

**Dear Neighbour** - You are invited to a meeting at 8.15 on 5<sup>th</sup> December in the Cliffoney Hall at which Councillor Donal Gilroy will tell us about the draft Sligo County Development Plan and specifically the Cliffoney Village Plan for 2024 -2030. Please see links below.

[Chapter 43 - Cliffoney - October 2023.pdf \(sligococo.ie\)](#)  
<https://consult.sligococo.ie/sites/default/files/Cliffoney%20-%20Draft%20Zoning%20Map%20%28A3%29.pdf>

*This is an opportunity to find out more about how Sligo County Council plans to develop our village and to ask questions. We hope to see you there.*

**"Carns NS Book Fair on Thursday 7th December from 6.30-8.00pm.** All local families are welcome to attend. A great opportunity to get presents and books to promote reading before Christmas".

**Centenarians:** Journalist, Sorcha Crowley, is looking to speak to people who will turn 100 in 2024 for the Irish Examiner newspaper. She would carry out a short interview within the next 2-3 weeks with people who are specifically aged 99 years and turning 100 next year. Please contact Sorcha at [sorchacrowley@gmail.com](mailto:sorchacrowley@gmail.com) or 086-456 3594.

**Novena to the Immaculate Conception – 29 November – 7 December – Solemnity 8 December** :Rosary – Litany of our Lady. A bouquet of roses will be presented to Our Lady on Dec 8 on behalf of all making the novena.

The 8 December is a holy day of obligation as decreed by the Irish Bishops in Loughrea on 7 Dec 1650

Painting – The Irish Madonna – Our Lady Queen and Patroness of Ireland which wept blood. On St Patrick's Day 1697 this beautiful painting wept blood for 3 hours. - On the night of 7 December 1750, when the Cromwellian persecution of Ireland was raging, the Irish Bishops gathered in the old Carmelite Abbey of Loughrea, Co. Galway, at the invitation of Bishop Walter Lynch, Bishop of Clonfert, and before this painting of Our Lady Comforted of the Afflicted, solemnly proclaimed Our Lady as the Queen and Patroness of the kingdom of Ireland. The Bishops decreed that as a perpetual memorial of this proclamation that the Feast of the Immaculate Conception should be observed in Ireland on 8 December as a holy day of obligation until the end of time. This was 204 years before the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception and the institute of the feast day by the universal church and 208 years before Our Lady appeared to St Bernadette of Lourdes telling little Bernadette "I am the Immaculate Conception" - In 1651 Bishop Lynch had to flee Ireland and brought the precious painting of Our Lady with him. He first took refuge on Inishboffin island and from there went to Vienna where he met Bishop Pusky of Gyor, Hungary who gave him refuge in his diocese and where he became assistant Bishop. - In 1663, Bishop Walter Lynch was set to return to Ireland but died the day before setting sail and so the painting of Our Lady Queen and Patroness of the Kingdom of Ireland remained in Hungary. The painting was placed in the altar of St Annes in Gyor Cathedral. - On St Patrick's Day 1697, the day after the Act of Banishment was passed in Ireland, at 6am Angelus time, during morning Mass, the painting started to weep copious droplets. The supernatural event continued until 10am in the morning. - Many people witnessed the miracle. The blood on the painting was collected with linen cloths and droplets of blood continued to ooze from the painting described as if sweating blood. A local rabbi also witnessed the miracle. The linen cloths are kept in a reliquary in the Cathedral of Gyor. - The gold crowns on the heads of Jesus and Mary were added to the painting at a later date. The painting is venerated as Our Lady of Gyor and known as the Irish Madonna of Europe. Children in Hungary in pilgrimage to honour the Irish Madonna. A gift of a replica painting was painted in Hungary and left face to face for 4 hours with the original painting consecrated by the Irish bishops. The replica is in St Brendan's Cathedral in Loughrea Abbey. **Our Lady Queen and Patroness of Ireland and Comforter of the Afflicted pray for us.** Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted is one of the titles of Our Lady in the Litany of Loreto. There are a number of different novena prayers to the Immaculate Conception. A number of Popes and saints have written novena prayers in honor of the Immaculate Conception. St Faustina prepared for the feast day by making 1000 Hail Mary's a day. The painting the Irish Bishops proclaimed as Queen and Patroness of the Kingdom of Ireland in 1650 is also known as Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted. On 21 August 1879, 229 years after the proclamation by the Irish Bishops in 1650, Our Lady appeared in Knock wearing a crown of gold, accompanied by her beloved husband St Joseph, Jesus as the Lamb of God and St John the Apostle. **Our Lady Queen and Patroness of the Kingdom of Ireland and Comforter of the Afflicted, Pray for us.** "The most Blessed Virgin was from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved immune from all original sin" Pope Pius IX who proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

*O Mary conceived without sin pray for us who have recourse to thee.*

**Blessed be the holy and immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

*We fly to thy protection O Holy Mother of God, despise not our petitions on our necessities, but deliver us always from all dangers O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen*

~ Ave Ave Ave Maria~

# Parish of Ahamlish and Inishmurray

Grange ✠ Cliffoney ✠ Mullaghmore

**Fr. Christy McHugh**

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Sunday 03<sup>rd</sup> December 2023

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent – Year B



### Online Mass

Every Mass from Grange Church available on our Facebook Page

### **Adoration**

Every Thursday, 7-9pm, Grange Church

Every Wednesday, 7-9pm Cliffoney Church

## Mullaghmore Masses

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	10:30am	Holy Rosary
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	6:30pm	<b>Vigil of 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Bernie, Alice and John Kelly Mullaghmore</b>
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	6:30pm	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Thomas & Annie Boyce
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	6:30pm	<b>Vigil of 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Martin O'Rourke</b>

## Cliffoney Masses

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	12noon	Wedding Shelia & Michael
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	10:30am	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	10:30am	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	10:30am	<b>Vigil of 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> Peter Oates Deceased of the Kennedy Family, Ballincastle
Collection <b>€815</b>		

## Grange Masses

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	8:00pm	<b>Vigil of 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Tom Leonard &amp; parents Mary Kate &amp; Paddy,</b> Augharrow <b>Ellie Meehan Brooks</b> (10 <sup>th</sup> Anniv) <b>Kathleen &amp; Jim Meehan, Eileen, Maudie,</b> <b>Julianne, Jadel, Patsy, Tom &amp; Vera,</b> deceased of the Gilmartin and McDermott families.
Sunday 03 <sup>rd</sup> December	12noon	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Bea Loughlin (13<sup>th</sup> Anniv)</b>
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am	For the People of the Parish 60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New Mass
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am	Shelia Lawrence (7 <sup>th</sup> Anniv)
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am	Feast of St Nicholas & St Fachtna
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	8:00pm	Deceased of the PTAA
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	12noon	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	8:00pm	<b>Vigil of 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Marie Henry</b> Months Mind <b>Jim Haran,</b> (Rinroe) & deceased of the Haran & Mullaney families
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	12noon	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Joe Kilfeather,</b> Grange (14 <sup>th</sup> Anniv) <b>Ursula &amp; Noel Bruen</b>
Collection <b>€1050</b>		

**Sacrament of Confirmation** will be held in Church of Mary Immaculate Grange on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 11am 2024 for children of the entire parish.

**First Holy Communion** will be celebrated on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 11am 2024 at Church of Mary Immaculate Grange.

**First Holy Communion** will be held in Cliffoney Church on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 11am 2024

**Please Remember in your Prayers:**

**WORK FOR THE LORD – The Legion of Mary** has as its objective the sanctification of its members and then to reach out to everyone in faith. If you would like to enter into Our Lady's service, why not consider becoming a member? There is a branch present here in Grange.

**Meeting day:** Thursday **Venue:** Parochial House Grange. **Time:** 7pm

**On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 23,** the First Sunday of Advent, a new Church Year will begin and we will be distributing a new box of Responsible Stewardship Envelopes for use in the Offertory Collection. If you are new to the parish or have not received a box in the past and would like to do so, please contact Fr. Christy.

**St. Vincent De Paul Volunteers** – we are here if you need us. All calls are confidential. St. Teresa's Conference Grange. Contact: 087 186 8490

### Grange Church Carol Services:

**GPPS** annual service will be on the 20<sup>th</sup> December @ 2pm

**Scoil Naomh Molaise Primary School** Carol Service will be held Thur Dec 21<sup>st</sup> Dec @ 7pm

Christmas Concert in Cliffoney Hall by **Cliffoney NS** will be held on Thurs Dec 14<sup>th</sup> @6:30pm

Christmas Concert in Cliffoney Hall by **Castlegal NS** will be held on Mon Dec 11<sup>th</sup> 5 – 7pm

~ All Welcome to any of the above ~

**Cliffoney Community Forum:** The switching of the village Christmas Lights will be held on Sunday Dec 10<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. The primary school children will be singing Christmas Carols everyone join in! Santa promises to stop by. Gathering in the church grounds. The Christmas Fair will be held in Cliffoney from 2pm on Dec 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Annual Tractor Run will be held on Sunday Dec 17<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm. Gathering in Gilroy's yard. Fundraiser for N W Stop & Sligo Cancer Support Centre. In the 3 years the tractor Run has raised €38,000

**Grange Village Christmas Lights** Switch on Sunday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> @6pm. Gathering around the Christmas Tree @ Barry's. Carol Singing & Santa & Girl Guides.

**Grange Calendars** on sale at all the local outlets €10 each. Well done to Grange Tidy Towns Committee **Totus Tuus Magazine** is a Catholic magazine, full of articles from Irish priests and laity, which aims to highlight the beauty and joy of our faith. It is going into its 7<sup>th</sup> year and is run by donations. If you haven't come across Totus Tuus Magazine and would like a free copy please contact Fiona Kiely on 086 8760058.

**Christmas Spectacular in Knock Basilica** – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023. An evening of Songs of Faith, Hope and Love. Featuring: John McNicholl, Donna Taggart, Philomena Begley, Margo and Marc Roberts with Una Nolan and Schola Cantorum Basilicae. Tickets available from [www.ticketmaster.ie](http://www.ticketmaster.ie) Tickets €30 plus handling fee.

**"Youth 2000 Ireland** are having their annual Christmas retreat in Dominican College, Newbridge, Co Kildare on the 8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> of December for ages 16-35. This promises to be a special retreat!! Excellent Speakers, Inspiring Talks & Workshops, Fantastic music, Group activities, Youth Masses, Adoration, Reconciliation, prayer, Drama, Games & plenty of time to chill out, meet new people and find out what it means to be young & Catholic today!! There are free buses leaving from all over the country to the retreat. Donation only. Find out more and register now on [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie)"