

# The People's Mass

15 December 2024  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

What must we do? He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay! A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

### Profession of Faith (Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
*At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.*  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.

The priest introduces the Prayer of the Faithful

### THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), ...  
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name, for our  
good and the good of all his holy Church.

**Eucharistic Prayer**  
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right and just.

**Sanctus**  
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. ...  
**After the Consecration**  
The mystery of faith.  
Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.

### THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command ...  
Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, ...  
For the kingdom,  
the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Lord Jesus Christ, ... Amen.  
The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
And with your spirit.

*As the priest breaks the consecrated Host the following is sung or said:*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world, grant us peace.

*Showing the Eucharist to the people, the priest says:*

Behold the Lamb of God, ...  
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter  
under my roof, but only say the word and my  
soul shall be healed.

**Communion Antiphon** (Cf. Is 35:4)  
Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not  
fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will  
save us.

### THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

**Entrance Antiphon** (Phil 4:4-5)  
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.

In the name of the Father, ... Amen.  
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all. And with your spirit.

**Penitential Act**  
Brethren (brothers and sisters), ...  
*A brief pause for silence follows.*

I confess to almighty God and to you, my  
brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have  
done and in what I have failed to do,

*And, striking their breast, they say:*  
through my fault, through my fault, through my  
most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed  
Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and  
you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to  
the Lord our God.  
May almighty God have mercy on us, ... Amen.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
(The Gloria is not said.)

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

**FIRST READING** (Zeph 3:14-18)

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.  
Shout for joy, daughter of Zion. Israel, shout aloud!  
Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of  
Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence;  
he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the  
king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more  
evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come  
to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your  
hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst,  
a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you,  
he will renew you by his love; he will dance with  
shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.  
The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Is 12:2-6)

Sing and shout for joy, for great in your  
midst is the Holy One of Israel.

- Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. **℟**
- Give thanks to the Lord, give praise  
to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name. **℟**
- Give a psalm to the Lord  
for he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy One  
of Israel. **℟**

**SECOND READING** (Phil 4:4-7)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Philippians.  
I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I  
repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your  
tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very  
near. There is no need to worry; but if there is  
anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with  
prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God,  
which is so much greater than we can understand,  
will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ  
Jesus.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (Cf. Is 61:1; Lk 4:18)

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.  
He has sent me to bring good news to the  
poor.

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** (Lk 3:10-18)

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.  
A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Luke. **Glorify to you, O Lord.**  
When all the people asked John, 'What must we  
do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he  
must share with the man who has none, and the  
one with something to eat must do the same.' There  
were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and  
these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He  
said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some  
soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us?'



## PARISH NEWSLETTER

**Parish of Banogue and Croom**  
Canon Willie Fitzmaurice P.P. 061 397231  
/ 086 2423 728

Email: croomchurch@eircom.net  
Croom and Banogue Parish Website:  
<https://www.croomparish.com/>  
Diocesan Web Page:  
[www.limerickdiocese.org](http://www.limerickdiocese.org)  
Link for Live Church Services:  
Croom Parish - ChurchCamLive.ie  
Banogue Parish - ChurchCamLive.ie  
Croom Church Eircode: V35 R972  
Banogue Church Eircode: V35 WN59  
Banogue Adoration: Tuesdays 3pm - 6pm  
Croom Hospital Mass: Sunday 8am.  
Thursday 11am. Followed by Holy Hour.  
Public Welcome

Last Sundays Offertory Collection:  
Banogue €260  
Croom €1,000

**Recent Death**  
Please pray for the repose of the soul of Daniel Joseph  
Riordan, Garranroe who was laid to rest in Relig Mhuire  
during the week. May he rest in peace.

**BECOME A VOLUNTEER WITH CROOM HOSPITAL**  
Croom Hospital is recruiting volunteers to welcome patients and visitors to the hospital.

We are looking for volunteers to help and assist people to find where they need to go in the hospital. Volunteers can help patients and members of the public with general queries and on how to give feedback on their experiences also. Volunteers act as ambassadors for Croom Hospital and carry out the following:

- Welcome patients and visitors to the Hospital
- Offer assistance
- Assist with wayfinding to various wards, clinics, and departments
- Walk with patients/visitors to their location if necessary
- Request wheelchairs on behalf of patients
- Provide information on how to provide feedback on their Hospital experience

Presently it is a morning service with a minimum commitment of 3 hours per week.  
If you are interested in volunteering please contact Josephine on 087 1871863 or email [UHLpals@hse.ie](mailto:UHLpals@hse.ie) for more details.

**Christmas Arrangements**  
**December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve**  
Confessions Croom Church: 11.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

**Masses**  
Banogue 5.45pm  
Croom Children's Mass 4.30pm  
Croom Mass 7pm

**December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day**  
**Masses**  
Banogue 10am  
Croom 11.30am

**Christmas Dues Collection**  
The Christmas Dues Collection will be taken up at all Masses this Christmas. There are extra envelopes in the porches of the churches.

**Remembrance Tree**  
We think of our exiles especially at



Christmastime. You are invited to write down the name of a family member living abroad on one of the tags provided and place it on the Remembrance Tree. Also we can remember our departed loved ones who have died abroad.

**CHOIR** Christmas Choir practice takes place every Tuesday at 7.30pm at Croom Church. New members welcome.

**Reflection**  
There is a clear note of joy in today's liturgy. Joy is not the same as pleasure. Pleasure is of the body; joy is of the spirit. Pleasure is like a flare in the night. It brightens things up for a while, but dies quickly leaving us darker and emptier than ever. Joy, on the other hand, is like a bright fire in the hearth. Even when it dies down, it leaves a warm glow behind it. Joy in the heart is the surest sign of the presence of God.