

# Laragh Parish Newsletter

9. **ISPC Church Gate Collection:** thanks to all who contributed to the collection held last weekend, which totalled €215.
10. **Simple Mindfulness Meditation:** Session in St. Michael's Centre, Clifflerna, on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 7.30pm – 9pm. All welcome. Further enquiries to Evelyn on 086 2647363.
11. **Clifflerna Gun Club:** Cards 25 and Poker for Turkeys continues on Friday nights in The Cross Lounge, Stradone at 9pm sharp and will run every Friday night until Christmas. All welcome.
12. **Laragh United GFC:**
  - **Lotto Results:** No jackpot winner. Numbers drawn were 2, 5, 11, 15. €30 winners were Mark Shiels, Eugene Markey, Gerard & Imelda Byrd, Fainche Tobin, Hugh Smith. Next week's jackpot €12,600.
  - **Fundraising Horseracing Night:** on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December in Laragh House. Horses are on sale from players and any committee member. Please support.
  - **Win a Home in Dublin 15:** Cavan GAA are holding a Draw to raise funds. For €100 you could win a home in Dublin 15 worth €375,000. The club have an allocation of tickets for sale. Please contact any committee member for further details.
13. **Christmas Lights Vehicle Parade:** returns to the region, supporting local charities including The Kevin Bell Repatriation Fund, Vincey McGee Benefit Fund, Nobby McMahon Trust for Cavan/Monaghan Palliative Care and Ashling Brady Fund. Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 5pm, Cavan Town. Registration at Cavan Equestrian Centre from 1pm. Entry fee €20 per vehicle. Refreshments and entertainment in The Equestrian Centre.
14. **Piano & Guitar Lessons:** are available. For more details, contact 087 9200 769.
15. **Cavan Christmas Dash - 5K Run / Walk** - in aid of Friends of Cavan Oncology Unit and Cuan Cancer Social Support Group, will take place on St. Stephen's Day at 12 noon. Registration on the day in the Farnham Arms from 10:30am onwards or visit [www.cavanchristmasdash.ie](http://www.cavanchristmasdash.ie)
16. **SOSAD:** Operates 24 hours per day. Counselling service is free of charge. Telephone for free appointment 049 4326339. Christmas can be a hard time on some people, please be considerate to others. It is ok not to be ok.



Website: [www.laraghparish.com](http://www.laraghparish.com)

Email: [laraghnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:laraghnewsletter@gmail.com)

Kilmore Website: [www.kilmorediocese.ie](http://www.kilmorediocese.ie)

## Clergy & Pastoral Care

Fr Brian Flynn	049 4330142	Mobile	086 0422996
Fr Liam Kelly	049 5553035	Mobile	087 9877739
Fr John Cooney	049 5552163	Mobile	086 8755695

## Emergency Numbers

Cavan Gardai	049 4368800	Doc-on-Call	1850 777911
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**8<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – Second Sunday of Advent**

## Having Abraham for our Father

Students for the priesthood are expected to have some experience of pastoral ministry. I recall one group being sent out to visit men in prison. Before they went, an older student, who had been a prison visitor himself, was tasked with the job of preparing them for the challenges they would face. When he had outlined most of the do's and don'ts, he concluded rather mysteriously, 'Get ready to meet a lot of old altar servers'. They were at a loss to understand what he meant by this - until they started going round the cells. Time and again prisoners would say to them, 'I used to be an altar server, you know'. About one third of the prison population, it turned out, claimed to have served Mass when they were children. (Now I should point out that there's no *obvious* connection between altar serving and becoming a criminal!) The students were puzzled. Why did this keep coming up in the conversation? Then somebody hit on it. 'They're describing, or imagining, the last time they had any real contact with God or Church.' In today's Gospel, John the Baptist says that having Abraham for our father does not make us disciples. God isn't really concerned with what I did or didn't do in my past life. He wants to know what I'm doing *now*.

**GENERAL NOTICES**

**ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH LARAGH**

**Masses this week:**

Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11.00 am	Terence Smith, Cordegan A/V
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Tue 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.45 pm	As Requested
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	For the People of the Parish
Thur 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	As Requested
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	7.45 pm	Phil Smith, Longfield A/V
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	John Cooney, Cara A/V

**Eucharistic Adoration:** On Tuesday from 5pm – 7.45pm

**Servers for Next Week**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Aimee, Lucy, Finn, Kayla G, Paul, Kathlyn

**ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH CARRICKALLEN**

**Masses this week:**

Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.30 am	Kathleen & Mike Waldron, Carrickacromin A/V
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 pm	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Alexis O' Reilly, Tievenanass A/V
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Elizabeth & Thomas Smith & Dec family mbrs, Artina

**Altar Society General Clean-up:** on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 11am

**ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH CLIFFERNA**

**Masses this week:**

Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7.30 pm	Frank Reilly & Dec family mbrs, Greaghagibney A/V Teresa & Terry Sexton, Greaghagibney A/V
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Frank & Beatrice Fitzsimons, Knockateggart A/V
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Brendan & Mary Molloy, Clifferna A/V

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Wednesday from 2pm – 3pm

1. **Feast of the Immaculate Conception:** will be celebrated on Monday 9<sup>th</sup>. Mass times are **Laragh** at 11am  
**Clifferna** at 7.30pm  
**Carrickallen** at 8.30pm
2. **Confessions:** after all Masses next weekend.
3. **Ecumenical Carol Service:** in Stradone Community Centre on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Santy will be arriving for the lighting of the Christmas tree on the green after the carol service. All welcome.
4. **Church Accounts 2019:** Laragh Church Finance Committee would like to thank you, the parishioners, for all your contributions to date. As the financial year ends on 31<sup>st</sup> December, please bring all outstanding dues etc up to date. Please make any cheque payments for dues to Priests Revenue Account. If you wish to contribute to parish funds but are not currently receiving envelopes please contact the parish priest or any member of the church committee. Donations made via the envelope system enable the parish to recoup tax refunds from the Revenue Commissioners.
5. **Understanding Self-Harm:** A one day training in **Understanding Self-harm** has been organised for Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December in the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Cavan (9.30am - 4.30pm with lunch provided). There are 25 places available on the course and places can be booked at <https://bookwhen.com/cflcavanmonaghan>.
6. **Technology Training:** FREE Five Week Basic iPhone, iPad, Tablet and Smartphone class commencing in all areas in January 2020. Please call Angela on 046 9280790 to book a place.
7. **The Garden Choir:** are having another Christmas get together this month on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December from 11am to 12noon in John Sullivan Day Centre, Cathedral Road, Cavan. People with Dementia & their families are welcome to come along with anyone who enjoys a good sing along.
8. **DON'T BE LONELY THIS CHRISTMAS:** Senior Help Line, Ireland's only national listening service for older people will be open every day over Christmas and the New Year from 10am to 10pm. They are available to take your call if you are on your own, feeling isolated, worried or would like someone to talk to. Callers can seek information on entitlements, other organisations or services, or look for clarification on topical items as reported in media. Having an opportunity to discuss a problem or a worry can help the caller clarify the situation for themselves. They can gain a new perspective on the situation, identify a new source of support and may see a way forward hitherto denied. Free phone number 1800 804 591.