice of the poor. "May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race".