

First reading

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.

Second reading

A reading from the first letter of St. John

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

The Gospel of the Lord



CONTACT

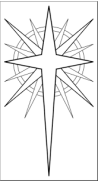
ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

26th December 2021

The Holy Family



How the

Holy Family prayed:

A Reflection by Pope Benedict XVI

"I would like to invite you to reflect on the place of prayer in the life of the Holy Family of Nazareth. The home of Nazareth, in fact, is a school of prayer where we learn to listen, to ponder and to penetrate the profound meaning of the manifestation of the Son of God, drawing our example from Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

Pope Paul VI during his visit to Nazareth said "we come to understand the need for a spiritual discipline, if we wish to follow the teaching of the Gospel and become disciples of Christ." And he added: "First, it teaches us silence. Oh! That there would be reborn in us the esteem for silence, that wonderful and indispensable atmosphere of the spirit: while we are deafened by so many noises, sounds and clamorous voices in the frantic and tumultuous times of modern life. Oh! Silence of Nazareth, teach us to be resolute in good thoughts, intent upon the interior life, ready to listen well to the secret inspirations of God and the exhorta-

tions of the true masters."

We can glean several insights on the Holy Family's prayer and relationship with God from the Gospel accounts of Jesus' childhood. We may begin with the Presentation of Jesus in the temple. St. Luke tells us that Mary and Joseph, "when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, brought the child up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord"(2:22). Like every observant Jewish family, Jesus' parents go up to the temple to consecrate the firstborn son to God and to offer sacrifice. Moved by fidelity to the law's prescriptions, they set off from Bethlehem and go up to Jerusalem with Jesus, who is now forty days old. Instead of a one-year-old lamb, they present the offering of simple families; that is two young pigeons. The Holy Family's pilgrimage is one of faith, of the offering of gifts, a symbol of prayer, and of encounter with the Lord, whom Mary and Joseph already see in their son Jesus."



In Memoriam



We pray for: Billy Coogan, Leylandii Dr,
and John Sourke, Naas
both who died during the past week.

Anniversaries for 26 Dec 2021

Killeen (9am):
Arles (10am): Michael & Sheila McDonald
Ballylinan (11.30am): Kathleen Corcoran & Mary
Conway

Anniversaries for 2 Jan 2022

Killeen (9am): Mary Kate Byrne, Grange.
Arles (10am): William Fitzpatrick, 1st Anniversary
Thomas & Christopher Bolton, The Strand.
Mick & Kitty Byrne, Ballickmoyler
Ballylinan (7.30pm): Phyllis Flynn
Margaret Freeman, Borris.
Joe Kelly & family, The Pike
(11.30am): Eoin Julian, 6th Anniversary

Thanks to all who supported
the recent **Arles Altar Society**
Flower Collection. €381.80
was collected.



Feast of Mary Mother of God January 1st

This oldest feast of Mary, comes on the 8th day of the Octave of Christmas, the World Day of Peace and at the start of a new year. It is a powerful reminder to us of the presence of Mary in the life of the Church and in our lives. Mary is our mother, too, and we can turn to her in every moment of need, knowing that she will intercede with God for us. Take time today to pause and think of what Mary means to you personally and to pray a Hail Mary.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

Mary, Helper of all in need, pray for us.



Safeguarding

DLP: Mick Daly, mobile number 085-8021633 and email:
dlp@kandle.ie

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149



We continue to wear a
mask to protect ourselves
and others.



New Year's Prayer

As the dawn breaks on a
new year, let us give
thanks for all we hold dear: our health,
our family and our friends.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and
our pains, for these are nothing but bind-
ing chains. Let us live each day in the
most loving ways, the God-conscious
way. Let us serve all who are in need,
regardless of race, color or creed.

Let us keep God of our own understand-
ing in our hearts and to chant God's name
each day. Let us lead the world from
darkness to light, from falsehood to truth
and from wrong to right.

Let us remember that we are all one, em-
bracing all, discriminating against none.

May your year be filled with peace, pros-
perity and love. May God's blessings
shower upon you and bestow upon each
of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new
year.

- Rev. Marcy Sheremetta

Ballylinan N.S. Admissions 2022/23

Please note that applications for the 2022/23
school year will be open from Thursday, 13th
January to Friday, 4th February 2022.

*Further information on how to apply will be
issued closer to the time. If you are aware of
anyone who may wish to enrol a child for next
year, please let them know these dates.*

Christmas Station Collection

Thank you for your kindness
and support



Feast of the Holy Family



A Prayer for the Family

God, our Father, we are brothers and sisters
in Jesus your Son, one family, in the
Spirit of your love. Bless us with the joy
of love. Make us patient and kind, gentle
and generous, welcoming to those in
need. Help us to live your forgiveness and
peace. Protect all families with your lov-
ing care, especially those for whom we
now pray. (pause)

Increase our faith, strengthen our hope,
keep us safe in your love, make us always
grateful for the gift of life that we share.
This we ask, through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Parish Office & Shop

*The Parish Office will be closed at 1pm
Tuesday and will reopen again at 10am on
Tuesday 4th January.*

*Thanks to you all for using the Office and
Shop over the past year.*



Parish Contact Details

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