



Eaglais na hÉireann + The Church of Ireland

## MALLOW UNION

Parishes

[www.mallow.cloyne.anglican.org](http://www.mallow.cloyne.anglican.org)

SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2024  
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**FÁILTE / WELCOME**

to everyone who worships in our churches  
today

The Church of Ireland is glad to welcome **all baptized Christians** to receive communion at celebrations of the Eucharist.

Please take a moment to check you have **switched off your phone** before worship begins.



This year, we are celebrating the Bi-Centenary of the consecration of St James's Church, Mallow, and there will be services and events to mark this significant anniversary of one of our three churches.

### TODAY'S SERVICES

**10.00am** MORNING PRAYER  
*in St Mary's, Castletownroche*

**10.00am** THE EUCHARIST  
*in St Mary's, Doneraile*

**7pm** CAROL SERVICE  
*in St James's, Mallow*  
*The service is followed by refreshments.*

### WEDNESDAY

18<sup>th</sup> December

**11.00am**

THE EUCHARIST  
*in St James's, Mallow*

Jeremiah 23. 5-8  
Matthew 1.18-24

**Zephaniah 3: 14-20**

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

**Luke 3: 7-18**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,\* John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with\* the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

## NEWS ITEMS

**THANK YOU** to **everyone** who gave their time, energy and skills to welcome large numbers of people to our Christmas concerts. These are major community events, as well as significant sources of fundraising, and we are hugely grateful to all those who worked so hard to make them a huge success. Our special thanks go to Jillian, Agnes, Lizzy and Mary who led the way so thoroughly.

**PARKING AT ST JAMES** From tomorrow (Monday 16<sup>th</sup>) St James's car park will be open to the public, following the recent fire at Dunnes Stores car park. Other churches and schools have made space available in their grounds and we are delighted to do likewise, following a request from one of our TDs. This is of course a temporary arrangement.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CLUB** Takes place in the Parish Hall in Mallow, this afternoon from 4.00pm to 6.00pm, leading in to the Carol Service at 7.00pm. All are very welcome.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD** giving details of worship for Christmas and the Epiphany in all our churches is available today. **Please take copies for yourselves – and some more to share more widely with family, neighbours or the wider community.**

**CAROL SERVICES** The first of this year's **Carol Services** will be in St James's, Mallow, **today** at 7pm; The collection will go towards Christian Aid's Christmas Appeal for South Sudan, and we will welcome the local representative for Christian Aid, the Reverend Andrew Coleman.

St Mary's, Castletownroche at 3pm on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December; The collection will go towards the work of Saint Vincent de Paul.

On the Sunday after Christmas at St Mary's, Doneraile at 3pm on 29<sup>th</sup> December. The collection will go towards the work of Cork Simon

**FREE CHRISTMAS HAIRCUTS** Cork College of Education & Training are offering free haircuts by hairdressing students at Mallow Library on Tuesday next, December 17<sup>th</sup> from 09.30am to 11.30am. Just turn up.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Mallow parishioner, Mel O'Dea, on the forthcoming publication of her book *Ripples on the Lake* published by the Forest Press. The book launch will be held in the West End Arts Studio, Mallow, on Tuesday next 17<sup>th</sup> December from 6 to 9pm. All are very welcome to attend.

**PARISH HALL** We are delighted that the Mallow Musical Society will be rehearsing in the Parish Hall on four evenings in December and January. Welcome to them!

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

For Paul, our Bishop, and for the clergy and people of this united Diocese; and, in the worldwide Anglican Communion, for the Anglican Church of Tanzania.

We pray for all those who have asked for our prayers, including Tom Ladd, Jerome O'Callaghan.

We commend to God the recently departed, especially Annette Hooton, Dorothy Morgan, Clifford O'Hanlon, Monsignor Denis O'Callaghan and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time of the year, especially Norman Bolster, Louise Nagle, Ned Foott.

We also pray for victims of war throughout the world, for South Korea and Syria at this time of uncertainty & for those working to form a government here in Ireland.

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

The Reverend  
**MEURIG WILLIAMS**  
*Rector of Mallow Union*

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Parish Website:  
[mallow.cloyne.anglican.org](http://mallow.cloyne.anglican.org)

Social-Media Channels:



[www.facebook.com/Mallow-Union-of-Pari'shes-153486538476524/](http://www.facebook.com/Mallow-Union-of-Pari'shes-153486538476524/)

X (Twitter): @MallowUnion  
@StJamesmallow

**Diocesan Readers**  
Avril Gubbins (022) 24267  
Emmanuel Adebisi 0876410470

## NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5. 2-5a; Luke 1. 39-45

**10.00am MORNING PRAYER** in *St Mary's, Doneraile*

**11.45am THE EUCHARIST** in *St James's, Mallow* followed by refreshments, with activities for our younger parishioners in the Parish Hall from 11.30am.

**3pm CAROL SERVICE** in *St Mary's, Castletownroche*