



Ardagh and Moydow

Fr Vincent Connaughton
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Sunday 10th October 2021



Webcam link: churchtv.ie/ardagh

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Weekday Masses

Date	Time	Church	Intentions
Monday 11 th October	10.00am	Ardagh	Special Intention
Tuesday 12 th October	10.00am	Ardagh	Special Intention
Wednesday 13 th October	10.00am	Ardagh	Holy Souls (followed by holy hour)
Thursday 14 th October	7.30pm	Moydow	Holy Souls
Friday 15 th October	10.00am	Moydow	Special Intention

Weekend Masses

Saturday 9 th October	7.30pm	Moydow	No Intention
Sunday 10 th October	11.00am	Ardagh	Brigid Nally and deceased members of the Nolan family Seamus Keegan and deceased members of the Mulfaul family
Saturday 16 th October	7.30pm	Moydow	Mike and Phil Leonard (Anniversary)
Sunday 17 th October	11.00am	Ardagh	No Intention

Parish Collections:

- Offertory collection: €2,740.00
- Building fund: €795.00
- Dues: €610.00

Many thanks for your generosity to the parish funds and dues.

People on duty next weekend:

Ministry	Ardagh	Moydow
Eucharistic Ministers	Pauline Belton	Catherine McDermott
Ministers of the Word	Rory Farrell	Brigette Scott

Points to Ponder: Voluntary poverty is radical, and it always has been. Throughout church history there have been people who have taken up this call to give away all their worldly possessions. In early and medieval times there was Anthony of Egypt who sold his family's property after hearing this story, and Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi who were born wealthy and chose radical poverty, and closer to our own time St Teresa of Calcutta known as Mother Teresa, and Oscar Romero who advocated for the poor in El Salvador was martyred by a sniper while saying Mass in 1980, as well as many more who have not received much recognition. Choosing poverty and to advocate for people who have little money and power is so against human inclination that we look at it with astonishment, just as the rich man and his disciples reacted with shock to Jesus's instructions. Of all the things people do because of their faith, this is one of the rarest. Being a Christian absolutely calls us to reckon with our money and our stuff, and to take seriously what our material situation reflects and impacts about our values, relationships and trust in God.

Parish Finances: This weekend I give you the parish Financial Statement for the year ending December 2020. While we came through the lockdowns/restrictions in 2020 the parish collections have held up well. The parish loan as on 1st January 2020 the amount owed was €216,957.00, loan interest to year ending 31st December 2020 was €6,290.00. January to March of 2020 €1,500.00 was paid each month amounting to €4,500. April to December 2020 no repayments due to COVID and lockdowns. Loan balance on the 31st December 2020 is €218,747.00. This year we agreed with the Bank of Ireland a new restructuring of the loan and since the 15th May 2021 we are paying back €1,000 per month, and then from the 15th November this year we will be paying back €2,175.00 per month till the loan clears. This will obviously put a huge strain on our weekly collections, so there will need to be some huge fundraising to be done in the coming few years so as to at least bring down the loan. The Parish finance committee will meet again at the end of November to come up with some creative ideas or a few names of people in the parish that could help or advise us on the best strategy in going forward to tackle this huge balance. If you have any ideas or would like to help out in this area I would sincerely welcome your input. If people wish to increase the monthly building fund envelope or make a donation it would be very welcome as well. Many thanks.

Ardagh Remote Working Hub: Ardagh remote working hub is located in the old stone building which is part of Ardagh Community Centre. The building has been fully refurbished, insulated, decorated with separate heating system and one gigabyte of broadband. There will be six socially distanced hot desks that can be booked at connectedhubs.ie together with a fully equipped training/meeting room. There is also a separate office available with heat, light, wi-fi and phone included. Enquiries to ardaghremoteworkinghub@gmail.com

Confirmation: Congratulations to the boys and girls from our two parish schools who made their Confirmation on Saturday. I know they had to wait some time due to COVID restrictions but it was a lovely ceremony. Thanks to Mr. Casey, Mrs. Comerford, Sophie and members of the staff along with the beautiful music and singing for both ceremonies.

Baptism: Congratulations to baby Sean Ward who was christened in Moydow church on Saturday. Every good blessing to him, his parents, godparents and grandparents in the future.

ACN Ireland - Aid to the Church in Need: This weekend, we were due to have David Barbieri to speak at both masses. David is in hospital at present and will re-organise his visit to our parish at a later date. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Diocesan Assembly and Synodal Journey: We are about to resume our Diocesan Assembly preparations this month with an online meeting with delegates. We will take account of COVID 19 experience in our preparatory meetings and in the Assembly in Spring 2022. On Sunday 17th October we mark the opening of this worldwide Synodal Process entitled "For a Synodal Church" communion, participation and mission. This Synodal Process and our Assembly coincide with the start of a two year Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland which will lead, in time to a National Synodal Assembly in Ireland. To formally begin the Synodal Journey, and mark the resumption of our Assembly, Bishop Francis will celebrate Mass in St Mel's Cathedral next Sunday 17th October at 10am.