

PARISH OF POBAL

Third Sunday of Advent:

12 December 2021.

Website: pobalparish.com and Webcam - www.churchservices.tv/Tempo.

Priest: Fr. John Halton, Parochial House, Tempo. Tel. 895 41344.

Sunday Masses: **Tempo: 11.00am,** **Cradien 9.30am.**

Weekday Masses: **Tempo:** Tuesday 10am, Friday 7.00pm. **Cradien:** Thursday 9.30am

Eucharistic Ministers: **Tempo:** Sunday 19th Dec – Eugene McGrade & Ann Marie Kelly.

Cradien: Sunday 19th Dec – Patricia McKeever.

Anniversaries: **Tempo: Friday 17/12 (7.00pm)** Michelle Flynn, Edenmore Road,
Seamus McCaffrey, Letterbailey.

The Synod/ Parish/Mission: These thoughts are taken from Donal Harrington's Book -Tomorrow's Parish. Last Sunday we talked about the many good things that have happened in Parishes since Vatican 11. We also mentioned the downside we still experience in Parish today. The downside can be seen in three areas of parish involvement. We said that the three areas could be named **1: Our Passivity, 2: Our Privacy and 3: Our Complacency:** Last week we have made comment about our Passivity. We said that the parish of the past was a clerical Church. The lay people were disempowered. Today we want to talk about 2: our Privacy. A second downside that emerged from the old church was a culture of Privacy. In the past the fact that the Mass was in Latin discouraged participation. Mass was something that the priest did, and the people watched. People dealt with this as best they could. They followed the Mass in their Missal, or they said the Rosary. It all had the effect of pushing participation inwards. Participation was privatised. So the culture we have inherited is to see the Mass as a private devotion. It could be described as multiple acts of individual devotion going on at the same time. It is not unlike the cinema. Everybody is focused on the same screen; everybody is watching the same film, but it is a private event for each. Our conditioning has left us with a weak sense of Mass as something we do together. We are still on the inner journey from "Getting Mass" to "Celebrating the Eucharist" but we haven't got there yet. The 3: third downside which we inherited from the church of the past is 3: Complacency. We have become satisfied with ourselves; with things as they are, and we don't want to make them better. In the past everyone went to Mass. Some went out of pressure to conform, but because everyone went an inevitable sense of complacency set in. Instead of being challenged by Jesus' message we became comfortable with it. We grew content. To a great extent we ended up with going through motions that are dull and dead. When things changed we were not ready for it. We were not equipped to respond. This applies to priest as well as anyone else. Priest in some ways became like functionaries. The organisation's expectation of them was routine and unchallenging. They were not expected to challenge, or lead people through Change. This is not to disrespect their commitment, and care. It is that they were not trained for Mission. Today we are like people who live in two churches. Part of us live in the church of the past, with its passivity, privacy, and complacency, and part of us live in the new church of collaboration, participation, and a sense of togetherness. In other words there is a pull within us between the church of the past, and the new exciting church of the present. The call of advent is a call to change, and the call of the Synod is a call to change.

Baptism: We welcome into the Community of Faith: Keeva Rose Rogers, Dernawill Gardens, Enniskillen who was baptised in the Church of The Immaculate Conception Tempo on Saturday 4th December 2021. Also Tiernan Gerry Murphy, Drumcor Road, Creagh, Tempo, who was baptised on 5th December 2021 in the Church of the Immaculate Conception. May their homes be filled with happiness, love, prayer, and joy?

Christmas Masses: **Tempo:** 8.00pm Christmas Eve; 11.00am Christmas morning.

Cradien: 9.30am Christmas morning

All who are coming to Mass on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day must be sure to book a seat. Places are limited and are filling up fast.

Mass on Sundays: We are still accepting names for attendance at Sunday Masses: To book your place in Tempo Church: Telephone **07501 084259** or **07718 821060**. The number to book your place in Cradien is **07866 174766** (Thurs & Fri 2-5pm) **The wearing of masks is mandatory in Churches.**