



**O Holy Night. A Child is born for us**  
Children make Christmas as truly as One Child made the first Christmas. The story is of the little girl who had to play the part of

the innkeeper's wife in the school's Nativity play. She had just the one line to recite to the pair playing Mary and Joseph: "There is no room at the inn!"

Finally the big night arrived and the proud parents filed in to see the Christmas drama unfold. Up to the tavern door trudged Joseph and Mary. In swept the little innkeeper's wife. And then the Christmas spirit broke through. Instead of telling the couple that there was no room at the inn, the little girl stepped to one side and waved them in with the lines: "Come on in. There's plenty of room for you!"

Lines to delight everyone except for the poor producer! Only children know what Christmas is really about and the only way we will understand it is to listen to them and watch them. Especially watch them opening their Christmas presents. Only children can truly appreciate Christmas - the ultimate free gift. To see a child standing with Christmas gifts in the middle of a room strewn with gifts is to be witness to joy. I often think that it is the giving and receiving of gifts which makes Christmas such a happy time and brings out the best in all of us.



**Recent death with our sympathy and prayers**  
Mary O'Dwyer, Roxboro, Ballysheedy, funeral will be this Saturday at 10.30am. In Knockea Kitty O'Loughlin, Willbrook, Corofin Co. Clare funeral was today Christmas eve. May they rest in Peace.

**Christmas 2020** As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, after what has been a very difficult year for all of us. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and encouragement during these unprecedented times. 2020

will forever carry the label', a year like no other'. In years to come when the old news clips and reeling in the years are replayed it will tell a tale of wearing masks with yellow and black signs urging us to stay apart, its been a total disruption to normal life, but there will be also multiple stories of resilience and human care made up of simple things that make an extraordinary difference and now again with Christmas so many people are thinking of others, St. Vincent de Paul and other community groups are working very hard to reach out to people in need. It is impossible for our usual large congregations to attend Mass this Christmas so for our Christmas masses in the Parish ticketing will apply on the 24th and 25th December and our 4 Masses are fully booked, numbers capped at 50 per Mass, including Priest, Sacristan, Stewards, etc. We ask all our Parishioners attending Church ceremonies to continue to adhere to the basic & essential guidelines. All masses can be accessed on 105.6Fm on your car radio if you wish to sit in the safety and comfort of your car in our Church carparks and listen to Christmas Mass on the radio, please do and we invite you please if you can. At the end of Mass you are invited to receive Communion. I extend a huge word of thanks to our Parish teams Support groups who have worked so hard to ensure our churches are safe for all to attend. If you feel vulnerable, uneasy about coming out, we ask you to stay at home. Our masses will be livestreamed on our FB page DKR Parish and for those who don't have FB perhaps a family member (grandchild) may be able to set it up for the senior people, grandparent, to access Mass from their own Parish Church would be a nice present to receive this Christmas. With the announcement of new restrictions again we are being called once more to look out for each other to keep everyone safe including coming to Church. Our Sunday mass will be back online again on Sunday Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> at 11am. We thank you for your understanding during these difficult times. The Finance committee thank you for your ongoing support to our place. The weekly envelopes towards the day to day running of our Churches and the priests Christmas dues can be given in using the collection boxes available at Mass. They can also be dropped into the letter box at the Parish Office (Church House) adjacent to Donoughmore church. If you haven't already received your family box of envelopes for 2021 please let us know. We appreciate those who have taken the online, direct facility also. In the past few weeks we have managed to complete the replacement and storm glazing of



Remembered In Mass		
Donoughmore		
Sat 26th	7pm	No public Mass
Mon 28th	10am	No public Mass
Tue 29th	10 am	No public Mass
<b>Donoughmore</b>	<b>3pm 10am</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b> Derry & Mary Hickey. Mary Anthony Liam & Johnny Fitzgerald
Sat 2nd	7pm	
Knockea		
Sun 27th	11am	Mass online DKR Fb
Wed 30th	10am	No public Mass
Knockea	<b>7pm 11.30</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Christmas Day</b>
Sun 27th	11am	Michael Fitzgibbon. Gretta Garry
Sun	12:30	No Mass
Sun	12.30	No Mass



## Parish of Donoughmore/ Knockea/Roxboro

May His Love fill your Heart and Home this Christmas season and in the coming year

is also encouragement that an initial shipment of almost 10,000 doses of the approved vaccine to arrive into the country within days. It's time to have faith and hope now in the Star of Bethlehem and please God many more bright spots on the horizon for us in the new year. A line from the Irish poet Seamus Heaney has become so popular, "If we winter this one out, we can summer anywhere". For generations Irish families have put a light in the window to invite the Holy Family into their home for Christmas. I invite you to light a candle near your crib to ask God's blessing on your family, for those away from home, those who feel vulnerable or impacted by this pandemic and for those bereaved. On behalf of Fr. Dave and myself we wish all of you and family members who can't be home this Christmas a peaceful and safe Christmas. Fr. Tom



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The Eircode for St. Patrick's Church, Donoughmore is **V94 V6T3**.

Knockea is **V94 D938**.

the stain glass windows in Donoughmore church. Many thanks to everyone involved in the various Ministries of our churches for all their help throughout the year, for all who have put up the Cribs, Christmas trees and decoration of our Churches also to the many organisations in our Parish who help to build community. We wish our schools, teachers, staff, Board of Management and children a very Happy Christmas and we thank them for all their hard work during a very difficult year, that we must also acknowledge. For the little people among us and not so little perhaps, we are assured Santa will be arriving on Christmas eve we all need to be in bed early. As we prepare for tighter restrictions after Christmas there

**Weekly Parish Lotto:** No Winner Winning No.6,9,15,25. Next jackpot €5,100 draw Tuesday 22nd Dec. in the Courthouse

**Weekly Parish Lotto:** No Winner €4,900 Winning No.13,18,20,28. Lucky dips; 1.Noreen O'Donoghue 2.Pat Fitzgerald 3.Eileen Skehan 4.Ann Wade 5.Helen Grimes 6.Josephine & Vincent Hayes Next Jackpot €5,000, draw in the Courthouse Tuesday 15th Dec.