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BÓTHAR NA NAOMH PRESBYTERY: 22688.
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A WORD OF THANKS

It's been a year to remember! As 2020 draws to a close we reflect on the involvement of so many parishioners in the life of our parish. We give thanks for the witness you provide to our Christian Faith through your participation in the different groups: our Parish Pastoral Council incorporating all the existing ministry groups, Sacristans, Secretarial Staff, Stewards, Eucharistic Ministers. Eucharistic Adorers, Readers, Altar Societies, Church Flower Arrangers and Crib Builders. Prior to Covid-19 Restrictions we thank sincerely Choirs, Folk Group, Organists and Musicians, Altar Servers, Drivers of Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick, People & Priests Group, Eco-Spirituality Group, Bóthar na Naomh Funeral Hospitality Group and Parish Centre Hospitality Personnel. We appreciate all who help with Sodalities and Confraternities, the selling of Catholic papers and those who help in the cleaning of the Churches. We are very grateful to all who contribute to our Parish Collections including our Parish Building Fund, Repairs to Archbishop Leahy Statue & the Boiler Fund. We value the time given by our Finance Committee, Collectors and Counters. We express a special word of thanks to the Envelope Distributors, including those who kindly responded to our appeal for assistance in completing this important task. Finally, conscious of the many families that have been bereaved in the past year, we renew our sympathy to you and remember you particularly in our prayers during this time. Let us gently move forward in hope into 2021. Our thoughts and best wishes are with you all.

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE:

- From December 26th, St. Stephen's Day religious services will be online only – Cathedral daily (Monday – Sunday) in the Cathedral at 11.00 a.m. & 7.00 p.m. and Bóthar na Naomh Church every Sunday at 9.00 a.m. Churches will remain open for private prayer.
- Confessions will not take place until further notice.
- Weddings: Up to and including 2nd January 2021, up to 25 guests can attend a wedding ceremony. With effect from 3rd January 2021, up to 6 guests are permitted to attend a wedding ceremony.
- Funerals: With effect from 24th December 2020 up to 10 mourners can attend.
- Baptisms: Postponed until further notice.
- From 27th December 2020 we must stay within our county unless we need to leave for essential purposes which include:
 1. To attend a wedding or a funeral;
 2. To visit a grave.
- Wearing of face masks is required. (Due to medical conditions some people may not be able to comply with this request.)
- The Parish Newsletter can be accessed on the parish website under the Heading 'Newsletter' on the home page.

FOR OUR STREAMING SERVICE ON-LINE VISIT: www.thurlesparish.ie

All Cathedral & Bóthar na Naomh Masses can also be heard via local radio

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the main altar in the Cathedral from Monday – Sunday incl., after 11.00 a.m. Mass until 5.00 p.m.

WEEKLY ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTION: We are very grateful for your Weekly Offertory Contributions - €3,950.00 received. **Donation Boxes for the Weekly Offertory Collection are placed around the Cathedral and Bóthar na Naomh Church.**

PARISH CRIBS: Please visit our Crib – Cathedral: Before the Altar and in the Cathedral yard; Bóthar na Naomh Church: Before the Altar and in the car park (window of Lámh Chúnta). If you wish to donate to the Crib please do so at the Parish Office.

CHRISTMAS CLERGY COLLECTION: Sincere thanks to all who contributed so generously to this Collection. Jim, Joe & Vincent say 'thank you' for your continued support on behalf of the priests of the Archdiocese.

VISITING OF THE SICK & FIRST FRIDAY CALLS: First Friday house visits and other pastoral house visits have ceased except in the case of emergency.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Amount raised: €2,615.00. A big 'Thank You' to all who supported the Raffle for the restoration of the Archbishop Leahy Statue.

PARISH OFFICE: Re-opens Wednesday Dec. 30th, 11.30 – 5.00 p.m. Closed for lunch 1.30 p.m. – 2.30 p.m. New Year's Eve: Open 11.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. Closed New Year's Day.

SCOIL ANGELA: Have launched a fundraiser to build an Outdoor Classroom in honour of the late Sr. Xavier. We have created a photo archive of school life dating back to 1956. Each donation received will be responded to with access to the archive. Please visit our GoFundMe page. gf.me/u/zcugis. Donations will also be gratefully received in the school in January.

THURLES ROTARY SUIR HAVEN/HOSPICE TREE: The Christmas tree is located in the Cathedral yard as usual this year but instead of the cards in the shopping centre we have opened *Idonate* Page to allow people who normally support Hospice at Christmas to continue doing so. Go to www.idonate.ie and put Thurles Rotary into SEARCH and the page will come up. Thurles Rotary and Hospice are grateful for your continued support.

CABRAGH WETLANDS TRAD CD: On sale from December 23rd, Contact Kathleen Flanagan @ 087-4166188 or Michael @ 087-7962177. All proceeds to Cabragh Wetlands.

NEWLY BAPTISED: *Elijah Finegan, Cluain Glas. Mary Kate Ronayne, Monadreen. *Madison Margaret & Mason Richard O'Sullivan, Turtulla Cross. *Cian Martin Ryan, Turtulla. *Charlie Roger Condron, The Lane, Holycross.

RECENTLY DECEASED: †Liam Cooke, Iona Avenue. Funeral Mass this Monday, 11.00 a.m., Cathedral. Burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery. †John Collins, Kennedy Park Funeral Mass this Sunday, Cathedral 11.00 a.m. Burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery. †James Delaney, Butler Court. †Jimmy Ryan, London, formerly Sean Treacy Avenue. †Alison Meehan, Rush, Dublin & Drumshambo, Co. Leitrim. †Sr. Lucy Bowe, F.M.M., Durban, South Africa, formerly Friar Street.

May They Rest in Peace

Carrying Christ

Into the hillside country Mary went carrying Christ,
and all along the road The Christ she carried
generously bestowed His grace on those she met.
She had not meant to tell she carried Christ.

She was content to hide His love for her.

But about her glowed such joy
that into stony hearts love flowed,
and even to the unborn John Christ's grace was sent.
Christ in His Sacrament of love each day
dwells in my soul a little space
and then I walk life's crowded highway,
jostling men who seldom think of God.

To these I pray that I may carry Christ,

for it may be some would not know of Him except through me. (Ruth Mary Fox)