

Parish Newsletter

17th November 2024

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

No: 1972

Mk 13:24-32

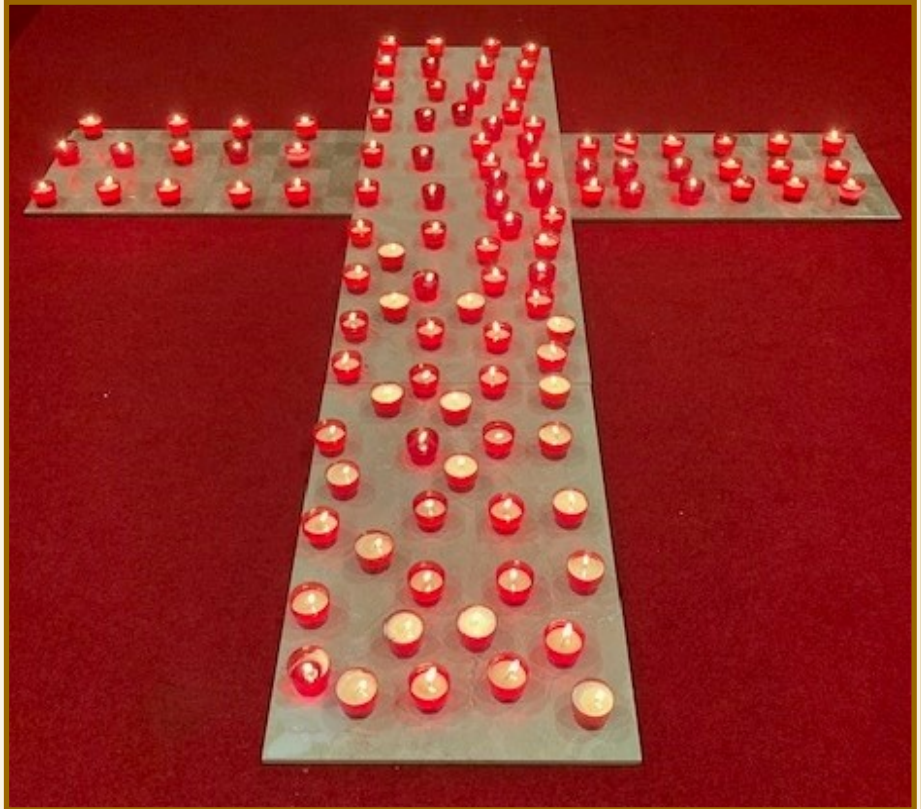


Image of the 'Lighted Cross' - Parish Bereavement Mass

*We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you shall remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives,
Until we meet again.
So rest in peace dear loved ones,
And thanks for all you've done,
We pray God has given you,
The crown you've truly won.*



Amen



The above photograph was taken last Friday night, when those families who had gathered, had returned home. In the silent, empty Church, the candles remained lighting. Placed before the Altar of God, each candle representing a life so dearly loved and treasured. Each candle: an expression of loss, of memory, of hard to accept absence, the silent tear. Yes, grief is the price we pay for love. And yet, our faith urges us towards hope, as St. Martin de Porres once said:

'What is death except the blowing out of the candle because the dawn has come.'

Parish Lotto Congratulations!

Nellie Higgins, Parishioner and delighted winner of the **€10,000** lotto jackpot. Like so many parishioners, Nellie is a long time supporter of the Parish Lotto. Here she is photographed with her husband, Tony, and Fr. Liam. We wish Nellie every happiness as she enjoys her winnings.



Notes on the 2023 Accounts

Income: from the **Basket** and **Envelope** collections, and from **shrine** donations remains strong and for this we express our sincere thanks. It should be noted that income from **Online** Collections is attributed to the Development Fund and revenue from the **Tap & Go** terminals is allocated to the Offertory.

The **Fundraising** figure represents the net income for NaasPoint, the parish-sponsored organisation working with those who are vulnerable and struggling to make ends meet in our parish. An accounting change in 2022 to include NaasPoint in the Parish Accounts made the 2022 figure particularly high as it represented the figure for all the years up until that point, from 2023 it will represent the annual figure.

The Parish Lotto and Parish Shop continue to generate a significant income for the Parish, thank you very much to everyone who supports these parish activities.

The Rental Income has seen another strong increase as the Car Park machine at OLSD and the rental of rooms in Ballycane continue to see increased usage.

Expenditure: Much of the expenditure has remained fairly consistent between 2022 and 2023, a notable exception is the Light and Heat. This increased enormously at the start of 2023, the Church too felt the soaring costs as we all did with our own utility bills. Luckily, this has largely gone down to something approaching more normal rates since. We have a person who keeps an eye on our utility bills to ensure that we avail of the best rates we can at the time.

Expenditure on Repairs and Maintenance increased in 2023. Apart from the usual essential maintenance work to the Churches, the windows in the Curate's House needed replacing as well as the exterior painting of some of the Parish Houses.

The Weekly Collections: The First Collection (Envelope) every Sunday along with monthly standing orders received from parishioners support the Parish Development Fund. Income from this fund is directed to major maintenance and renovation works on both Parish Churches, parish properties including the parish centre. The Second Collection (Offertory) supports the day-to-day running costs of the parish, e.g. wages and salaries, insurance and utilities and the running of the parish offices on the Sallins Road and Ballycane.

Payments to Priests: The priests of the parish do not receive any payment from the Development Fund or Offertory Collections. Salaries are paid from seven specific collections including Christmas and Easter. As priests we express our sincere thanks for your kind generosity and support. As per Diocesan regulations, Parish Priests are paid €25,200 and Curates, €24,000 per annum.

The Parish Lotto: The Parish Lotto continues to make a significant contribution to the finances of the parish. We thank all who regularly support the Lotto and, in particular, our promoters. Please consider supporting the Lotto, possibly through a yearly subscription, monthly standing order or weekly €2 ticket, you can also buy tickets online on the parish website or from the parish offices or other local shops. Our thanks to the Lotto Committee for their tireless commitment and dedication.

Tax Refund on your Donations to Naas Parish: The parish qualifies for this scheme and is entitled to reclaim an additional 45% of your annual donation where your donation is more than €250 per year. We receive very good support from our parishioners, many of whom contribute more than €250 each year to the parish and to take advantage of this scheme, we must be able to record donations. We would encourage you to donate in a way in which this can be achieved. A good way is through the **weekly envelope boxes**. If you write your name and address on the first few envelopes that you use, we can calculate your annual contribution. Alternatively, we can record donations made through the online donations module or by cheque or standing order. Priests Collections also qualify as do donations to NaasPoint, as long as we can trace the donation back to you. In recent years, under this scheme, we have received over €150,000 in refunds for the benefit of the parish.

Thank You: As in previous years, the continued healthy state of the Naas Parish finances is down to the generosity of so many of our parishioners, thank you for your continued support.

Trevor Macnamara (Chairperson), November 2024

Finance Committee: Trevor Macnamara (chairperson), Alex Keane (secretary), Ciaran Murray, Ann McManus, Gerry Martin, Renu Thomas, Jason Harney, Sarah Farmer (Parish Manager) and Fr. Liam Morgan

Summary of Naas Parish Accounts for 2023 and 2022

Accounts for Naas Parish have been submitted to and examined by the Diocesan Accountant and audited by the Diocesan external auditors. They form part of the Diocesan consolidated accounts submitted to the Charities Regulator. They have been approved by the Parish Finance Committee for publication in this format.

<u>Income Received</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Development Fund Collection	€211,033	€186,432
Basket Collection	€172,398	€157,390
Income from Shrines	€58,095	€56,914
Rental Income	€85,224	€61,517
Fundraising	€8,623	€23,738
Donations & Bequests	(€3,664)	€20,129
Tax Refund	€54,518	€32,569
Church Bookings	€19,010	€5,800
Deposit Interest Received	€280	€52
Parish Shop	€77,851	€78,903
Lotto Income	€34,995	€32,631
Other Income	€28,732	€39,749
	€747,094	€695,823

<u>Expenditure Incurred</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Wages and salaries	€150,590	€136,812
Employers PRSI / Revenue Commissioners	€45,099	€40,404
Pastoral Programme Expenses	(€851)	€4,325
Insurance	€20,423	€19,104
Security	€7,089	€9,634
Light and heat	€72,362	€47,537
Cleaning	€6,805	€7,064
Rates, Water, LPT & Waste Collection	€3,947	€3,911
Repairs and Maintenance	€94,951	€81,291
Diocesan Levy	€72,602	€72,602
Diocesan Retirement Fund	€4,000	€4,000
Printing, Stationery and Office	€16,951	€16,656
Altar & Shrine Requisites	€19,075	€18,478
Telephone, Broadband and Internet-related Expenses	€7,796	€6,556
Computer Software, Hardware and Servicing Costs	€14,523	€12,716
Music Ministry	€7,384	€9,412
Accountancy Fees	€2,641	€1,534
Youth & Community Expenses	€7,634	€5,197
Bank Charges	€3,477	€4,012
Donations	€0	€109
General Expenses	€4,911	€3,535
	€561,410	€504,887

<u>Surplus of Income over Expenditure</u>	€185,684	€190,937
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Please note: the Accounts for Sallins and Two Mile House will be published in the Newsletter next weekend.

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS

Naas: Development Fund: €4,226 Offertory: €2,775 **Online donations** (7th - 13th Nov): €104
Tap&Go (7th - 13th Nov): €535 **Sallins:** Envelopes: €300 Baskets: €510 **TMH:** €637



Christmas Mass Bouquets, Cards, Stamps, Cribs, Decorations and much more now available from the Parish Shops on the Sallins Road and at Ballycane Church.





"THOSE WHO DIE IN GRACE GO BUT TO GOD AND GOD IS VERY NEAR"

David Graham, Lakelands
Bridget Burke, Sarto Park
Noel Harrington, Lacken View
Vincent O'Rourke, Longtown, Sallins
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

PRIEST ON DUTY: 085 708 8407
PARISH WEBSITE: www.naasparish.ie
NAAS PARISH OFFICE: Tel.: 045 879 730
Email: office@naasparish.net
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 20015848

EXPLORING OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE



The Temptations - why do they exist?

Tuesday 7.15-8pm, Day Chapel,
Ballycane Church.
19th November. **All welcome.**
Teas/Coffee and biscuits afterwards.

Sallins Sunshine Club Christmas Party*

Sunday 8th of December,
Westgrove Hotel, Clane.
RSVP before Sunday 1st December to
Fran Walsh on 086 792 7770



Kare are looking for paid Bus Escorts in Naas and other areas to accompany children on their journey to and from school each day, playing a crucial role in ensuring a safe and supportive experience. If you're interested, contact damian.carroll@kare.ie.



Confirmation Preparation Mass
Sunday 24th November
4th Sunday of the month



12noon in Ballycane Church
Candidates for Confirmation and their families are invited to attend this special Mass as part of their Confirmation Preparation.

A Golden Era for Naas G.A.A. continues...

We would like to wish the Naas Senior Camogie Team the very best of luck in their Leinster Camogie club final today against St. Brigid's.

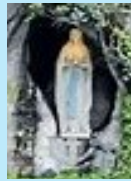


Congratulations on your success to date!

Sallins Lourdes Fundraising Raffle

Sat. 7th December after 7pm Mass in the Parish Centre. Tickets will be on sale...

- **outside Supervalu** on Friday & Saturday 22nd/23rd & 29th/30th of November.
- In the **church porch** on Sat 30th of November and Sun 1st of December.



Coffee Morning and Bake Sale in aid of Dogs for the Disabled.
TMH GAA on December 1st at 11am.

Concert in Ballycane Church

Ballycane Church Choir Annual Concert
Sunday 24th November
6.30pm to 8pm.

Songs and hymns we love to sing throughout the year.

Admission free. Donations welcome.



A Memorial Service for Babies who passed away through miscarriage, stillbirth and neonatal death will take place in Caragh Church on Fri 22nd November at 7.30pm.



Little Way Cancer Support Centre
Christmas Craft Fair - Sunday, 1st December.

Are you a talented crafter or artisan?
Are you interested in booking a table?
Contact: clane@little-way.org

Proceeds will support the free therapy services we offer to individuals diagnosed with cancer or living with cancer.



Benefit Concert in Aid of McAuley Place Beaufort Project

The Baldonnell Singers & Nás Na Rí Singers in Concert

With Special Guest Tenor Paul Linehan
Tickets €25 available from **13th Dec. 8pm in**

EVENTBRITE.IE

MCAULEYPLACE.IE

MCAULEY PLACE RECEPTION



Our Lady & St. David's Church

Naas Parish Weekly Lotto Draw

There was no winner of the €3,100 on 13th November

Numbers Drawn were: 8-15-23-3

Lucky Dip: M. Keogh, J. Dunne, J. Murphy, P. Kilfeather

You could win the Jackpot of €3,350 on Weds. 20th November

Thank you for your support!