



Parish Newsletter

Fourth Sunday of Advent – 20th /21st
December 2025

Parish Office

The parish office will be open on Tuesday 23rd and will be closed until Thursday 8th January.

Taking the opportunity to wish all parishioners every blessing over the Christmas season.

Services this Week

Saggart

- Mass: Sun 9am; Tue & Fri 11am
- Adoration: Sat/Sun 2–5pm

Rathcoole

- Mass: Sat 6pm; Sun 12pm; Mon funeral 11am; Tue 10am
- Adoration: Sun 4–6pm; Tue 10.30–1 & 3–5pm; Fri 9–12 & 3–7pm

Newcastle

- Mass: Sun 10am; Mon 10am
- Adoration: Sat 3–6pm

Confession: Generally available after any Mass by request

Baptisms/Marriages: Contact Parish Office (0860108420, Tue–Thu 10–12.30)

Christmas Mass Times

Saggart: Christmas Eve 5 & 9pm;
Christmas Day 9am

Rathcoole: Christmas Eve 5.30 & 7.30pm;
Christmas Day 12 noon

Newcastle: Christmas Eve 9pm; Christmas Day 10am

Confession: After all Masses Sat/Sun 20–21 Dec & Christmas Eve in Saggart (11–12pm)

Advent

The last Sunday of Advent is often missed as many churches have celebrated carol services, schools nativity plays and other events that are more for Christmas rather than advent. We had a wonderful Carol Service in Saggart church last Sunday and congratulations to the choir for leading a prayerful and reflective celebration.

This weekend we are having an opportunity for availing of the sacrament of reconciliation. After each of the weekend Masses the celebrant will be available for confession and also on Christmas Eve (Wednesday) from 11–12 in Saggart church.

Some ideas to reflect on in preparation for the sacrament:

God is a loving and merciful Father who loves us because we are His children. Have we realised this and how have we responded to His call?

As brothers and sisters of Jesus how have we cared for those around us and helped build a community of welcome and compassion?

Filled with the Holy Spirit we are called to develop the gifts that have been given to us at baptism. “By your fruits ye shall be known”.

Are we people of love, hope, peace and joy and have we shown the fruits in our homes, work-places and communities?

St Stephen’s Day Walk

Annual historic Slade walk in Saggart. Meeting at the Plaza opposite Jacob’s bar in Saggart at 12 noon.

A 2 hour walk through Saggart Slade and return via Luggwoods forest. Bring hiking boots, nibbles & water.

Refreshments afterwards in Jacob’s pub. For more details contact Tony on 0872535888

Appeals & Charities

Crosscare Christmas Appeal

Your donation will help provide food, stability, and a pathway toward independence for those who need it most.

Donate at www.crosscare.ie or call 01 8360011. Donate at crosscare.ie.

Mary’s Meals

Providing school meals to children in need. Donate at marysmeals.ie.

Retreats

- **Online Advent Calendar:** Daily prayers & reflections at catholicbishops.ie.
- **Manresa Retreats:** New Year Retreat, Dec 29–Jan 1. Book at manresa.ie.
- **Priory Institute Online Advent Retreat:** Free reflections by Fr John Harris OP. Register at prioryinstitute.com.

Support & Ministries

- **Young Adult Ministry Certificate:** Practical formation course. Register [here](#).
 - **Aware Support Groups:** Phone-in & Zoom support. Visit aware.ie.
 - **Bethany Bereavement Support:** Free, confidential help. Visit bethany.ie.
 - **Weekly Ezine – Sharing Good News:** Subscribe at catholicnews.ie/newsletter.
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