

Christmas Day - 25th December 2015

A Saviour has been born to you

The angel said: "I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." The message of Christmas is a message of joy. Many of us experience it as such but we very soon go back to our ordinary ways of living. As Christians the joy of Christmas is given to us in faith so that others may experience joy also because of us. We cannot afford to go back to joyless living. We need to stretch ourselves to let the joy of this very special time grow and develop in our daily lives so that the world can be filled with the radiance of Christ. We do this through the quality of joy that we develop in marriage and family life. We do it also through the sense of joy that we work at in our faith community. This week we can practise joy in our lives so that it will become infectious for all those around us. **Fr. Johnny Doherty, C.Ss.R.**



Merry Christmas; Sonas na Nollag;

Priecīgus Ziemassvetkus

Milad Majid; Wesolych Świat Bozego Narodzenia



Christmas Day 2015

Greenlough Parish - Tamlaght O'Crilly

Masses during the week

Saturday 26th December - No Morning Mass

Vigil Mass at 7.30pm

Sunday 27th December

9.00am & 11.00am



Monday 28th to Saturday 2nd January

No Masses

Saturday 2nd January: 7.30pm

Sunday 3rd January: 9.00am & 11.00am

Anniversary Masses during the Week

Saturday 26th December 2015

7.30pm: John McErlean, RIP

Sunday 3rd January 2016

11.00am: Tommy Clarke, RIP



The St. Vincent de Paul Collection amounted to **£1312.60**. The Conference would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions.



Also thanks to all those who attended the **SVP Christmas Party** and had such a wonderful night.

Sacred Heart Messenger Magazine

The **January** Issue is now available on the table at the Church Door.



Continuous Prayer Movement

for Marriage & Family Life

Our Parish day of Prayer takes place on

Tuesday 29th December.



Christmas Message 2015

Thirty five years ago I celebrated my first Christmas as a priest in this diocese - on that occasion I recall how as a young priest facing into the unknown, I experienced two dominant emotions - trepidation and deep joy. Some people tell me these apparently contrasting opposites cannot exist together - not so - over the years many expectant parents have shared that they have had similar emotions.

These emotions have dominated my life in the latter half of 2015 when Bishop Donal asked me to become parish priest of Lavey and Greenlough. I have experienced trepidation because of the pastoral and other challenges I could not foresee in advance and because of my unfamiliarity with this part of the world. But I have also experienced deep joy because of my personal faith and trust in God and encountering a similar faith in so many of you.



I thank you all for your support and your involvement in parish life. Everyone contributes when you accept responsibility for sharing the gifts you have been given and use them to benefit our faith community.

I thank Fr. Dermott Harkin for his ministry among us.

Sharing challenges and sharing faith makes up the journey of life.

As I pray the Christmas story again this year, I see those emotions dominant there - Joseph and Mary set out on a journey which we know with hindsight changed the face of history and the lives of many. They carried their humanity and placed it before God and God's spirit was as present with them as God's spirit is with us here in Lavey and Greenlough today.

In this year of mercy, inaugurated by Pope Francis on December 8th, may we humbly acknowledge our sins and failings and open our hearts to the love and mercy of God.

Can I wish everyone a very holy and happy Christmas season and every blessing for the new year 2016.

Father Eugene Hasson

Sonás na Nollag - A very happy Christmas

Just this week Pope Francis spoke to his team of co-workers, chided and encouraged them and concluded his words with a prayer that has been attributed to the late Archbishop Romero, who was beatified during the year - I feel that at this time of opportunity and change there is no better prayer to place before you.

Prophets of a Future Not Our Own

*It helps now and then to step back and take the long view.
The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is beyond our vision.
We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.
Nothing we do is complete,
which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.
No statement says all that could be said.
No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection.
No pastoral visit brings wholeness.
No program accomplishes the church's mission.
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.
This is what we are about: we plant the seeds that one day will grow.
We water seeds already planted,
knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development.
We provide yeast that produces effects beyond our capabilities.
We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation
in realising that this enables us to do something,
and to do it very well.
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way,
an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest.
We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the
master builder and the worker.
We are workers, not master builders, ministers not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own. Amen.*

Archbishop Oscar Romero