



**Local Priest:** Fr. Jim Lenihan, P.P.

**Parish Office:** St. Agatha's Parish Centre, Headford, Killarney. V93 X0C2.

**Office Hours :** Mon/Tues 10am to 3pm to book Masses, Baptisms, Weddings.

**Email:** glenflesk@dioceseofkerry.ie **Phone:** 064 7754008 **Mobile:** 087 108 1588.

**GBC Radio:** 98.6fm for all Masses from Glenflesk Church.

### **Masses: Saturday 6th to Sunday 14th Dec**

#### **St. Agatha's, Glenflesk:**

Saturday 6th	6.00pm	Denise Crowley, Gortdarrig (Anni) & her dad Den Joe. Timmy Crowley, Commacullen, Clonkeen & deceased family members.
Friday 12th	9.30am	Mass in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe.
Saturday 13th	6.00pm	Donal Murphy, Annaghmore (Anni) Breda Healy, Knockanes (1st Anni) Stephen Shine, Killaha, Glenflesk (1st Anni) & Wilma Schult, Miami, Florida (25th Anni)

#### **Our Lady of the Wayside, Clonkeen:**

Sunday 7th	9.30am	Eileen O'Brien, Inch, Clonkeen (Anni)
Sunday 14th	9.30am	Peggy & Seán Allen, Carrigavimo, Clonkeen.

#### **Sacred Heart, Barraduff:**

Sunday 7th	11.00am	John Gerard Dineen, Crosstown (Anni), his parents Con & Margaret & deceased family members. Sheila Warren, Annaghmore (Anni)
Monday 8th	11.00am	Feast of the Immaculate Conception.
Sunday 14th	11.00am	Kathleen Bartlett, Upper Barraduff (Anni) John & Shane Dennehy, Bealnadeega (Anni) Michael Culloty, Annaghmore (Anni)

**PRIEST ON DUTY THIS WEEKEND:** Fr. Noel Spring 087 2935969

**PRIEST ON DUTY WEEKDAYS:** Monday Fr. Kieran O'Brien 087 6501998

Tuesday to Friday Fr. Jim Lenihan 087 1081588

### **NOTICES**

**COLLECTIONS:** Offertory: €1,765. Renovation November: €1,045. Thank you.

**DIOCESAN COLLECTION:** 6th/7th December for the Diocesan Youth Service.

**SVP KILLARNEY:** Annual Christmas Church Gate Collection on 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> December.

**ADORATION:** Every Monday in the Sacred Heart Church from 10 am to 1 p.m.

St. Agathas 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Our Lady of the Wayside 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**ROSARY:** at Knockanes grotto on Monday 8th December at 7pm to celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception. All welcome.

**PASTORAL LEADER TALK:** This weekend, 6th/7th Dec at the 6pm mass in Glenflesk and the 11am Mass in Barraduff, we welcome Mrs. Sheila Goulding who will share her experience of being one of the 25 Pastoral Leaders of the Kerry Diocese.

**HAVE YOU SAY ABOUT YOUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL:** For Attention of Parents of children attending Primary Schools or have yet to start. The Department of Education is currently conducting a Primary School Survey that will determine the future provision of Primary Schools and crucially could lead to lasting changes in your school. In simple, direct terms, you are being asked if you want your school to stay a Catholic school or if you want that to change. Have your say before 16th Dec.  
<https://www.gov.ie/en/departments-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey/>

**GLENFLESK GAA HEALTHY CLUB - SANTA FUN RUN:** at Glenflesk GAA walking track Monday evening December 15th at 7pm. All Welcome.

### **A NOTE FROM FR. JIM.....**

Over the last few weeks, as I've been reading a lot on how to celebrate Advent well, I've noticed a pattern. Everything I read and listen to points to the same danger: **distraction**. I often recall the teaching that the devil has his four D's: **deception, discouragement, division, and distraction**. These work together to pull us from God's grace, and distraction is often the most subtle of all. I recently read a striking line: **There are only two kinds of people in the world—the religious and the distracted**. Every human being is naturally religious because deep down we all have that inner desire to ask the great questions: *Who am I? Where do I come from? Where am I going, What is the meaning of my life? What matters most and what matters least?* But many never get the opportunity to ask these fundamental questions because they are so distracted by noise, busyness, and constant movement. But there is a distraction that we rarely consider but one pinpointed by C.S. Lewis in *The Screwtape Letters*. In the fifteenth letter, the demon Screwtape explains to his nephew the smartest way to keep the 'patient' (a man) away from the 'Enemy' (God) is to prevent him from living in the now—keeping him trapped in the past with regret or in the future with worry or fantasy. I see this very much at the moment where a person said to me during the week, 'I can't wait for Christmas' - to cope we put up decorations and play Christmas music prematurely. Why is this so wrong? Because **if we are not living in the present, we cannot receive God's grace**. God's Grace is only available now not in the future not in the past but right now!! Today's Gospel gives us John the Baptist in the wilderness—far from creature comforts and distractions. The desert strips us of what is unnecessary, making it the ideal place for prayer. There, he cries out: **"Prepare a way for the Lord."** So Advent is our 'desert'. Our time to wait well away from distractions! The question is: Am I happy in the now? **Am I waiting well?** We live in a world that avoids waiting—everything is instant. We rush through moments instead of savouring this great gift of now. Advent teaches us to slow down, to wait, and to return to the present moment where God quietly works. This week's invitation is simple: **Step out of distraction and Step into the now. Let God meet you there.**