



Church of Ireland  
**United Dioceses of  
Cork, Cloyne & Ross**  
Abbeystrewry Union

# Abbeystrewry Union of Parishes

# December 2018



*Christmas Crib placed outside St. Matthew's, Baltimore last year.*

***[www.abbeystrewry.com](http://www.abbeystrewry.com)***

**Rector:** Rev. John Ardis  
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## Christmas Music in the parish:

There are plenty of musical opportunities to get you in the mood for Christmas this year:

- West Cork Choral Singers present an evening of seasonal songs and carols on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm in Abbeystrewry Hall**. Admission is €10 and mince pies and mulled wine will be served during the interval.
- On the **16<sup>th</sup> December** at 8pm there will be a Christmas concert organised by Skibbereen Chamber in aid of the Christmas Street Lights in Skibbereen in Abbeystrewry Church. Performers include Camilla Griehsel, Maurice Ceasar, Tamara Lawlor, the Skibbereen Youth Choir and the Illen Choir. Admission is €10 for adults, €5 for children.



- As usual, Saint Fachtna's Silver Band will be playing with our regular organist Freda for the **service of Nine lessons and Carols on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 7.30 pm** also in Abbeystrewry Church. Refreshments will be served after this service in the hall. There will be a collection for local charities at this service.



**Stewardship:** Many thanks to all of you for your very generous support of the parish over the last year. If you do not already do so, please consider the envelope system, as it allows the Church to claim tax back from the Revenue (if you pay tax) which means your contributions go further **AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU!**

If you would like to sign up to the envelope scheme, please contact Alan Coombes on 087 8584483. There is also a direct debit option if you prefer.



**November Bazaar** ~ Many thanks to all who supported the November Bazaar last month. We raised **€3,278.24** for parish funds. I thank all for who gave donations for the various stalls, and of course those who ran the stalls on the day.



**GDPR regulations** – please note that if you wish to continue to be contacted by the parish (such as receiving this newsletter in the post) in the future, you need to give the parish your consent to contact you, and also to keep your personal contact details. Please fill in the opt in slip which accompanies this newsletter, and either post back to: The Rectory, Coronea Dive, Skibbereen, Co. Cork P81 CK64 or return the form in a sealed envelope to any of church services, or email the requested details.



Many thanks for all your generous giving throughout the year, not only to the Church but to the regular retiring collections which are held on the third Sunday of the month. This month there are three different ways you can make a real difference:

1. **Cork Simon** ~ have expressed gratitude to the parish for the contribution of shoe boxes over the years. This year there are more people than ever homeless on the streets of Cork. Instead of our usual shoe boxes, they have requested new, or nearly new sleeping bags as this is something they are always short of, and if they get donations they can put their limited resources elsewhere. So this year, if you would like to help Simon please bring sleeping bags to any of the churches before **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December**.
2. The **Bishop's Appeal** is a charity which represents the Church of Ireland in responding quickly to emergencies which unfortunately occur around the world. There should be envelopes around the churches, or you could mark an envelope 'Bishop's appeal' and add it to the regular collection. For more information on the work of the Bishop's Appeal, visit: [www.bishopsappeal.ireland.anglican.org](http://www.bishopsappeal.ireland.anglican.org)
3. Our collection at the service of nine lessons and carols in Abbeystrewry Church on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December supports **local charities**. Last year we were able to allocate €700.00 from the proceeds of the collection from the service.



CDYC - Youth Advent Service is in Rosscarbery Cathedral on Sunday 9th Dec at 7.30pm with refreshments after. All Welcome!

**House Communions** Please contact the rector if you, or someone you know wish to receive especially Communion in the run up to Christmas. Similarly, if you have been in hospital, have been ill recently or are coming out of hospital and would like a visit, please also let the Rector know. (Don't assume someone has told the Rector!!)



*If you would like to receive the parish newsletter in the future by email (saving paper!) please email the Rector at*

[abbeystrewryunion@gmail.com](mailto:abbeystrewryunion@gmail.com)



# Services in December



## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December ~ The First Sunday of Advent

- 9.00 Eucharist in St. Barrahanes, Castletownshend
- 10.15 Eucharist in St. Mary's Caheragh
- 11.30 Eucharist in Abbeystrewry Church
- 17.30 'All Sorts' ~ Messy Church in Abbeystrewry Hall.

## Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December ~ The Second Sunday of Advent

- 8.30 Eucharist in Abbeystrewry Church
- 10.15 Morning Prayer in St. Mary's Caheragh
- 11.30 Morning Prayer in Abbeystrewry Church

## Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December ~ The Third Sunday of Advent

- 8.30 Eucharist in Abbeystrewry Church
- 10.15 Eucharist in St. Mary's, Caheragh
- 11.30 Eucharist in Abbeystrewry Church

## Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December ~ The Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8.30 Eucharist in Abbeystrewry Church
- 10.15 Eucharist in St. Mary's, Caheragh
- 19.30 Carol Service in Abbeystrewry Church

## Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December ~ Christmas Eve

- 16.00 Children's Crib Service in Abbeystrewry Church
- 23.30 Eucharist in Abbeystrewry Church

## Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December ~ Christmas Day

- 9.00 Eucharist in St. Barrahanes, Castletownshend
- 10.15 Eucharist in St. Mary's Caheragh
- 11.30 Eucharist in Abbeystrewry Church

## Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December ~ First Sunday of Christmas

- 8.30 Eucharist in Abbeystrewry Church
- 11.30 Eucharist in Abbeystrewry Church
- 18.00 Carol Service in St. Mary's Caheragh

## Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January ~ The Epiphany

- 9.00 Eucharist in St. Barrahanes, Castletownshend
- 10.15 Eucharist in St. Mary's Caheragh
- 11.30 Eucharist in Abbeystrewry Church

The Eucharist will also be celebrated on the following Wednesdays in December at 10.30 in the Creagh Chapel (Abbeystrewry Church): Wed 5<sup>th</sup>, Wed 12<sup>th</sup>, Wed 19<sup>th</sup>, Wed 26<sup>th</sup> (St. Stephen's Day) and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of January.

