PARISH OF YOUGHAL

Rev Patrick O'Donoghue, Adm. Pro Tem Upper Strand, 024 25049;
Deacon John Nestor; Parish Office Administrator: Ann J. Walsh - 024 91717
Urgent Sick Calls: 087 9779906 – Email: youghalcatholicparish@gmail.com

We thank all who contributed to the parish collections last weekend, including online contributions:

Parish Collection	**€2,105.00**
Building Fund	**€1,150.00**

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Sunday Mass Rota

Saturday evening	
Holy Family	7.00 pm
Sunday morning	
Gortroe	9.30 am
Our Lady of Lourdes	10.00 am
Holy Family	11.00 am
Parish Church	12.00 noon

Weekday Masses, 10.00 am:
Mon, Wed, Fri: Holy Family Church;
Tues, Thurs: Strand Church; Sat: Parish

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Parish Donation Envelopes:

The envelopes for 2027 are being sent out at the moment. Any household wishing to make alterations to names, addresses etc., please contact Ann at the parish office as soon as possible. Any household that wants a box of envelopes and does not have one at present please contact Ann at the parish office. By using the box of envelopes your contributions can be increased through the Government's Tax Back Scheme for Charities. Further information from the parish office**.**

Youth 2000 Christmas Retreat
11th-13th December 2026

Calling all young people aged 16–35! Join us at the Youth 2000 Christmas Retreat in Newbridge College, Co. Kildare. This is a donation-only event, with free buses available across the country and all meals included. Expect inspiring talks and workshops, Mass, music, prayer, and plenty of opportunities to chill out and meet other young Catholics. Whether you are new to the faith or looking to be refreshed, all are welcome. To register or find out more, visit youth2000.ie or follow @Youth2000Ireland."

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November Cemetery Prayers

Prayers for the dead in Clonpriest cemetery on Sunday, 29th November at 3pm

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Reflection for Advent

Stay Awake: Preparing Our Hearts This Advent
As we begin a new liturgical year on this First Sunday of Advent, Jesus gives us a direct, urgent command in St. Mark's Gospel: *"Be on your guard, stay awake."* He compares His disciples to household servants entrusted with specific tasks while the master is away, warning that when he returns—whether at evening, midnight, cockcrow, or dawn—he must not find them asleep.
Advent is not a season of passive waiting or early Christmas nostalgia; it is a call to spiritual awakening. Spiritual sleep rarely happens all at once. Instead, comfort, busy routines, and unrepented sin gradually dull our longing for God.
To stay awake is not to indulge in anxious speculation about the end of the world, but to live with an attentive, expectant heart—bringing love and integrity to our daily duties in our families, workplaces, and parish.
As we prepare to celebrate Christ's humble birth in Bethlehem and await His glorious return, let us shake off distraction through honest repentance, quiet moments of prayer throughout the day, and the Eucharist. With the whole Church, let us make the ancient Advent prayer our own: *Maranatha—"Come, Lord Jesus!"*

Advent Prayer by Henri Nouwen

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people,walking in darkness,yet seeking the light.
To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"

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