

**PARISH BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT:** A member of the Bethany group may be contacted on Tel 0774603279

**GH TYRES AND AUTO SERVICES:** 40a Glenavy Road, Crumlin. Punctures repairs, Wheel Balancing, Wheel Alignment, Batteries, General Service and repairs Tel:94423113.

**ST. JOSEPH'S GAC:** Lotto results 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dec. 20. **Winning nos. 7-12-14. Jackpot £3,000** --No Winners. **3 Numbers:** David O'Neill – Damian Ayre. **Lucky Dips:** Kathleen MacCreanor – Patricia Cormican - Diaruid Brankin. **Next week's** Jackpot £3,000. 2<sup>nd</sup> Jackpot £600.

**FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND— CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** This charity is making an appeal for financial assistance for the very small Christian communities in the Holy Land. The plight and poverty of these communities in Israel and Palestine is not in doubt. There are many demands made on your generosity by our own local charities trying to counter the local economic impact of Covid -19. At the same time every small donation which is affordable can make a difference. More information can be found at [www.friendsoftheholylan/christmas](http://www.friendsoftheholylan/christmas)

**CRUMLIN YOUTH FOR CHRIST:** Crumlin Youth for Christ is a cross community Christian outreach to the young people of Crumlin. This is challenging work and requires great faith and commitment by the volunteers led by Dean Moore. We may not feel able to actively join them but we can help them with necessary resources. CYFC are looking for 20 people to commit to giving £20 a month for the next year. If you could help, please contact our parish representative to CYFC, Clive Duffield on 07967704592

### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

**CRUMLIN/ALDERGROVE CONFERENCE** Emergency helpline **07754427088**. New volunteers urgently required.

**ST JOSEPH GLENNAVY CONFERENCE** continues its local charitable work during the Covid pandemic. Emergency helpline **07784955647**. Our usual red box for collections has not been available to those who support our work due to on-going restrictions. Anyone wishing to make a regular or one-off donation can do so directly to our bank account, Sort Code 98-04-60. Account Number 41966009. Your support is very much appreciated as we support those most vulnerable in these challenging times in your local community.

## **BINGO**

**Has been suspended until the New Year as St Clare's Hall is temporarily closed due to the Covid restrictions**

**PARISH OFFICE.** Please note that the parish office is open daily Monday to Friday 10.00am to 3.00pm.



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**6TH DECEMBER 2020**

**Very Rev Fr Colm McBride PP:** St Joseph's Presbytery, 59 Chapel Road, Glenavy, BT29 4LY 94459560 (In emergencies Fr Declan Mulligan P.P. Aghagallon 92651214)  
**Parish Office at St Joseph's Glenavy:**  
Monday - Friday 10am - 3pm.  
Office Closed 1.00 - 2.00pm  
**Secretary:** Máire Rafferty Tel: 028 94422278  
Email: [glenavy@downandconnor.org](mailto:glenavy@downandconnor.org)  
Parish Website: [glenavyandkilleadparish.com](http://glenavyandkilleadparish.com)  
[www.facebook.com/glenavyandkilleadparish](http://www.facebook.com/glenavyandkilleadparish)  
**A member of Lisburn Pastoral Community**

### **SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL**

A mother once told me that her two year-old son, Zack was only able to say 'no' often repeatedly with much shaking of the head. He cannot say 'yes' as an answer. Both are words of one syllable which you would expect a child should find easy to learn, yet one is learnt early and the other much later. It may be that Zack has heard the word 'no' being said to him much more than the he heard the word 'Yes'!

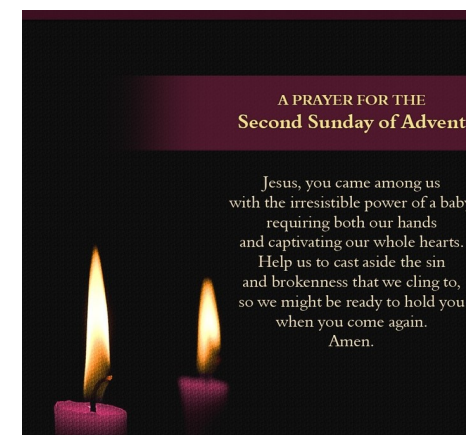
Mary said, 'I am the handmaid of the Lord' (Lk1:38). I once saw in a child's religion copy book the word 'handmaid' written as 'handmade' and the little girl said to me that we are all handmade by God by way of a perfect theological explanation!

Mary said 'Yes' to God. There is much more to saying that simple word one syllable word 'yes' than we can fully imagine.

Art, poetry and prose have tried to capture the moment that Mary said 'Yes' to God. The Word himself was waiting on her word set salvation in motion! The Creator of everything finds a way into flesh and blood. In doing that, the meaning of life enters into full humanity.

We are all a bit like Zack, our two year-olds who says 'no' to everything! But through his actions he says 'yes', while he is unable to say the word! He constantly embraces new experiences and the love of his family and friends, but does so through his actions rather than his words.

Despite historical divisions and ridiculous, bitter disputes in the Church over Mary as Mother of God, she has been through every age a sign of hope, a radical Gospel witness, a disciple of service, a model of trust, a sharer in Christ's ministry, a cause of our joy, a comforter of the afflicted, a woman of contemplation, a woman centered in God and a woman-bearer of God.



7TH DECEMBER—13TH DECEMBER

Fr McBride will be celebrating Mass privately each day with the following Mass intentions

Mon	William McCleave	
Tues	FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	
Wed	Special Intention	
Thurs		
	<b>ST JOSEPH'S</b>	<b>MATER DEI</b>
Fri	Paul Saunders (1st)	
Sat		6.00pm William Brankin (1st)
Sun	Noon Thomas Boyle	10.45am Gerardine Cummins



**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**First Reading, Is 40:1-5, 9-11;** Isaiah offers us an image of God as a Shepherd who searches, carries us and consoles us. Isaiah says: here is your God.

**Second Reading, Pet 3:8-14** We are waiting for a new heaven and a new earth. The Day of the Lord will surprise us.

**Gospel .Mark 1:1-8** St Mark's Gospel invites us into our own wilderness to recognise the voice of the Holy Spirit.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Niall Mulholland *Cairn Terrace*

**MONTH'S MIND:** Vivienne McCorry

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Elizabeth McCullagh (1st), Paul Saunders (1st), Hope Mulholland, Jim & Marie Mulholland, Annie Heatley, Paddy Hickland, Cissie Brazier, William McCleave (25th), Doris Mulholland, Clare Walsh,

**SANCTUARY LAMP:** Special Intention

**PARISH OFFERINGS MADE BY DIRECT DEBIT /STANDING ORDERS:** If you have received a letter regarding your direct debit/standing order, please complete and return the enclosed form to the parish office as soon as possible. It will help with the administration of your offering.

**PARISH ENVELOPES** can be received at either Sunday or weekday Masses and only during Mass times. Alternatively, if your circumstances permit, make a bank transfer to: **Parish of Glenavy and Killead. Sort Code 98 04 60. Account 10654677.**

**MAKING YOUR OFFERING TO THE CHURCH**

**If you are able, you are encouraged to make a monthly offering to the Church by means of a Bank Transfer. To assist you, the necessary forms are available at the back of the Churches. Both forms need to be completed with one sent to your Bank and the other to the parish office.**

**If you have any queries please contact in confidence the parish secretary or Fr Mc Bride**

**SUSPENSION OF LITURGICAL SERVICES:**

Following the re-introduction of government regulations in an effort to contain the Covid virus, the celebration of public Mass in the parish has been suspended until Friday 11 December when it will resume with the 9.30am Mass in St Joseph's Church. During this period of suspension both Mater Dei Church and St Joseph's Church will be open for private prayer between 10.30am and 4.30pm each day.

Weekend Mass will be live streamed on our parish facebook page, (*see the address at the front of the bulletin*) Sunday 13th December at 9.30am. Fr Mc Bride will celebrate Mass privately each day during this period of suspension.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available again on Friday 11th December at 6.00pm in St Joseph's where the facilities accommodate the required social distancing and confidentiality.

If you require a priest in an emergency during this time please ring the usual numbers. See front of bulletin

Funerals and weddings will continue to be celebrated with a limit of 25 persons attending.

**RIGHT TO LIFE UK** - "This Tuesday—the Church celebrates the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On this day, let us remember all unborn children, especially those recently conceived. That safety, protection and love would be granted to them, and that we the church, with the intercession of Our Lady, would take on the call to support these precious children of God. Lord hear us".

**APOSTOLIC WORK GROUP:** Due to Covid-19 Regulations, the Apostolic Work Church Door Collection will now take place on Saturday and Sunday 19th and 20th December at all the Masses in the parish. Gift Aid envelopes will be available in both churches from 12th December.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL COLLECTION :** The Annual SVDP Christmas Appeal will take place after all the Masses on Sunday 13th December. With your help they will try to meet all the requirements made to them for assistance at this time of year.

**ST JOSEPH'S GRAVEYARD:** Please be aware that dogs are not permitted within the graveyard at any time, with the exception of registered guide dogs. Notices to this effect have been posted at the entrances. The graveyard is a sacred place, blessed and consecrated.

**PARISH DRAW WEEK 16**

**Winner: £100:** Aisling Barr      Crumlin  
**Winner: £50:** Mary Kane      Feumore  
**Congratulations to our winners**

**MARY'S MEALS — DOUBLE THE LOVE:** At Mary's Meals we are inspired by the courageous 'yes' of Mary. Her total trust in God in the face of numerous challenges gave the world the most precious gift of all – Jesus. Throughout this year of many challenges Mary's Meals have continued to say yes, with the help of our generous supporters, to feeding children their daily meal in a place of education even when obstacles arose. Now we are delighted to share with you a new opportunity to say yes and provide hope to 43,000 children in Bong County, Liberia. From 2nd November until 31st January 2021, any donations made to the *Double The Love* campaign will be matched by the UK government, up to £2 million. Each little act of love will be doubled in order to support families in Liberia and provide hope for a better future for their children. You can get involved by setting a place at our Big Family Christmas dinner table (<https://bigfamilychristmas.marysmeals.org.uk/big-family-christmas-table>.) You can also buy our Christmas gift cards on our website. More information on how to support us can be found at [www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove). Thank you and God Bless

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**OVERSEAS VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED!** Volunteer IT/HR Admins, Montessori/Primary/Secondary Teachers, Physios, Accountants, Social Workers...all required for funded placements on Missions in Africa, SE Asia and the Caribbean. No previous overseas exp required, no upper age limit! Contact Viatores Christi +353-1-8689986 or email [apply@viatoreschristi.com](mailto:apply@viatoreschristi.com) for more info.

**ADOPTION: Family Care Adoption Services** is presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children. For free information pack please contact us at: **Telephone:** 028 71 368592 or 028 90 691133. Monday to Friday 9 – 5 p.m. **Email:** [anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org](mailto:anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org) **Website:** [www.familycaresociety.co.uk](http://www.familycaresociety.co.uk) Thank You