
Bereavement Support

Are you supporting someone who is grieving at this time? Online diocesan conversation next Wed, 8-9.15pm, with grief therapist Brid Carroll & Fr. Tom Hever. More details:

www.elphindiocese.ie/bereavement . All who are caring welcome to participate.

Elphin Diocesan-wide Prayer Support Initiative for our world's 25 million+ refugees + 4.2million

asylum seekers is under consideration. To find out more please visit:

www.elphindiocese.ie/prayer4refugees

Sligo Virtual Tree

Sligo.virtualtree.ie is a initiative of Sligo County Council to reach out to those far from home this Christmas. The Diaspora Tree, connecting Sligo to people around the world.

Level 5 Restrictions

Mass Times at Level 5 as from Dec 26th to unknown date as yet.

Level 5 means for us in church –

No public Mass, Mass online at FB: ahamlish parish sligo, 12noon every Sunday

Pope Francis' Sermon on New Year's Eve

"You can have flaws, be anxious, and even be angry, but do not forget that your life is the greatest enterprise in the world. Only you can stop it from going bust. Many appreciate you, admire you and love you. Remember that to be happy is not to have a sky without a storm, a road without accidents, work without fatigue, relationships without disappointments. To be happy is to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in the stage of fear, love in discord. It is not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness. It is not only to celebrate the successes, but to learn lessons from the failures. It is not only to feel happy with the applause, but to be happy in anonymity. Being happy is not a fatality of destiny, but an achievement for those who can travel within themselves. To be happy is to stop feeling like a victim and become your destiny's author. It is to cross deserts, yet to be able to find an oasis in the depths of our soul. It is to thank God for every morning, for the miracle of life. Being happy is not being afraid of your own feelings. It's to be able to talk about you. It is having the courage to hear a "no". It is confidence in the face of criticism, even when unjustified. It is to kiss your children, pamper your parents, to live poetic moments with friends, even when they hurt us. To be happy is to let live the creature that lives in each of us, free, joyful and simple. It is to have maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes". It is to have the courage to say "I am sorry". It is to have the sensitivity to say, "I need you". It is to have the ability to say "I love you". May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness ... That in spring may it be a lover of joy. In winter a lover of wisdom. And when you make a mistake, start all over again. For only then will you be in love with life. You will find that to be happy is not to have a perfect life. But use the tears to irrigate tolerance. Use your losses to train patience. Use your mistakes to sculptor serenity. Use pain to plaster pleasure. Use obstacles to open windows of intelligence. Never give up Never give up on people who love you. Never give up on happiness, for life is an incredible show."

Christianity is the assurance that we are sustained and watched over by a loving God + this gives us hope for the future. The basis for this hope, is what God has shown us of himself in the life and teaching of Jesus Christ. People ask where can we find hope. The answer is we dont. It finds us because it is a gift from God... the best present anyone could want as we begin a new year.

Gordon Linney

Parish of Ahamlish and Inishmurray

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Visit us on ahamlish.com

&

Ahamlish Parish Sligo Facebook Page.

Join us every Sunday 12noon for Mass through our FB Page.

Prayer at the Crib

God our Father, you sent your only son, Jesus, as a little child
To love us and to be our Saviour.
Your Holy Spirit came down on Mary and gave wisdom to Joseph
So that they could prepare for His birth.
As we pray here around the crib, open our hearts to His love and to His gentle care.
Take away our fears and fill our hearts with joy. Guide and care for our families and
Help us to care for one another so that we can live as the people of God.
May we know His presence with us and find deep peace in our lives during
These days of Christmas and in the year ahead. Amen.

Christmas Prayers

Lord,

As we celebrate another Christmas help us to live each moment gratefully. May we have the faith to trust in the gifts you have given us. May we have the hope that overcomes the dark thoughts that sometimes cloud our vision. May we have the love that makes our world a better place. We make this prayer through Jesus our brother, born for us again in Bethlehem. Amen.

Heavenly Father, Love came down on Christmas Day,
And love brings us together now to share this holiday feasts.

We ask you to bless our food and all of us here.

We remember those we love who are not with us today, but who remain with us in spirit.

With grateful hearts, we thank you for all the blessings

You have given us this year and we pray for peace in families and nations around the world.
Amen.

An Irish Christmas Prayer

The Light Of The Christmas Star To You
The Warmth Of Home And Hearth To You
The Cheer And Good Will Of Friends To You
The Love Of The Son And God's Peace To You

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm by calling **0818 222 024**, and will remain open over the Christmas period.

Vincent de Paul Society – Contact 087 186 8490

Altar Society & Sacristans

On behalf of our parish, I want to sincerely thank all those people who are constantly helping out and who especially put together a beautiful sanctuary in our three churches over the last few weeks.
Thank you.

Covid Regulations

Funerals are now limited to 10, weddings to 6 after Jan 3rd, and Baptisms to 6.

Bishop Kevin has a Christmas message for everyone, click here to listen www.dioceseofelphin.ie

Masses during the Week are in Private but if you wish to have a Mass offered for an intention, I'll be happy to oblige.

Masses Grange

Sun 3 rd Jan	12.00	Dan McGloin, Castlegal Paddy McGowan, Ballinful (8 th Anniversary) Sean McGowan, Cloyspara (7 th Anniversary) Paddy Watters, Newtownward Anne Currid, Mount Edward – Months Mind
Mon 4 th Jan		For the People of the Parish
Tue 5 th Jan		Maura Haulse
Wed 6 th Jan		Feast of The Epiphany John Hennessy + Attracta O'Loughlin
Thur 7 th Jan		Denis + Teresa Davey, NY
Fri 8 th Jan		Evelyn Foley, Sligo
Sat 9 th Jan		Willie O'Loughlin
Sun 10 th Jan		Seán Dolan (1 st Anniversary) Brendan Rooeny (6 th Anniversary) Margaret O'Reilly, John St., Sligo Dympna + Martin O'Dea Terry Meehan (30 th Anniversary) Tom Haran, Drumfad

Grange Sunday Collection: € 925

Feast of the Epiphany Jan 6th

This Feast of the 12th day celebrates the manifestation of Jesus to the world. In the Russian/Ukrainian Orthodox Catholic Calendar this is the high point of the Christmas season. In other places, it's celebrated as "The Three Kings Day" – The Arrival of the Maji. It's the day we take down the decorations and declare Christmas officially over. In a curious Irish twist, the day of Jan 6th was entitled Nollaig ná mDán (Women's Christmas). This Feast gave the women of Ireland an annual day off, after being thoroughly exhausted from the preparations and festivities of Christmas. The men would do the necessary around the house for the day, so the women could go to lunch or let their hair down. *I dunno – sounds like a theory to me.*

Thanks for your donations which I really appreciate at the difficult time for many people.

You can continue to give in the usual way or on at ahamlish.com or by direct debit or by handing it in to through the letter box, parochial house, Grange.

Lockdown –

For us in church, that means no public Masses; so we revert to our Sunday Mass at 12.00 noon every week online @ Ahamlish Parish Sligo on Facebook.

Our churches remain open for private prayer, a visit to the crib, to light a candle, to pray for someone who may need support. It will do them good to know you prayed and it will do you no harm either. Please sanitise your hands as you enter and leave the church.

Thanks to all who supported the **Christmas Collection** which goes towards the annual salary of the Priest. I really appreciate your generosity in these particularly difficult times. Praying for everyone to be safe + well.