



# The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

29<sup>th</sup> December 2024

*Wishing all our parishioners a Happy & Peaceful New Year  
May the hope and strength of Christ be with you in this New Year.*



**Mass Times & Intentions:** Rosary Monday to Friday Clonmellon 9.35am followed by Mass @ 10am

**KILLALLON:** Sun 10am:

**CLONMELLON:** Sun 11.30am: Ann. Gerard, Christina & Patricia Sheridan

**Wed** – Mary Holy Mother of God, World Day of Peace, **Mass at 11am Clonmellon New Years Day**

**Fri** – 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of Month **Please note- No Communion calls, No Mass Killallon**

**KILLALLON:** Sun 10am: Ann. Patrick, Kathleen & Noel O' Reilly

**CLONMELLON:** Sun 11.30am: Ann. Mary & PJ Lehane

***Rest in Peace***

Tony McGuinness, Tiermore  
Michael Connell, Athboy

## **JUBILEE 2025**

Last May, Pope Francis announced that the theme for the Jubilee 2025 as 'Pilgrims of Hope' (Spes non Confundit – **Hope Does Not Disappoint**). This theme of hope encourages each of us to be messengers of hope in our very troubled world. Everyone is invited to participate in this special year of faith. On Christmas Eve, at 7.00pm, the Holy Year began with the opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica, Rome. To echo the theme of hope, Pope Francis is calling on all Catholics to renew in the hope of Christ, using Saint Paul the Apostle as a guide for this special year. In Ireland, and around the world, each diocesan bishop will celebrate Mass today, 29th, to mark the solemn opening of the Holy Year.

For Jubilee Year 2025, each diocese in Ireland will nominate a local pilgrimage site, and the bishops have designated the following three as national pilgrimage sites:

- Our Lady's Shrine, Knock, Co Mayo
- Croagh Patrick, Co Mayo
- Saint Patrick's Purgatory, Lough Derg.

Another focus of hope during the Jubilee Year will be the commemoration and appreciation of the great heritage of saints and martyrs we have in Ireland. In 2025, there will be a special commemoration to mark the birth, in 1625, of Saint Oliver Plunkett 400 years ago, and also to mark the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Venerable Matt Talbot. One of the highlights of the year will be a specific youth pilgrimage to Rome next August, with Pope Francis celebrating Mass. Individual dioceses are already making concrete plans to attend. At the end of the Jubilees for Teenagers in April, and for Young People in August, there will be a canonization ceremony for contemporary witnesses to faith, **Blessed Carlo Acutis** and **Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati**.

A characteristic of a Holy Year – a plenary indulgence – has also been declared for specific jubilee pilgrimages. Last May, Pope Francis gave details for the Holy Year as well as conditions for the granting of Plenary Indulgence. Many pilgrimage locations have been designated internationally for pilgrims to avail of the opportunity of the indulgence.

Bishops invite the faithful of all ages to participate in this Holy Year by browsing <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

and to stay informed with the dedicated app **IUBILAEUM25**.

To encourage engagement, Jubilee Year updates are live on CatholicBishops.ie where many events will be featured as they arise.

## **Points to Ponder**

Growing up spiritually involves leaving our comfort zone, letting go of what is safe and familiar, and moving to a bigger place, to the Father's place. This letting go is a necessary detachment if we are to grow in the love and likeness of Christ. We all live in many different homes. Homes of fear, anger, and prejudice. Homes of grief and sorrow. Homes in which we have been told or convinced that we don't matter, that we are not enough, unacceptable, or unlovable. Homes in which we have been or continue to be hurt or wounded. Homes in which we have hurt or wounded another. Homes of indifference and apathy. Homes of sin and guilt. Homes of gossip, envy, pride. They are not the home God offers us.

Jesus says that there is not only another home for us but invites, guides, and grows us up into that home. It is a place he knows well. It is the Father's home in which we can know ourselves and each other to be his beloved children, created in his image and called to be like him. So why would we continue to pay rent on a place that can only impoverish us when we could move to the Father's home for free? In the Father's home our place at the banquet is set. It is a home in which we live in rooms of mercy, forgiveness, joy, love, beauty, generosity, compassion.

## **Thought for the Day**

'Having somewhere to go is home. Having someone to love is family. Having both is a blessing.' – **Unknown**

'Family is not defined by our genes, it is built and maintained through love.' – **Amalia G.**

'The bond that links your true family is not one of blood, but of respect and joy in each other's life.' – **Richard Bach**

'Family is a life jacket in the stormy sea of life.' – **J.K. Rowling**

'A family doesn't need to be perfect; it just needs to be united.' – **Unknown**

'Families are like branches on a tree, we grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one.' – **Unknown**