

St. Colman's Parish 1st Sunday of Advent 2nd /3rd December 2023

Advent has always been a happy time for most people, even in difficult times, because there is something about Christmas and the coming of the Messiah and the coming of the Lord, and the realisation of all the promises that God has made to His people find their fulfilment in a stable, a little child, a poor young teenage mother and her gravely worried husband into whose care God had placed this most precious twosome.

I think there's something that stirs great hope in us. And so Advent is really a time for hope. It's a time when we put aside major worries in our life and realise that God is with us.

Omar the candle maker.

Omar the candle maker is outside his house and he's busy looking through the grass. He's feverishly looking for something when his neighbour comes and he says, "Omar, what are you looking for?" And he says, "I lost my wallet and I'm trying to find my wallet." And his friend says, "Well, where did you lose it?" He says, "I lost it in my house, in my bedroom." And he says, "Well, why aren't you in your house and bedroom searching for it?" And he says, "Oh, it's too dark in there. It's much nicer to search out here in the sunshine."

The meaning of this story is that we're always looking for God in the wrong places. We look for Him very often when there's something lovely — like maybe we win the Lotto and it's a sign of the presence of God and how blessed we all are for having this kind of opportunity. And yet, it's always looking in the wrong place.

Because very often and for good reason, we find God not so much in the happy days of our lives, we find God when we're alone and suddenly darkness closes in on our life and we begin to wonder and have doubts about not only the future but also the present. And then we begin very simply to pray and with prayer comes '**HOPE'** Fr. Danny Broderick (087) 9061255

Parish Residence: 18 Ballyoughtragh Heights, Milltown

Rev. Conor Bradley (087) 3664057

Parish Office: Tues. & Thurs 9:30-12:30 066-9767312

Email: milltown@dioceseofkerry.ie

Website: www.milltownlistryparish.com

Safeguarding Children: Contact No (087) 6362780

Baptisms: We welcome into our Christian community

Saoirse O' Connell & Cian Lenihan, Ballyvirrane

Advent Prayer & reflection will take place in Milltown church Friday evening from 7:30pm to 8:00p.m.

Masses & Intentions

Mon. Dec. 4 th			No Mass
Tues. Dec. 5 th	Listry	7:00 p.m.	
Wed. Dec. 6 th	Milltown	10:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
Thurs Dec. 7 th			
Fri. Dec. 8 th	Milltown	11:15 a.m.	Holy Day Feast of the Immaculate Conception Cyril Flynn, Rathpook
	Listry	7:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass Dan, Hannah & David Murphy, Lisaree
Sat. Dec. 9 th	Listry	6:00 p.m.	David Sheehy Rockfield, Faha
Sun. Dec. 10 th	Milltown	11:15 a.m.	Thady Galvin Cloonmore

Eucharistic Ministers

Listry Saturday Dec. 9th Marie Donnelly Milltown Sunday Dec. 10th Mary O' Shea

Minister of the Word

Listry Saturday Dec. 9th Elizabeth Griffin Milltown Sunday Dec. 10th Majella O' Sullivan

All Weekend Masses will be streamed online via www.milltownlistryparish.com or churchmediatv.ie. The webcam in Milltown and Listry church captures images of individuals who sit in the first two seats of the church. Please sit in another part of the Church if you do not wish your image to be broadcast in this way.

Mass Cards and Christmas Cards are available from the Parish Office.

Monthly Prayer Meeting: Takes place in the Nagel Rice Community Hall on Sunday December 3rd at 8:00p.m. Guest speaker Fr. Mark Moriarty. All most welcome.

Advent Prayer: Please join us as we spend a little time in Advent Prayer and Reflection. It will be a time to stop, reflect and listen. We will gather each Friday from 7:30p.m to 8:00p.m. at the top left-hand side of Milltown church. Anglea O' Donoghue will lead the prayer time.

Youth 2000 Ireland: are having their annual Christmas retreat in Dominican College, Newbridge, Co Kildare on the 8th -10th of December for ages 16-35. This promises to be a special retreat!! Excellent Speakers, Inspiring Talks & Workshops. Meet new people and find out what it means to be young & Catholic today!! There are free buses leaving from around the country. Donation only. Register on www.youth2000.ie

<u>Carol Service:</u> Joint us for a heartwarming celebration of the season of Advent at our Annual Carol Service featuring The Children's Choir and the Milltown Adult Choir taking place in the Sacred Heart Church, Milltown on Thursday December 14th at 7:30p.m. Spread the joy and bring friends along to this lovely evening of carols and choral pieces as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Parish Draw: By this time, you should have received your Parish Draw Cards for the upcoming draw taking place on Monday, December 18th at Muintir Na Tíre Hall in Milltown. If you haven't had the opportunity to contribute to the draw yet, tickets are still available at the Sacristy and the parish office. You can submit your cards either in the Offertory box at the church, the Parish office, or at Murphy's food store. This is the only fundraiser by the parish, and the proceeds play a crucial role in covering parish expenses such as heating, lighting, and insurance. Your support is greatly valued and appreciated.

Nagle Rice P.S. is having a Christmas Memory Tree as part of their festive season activities in the school. Parents and the community are invited to buy a Memory Card on which they can write the names of deceased family members. Cards are €5 and are available at the school and the parish office. Proceeds in aid of the school. There is an official switching on ceremony in the school officiated by Fr. Danny Broderick on 13th Dec at 6:30p.m. followed by a Christmas Fair in the school.

Knock Night Vigil: - Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Return coach to the night vigil in Knock on December 7th Depart Killorglin church at 3:30pm. Further information please call O' Shea's of Kerry (066) 7180123. €40 per person

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass Friday December 8th - Milltown Church - 11:15 a.m. No evening Mass in Milltown Listry Church - 7:00p.m.

Give me the grace,
dear Lord
To turn away from
the many noises of the world
that compete for my attention
and
to turn only to You
And to all You wish to say.
Come,
Lord Jesus,
Come into my life more deeply
during this Advent season
Jesus
I trust in You

Last weekend's collection - €745.00

The offertory collection is currently not being taken up during Mass. There are boxes at the front and side entrance of the Milltown church and front entrance in Listry church for your contributions which are greatly appreciated.

Never regret a day in your life Good days give happiness Bad days give experience Worse days give lessons And best days give memories

Killorglin Pastoral Area Priest on Duty this Sunday: Fr. Kieran O' Sullivan (087) 2432155