

Treasure and Ponder

1st. January, 2017

If you're anything like me, you sometimes have to make a deliberate effort to slow down. Life can be so busy that sometimes there is little time left to think. Even our downtime can be full of activities and noise, whether we're into sports; video games; sitting down with a good book, movie or box set; or networking on social media. It can sometimes be difficult to remember the last time we sat down by ourselves in a quiet room.

In today's Gospel, Mary stands in contrast to the shepherds who hurried and talked and spread the word and praised God. Of course, there is a time for these things, and the excitement of the shepherds is palpable – they had found their Saviour. No doubt Mary and Joseph shared in their joyful enthusiasm. But when things quietened down again, we are told that Mary 'treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart'.

Mary sets a good example for us, taking time to meditate on all that is happening. As we start a new year afresh, we could do a lot worse than take Mary as our model. In our hectic world, we need to take time to sit quietly, to treasure and ponder, and to allow ourselves to delve deep into the mysteries of life. Triona Doherty – Intercom.

Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord – Friday 6th January, 2017

"The Magi set out because of a deep desire which prompted them to leave everything and begin a journey. It was as though they had always been waiting for that star" (Pope Benedict XV1). Our response to the Father's offer of salvation is that of the Magi: "To offer gold is to proclaim Christ's kingship, to offer incense is to adore his Godhead, and to offer myrrh is to acknowledge his mortality" (Saint Odilo of Cluny). Creation response as well: "When the king of heaven was born, the heavens knew that he was God because they immediately sent forth a star, the sea knew him because it allowed him to walk upon it: the earth knew him because it trembled when died: the sun knew him because it hid the rays of its light" (St. Gregory the Great). The manifestation of the Son of God to the world invites us to trust in him who will lead us home by another way

Contact:

Fr. John O'Shea P.P. The Presbytery, Raheen • 087 9708282
Fr. Richard Davern, Ballyduane, Clarina • 087-2977500 • 061 353529
Fr. Robin Thomas, "St. Joseph's", Lifford Avenue. 089-4333124
Mary Egan, Parish Secretary • 061 210869 • 10am - 4pm

The Parish of Mungret & Crecora & Raheen

TIMES OF MASSES IN THE PARISH

Raheen: Vigil 6 pm Sunday 11 a.m.& 12.30 pm. Mon - Fri 10 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration: Fri 10.30 am – 10 p.m. Crecora: .Sunday 10 a.m. Tue. Wed. Thurs. 9.15 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday to 12 noon & 6p.m–10 p.m. Mungret: Sunday 11.30 a.m. Wed. Friday 9.30 a.m. Sat. 11.30 am Eucharistic Adoration: Wed (10am–12 noon). See Mass times below for Holy Day - 6th January, 2017.

Mass Times & Intentions 31st/1st Jan Raheen:

6.00 p.m. James & Bridget Tuohy (Anniv)) 11 a.m. Noreen Hannan (1st Anniv) & Paul whose Anniv occurs at this time 12.30 pm John Driver (Anniv) Crecora: 10 a.m Josephine Fitzgerald (Anniv) Mungret: Week ahead: 2nd to 6th Jan Raheen: Mon 10 am Pro Popul0 Tues 10 a.m. James Riordan (Anniv) Wed 10am Thurs: 10am Special Intention Friday: 10am Purgitorial. Mungret: Wed 4th. Padre Pio Mass and Prayers. Mass Intentions 7th/8th January Raheen: 6p.m. Michael & Elizabeth O'Brien (Anniv) 11 a.m. Tom Hallinan (Anniv) Eamonn Flynn (Anniv) 12.30 p.m Johnny Stapleton (Months Mind) **Crecora:** The Epiphany of the Lord – Holy Day of

Obligation - Friday next 6th January and also 1st. Friday.

<u>Times of Masses:</u> Raheen: Vigil 7.30 p.m. 10 a.m. Crecora: 10 a.m. Mungret 11.30 a.m.

Baptismal Preparation Meeting: Next meeting will take place on Thursday 12th January, 2017 at 7.30 p.m. Meetings will resume to 1st. Thursdays of each month in February. Parents having their child baptised are encouraged to attend this meeting where they will receive all information regarding Baptism. **Christmas Dues**. We thank all parishioners who have already returned their Dues envelope. Your support is very much appreciated. If you did not get an envelope and would like one, there are some available at the church door.

Thank you Santa: The children, their parents and teachers of Corpus Christi School Moyross, would like to say a big 'Thank You' to all Parishioners who were so generous in giving wonderful support to the Santa Letter Programme again this year. The delight on the faces of the children when opening their parcels was a wonderful sight. We wish to acknowledge the hard work done by Marian and her team, Niamh, Clodagh & Jilly.All your hard work was very much appreciated.

Eucharistic Ministers Rota: Raheen Christmas Rota is available in the Sacristy. Garda Vetting Form and Volunteer Form also included which have to be filled up and returned to the Parish Office.

.....

Family Prayer

We give you thanks. Lord God. who has blessed us with life and love. You have given us the gift of the family Help us to nurture and protect, to guide and to love each other. Through the intercession of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary and Joseph, protect us. Give us wisdom and courage, joy and faithfulness in responding to our special vocation as a Christian Family, so that we may help each other to grow in grace and love to the Glory of God. Amen