

· WELCOME TO THE CLUSTER PARISHES OF  
ARDAGH & MOYDOW AND LEGAN & BALLYCLOGHAN ·



St. Brigid's, Ardagh



Ardagh  
Webcam

**CHRISTMAS DAY 2024**  
**FR. VINCENT CONNAUGHTON P.P.**

043 6675006 / 087 4070775

ardaghmoydowparish@gmail.com

www.ardaghmoydow.com

Webcam Link: churchtv.ie/Ardagh

Webcam Link: churchtv.ie/Moydow



Moydow  
Webcam



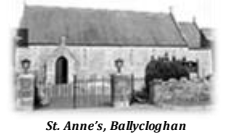
St. Mary's, Moydow



St. Mary's, Legan



Ardagh/Moydow  
Website



St. Anne's, Ballycloghan

· WEEKDAY MASSES ·

<b>Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <i>Christmas Day</i>	10:00am, Legan	
	11:30am, Ardagh	Deceased members of Ardagh & Moydow GAA ( <i>Anniversary</i> ). <b>Minister of the Word:</b> Member of Ardagh & Moydow GAA. <b>Ministers of the Eucharist:</b> Mary O'Brien & Ann Marie McLoughlin.
<b>Thu 26<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <i>St. Stephen's Day</i>	12 Noon, Ardagh	Michael Gillen ( <i>Anniversary</i> ). <b>Minister of the Word:</b> Breda Higgins.
<b>Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	10:00am, Ardagh	

· WEEKEND MASSES ·

<b>Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	6:00pm, Ballycloghan	
	7:30pm, Moydow	Theasma Popoulose ( <i>03<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary</i> ). <b>Minister of the Word:</b> Gráinne Reid. <b>Minister of the Eucharist:</b> Eithne Farrell.
<b>Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	10:00am, Legan	<b>Minister of the Word:</b> Mike Nash.
	11:30am, Ardagh	<b>Ministers of the Eucharist:</b> Eileen Bohan & Elizabeth Farrell.



# Christmas Message 2024



When I was appointed bishop of Ardagh & Clonmacnois by Pope Francis last year, I chose *Deus Spes Mea* – *God is my hope*, as my episcopal motto. A motto is defined in the dictionary as *a brief statement used to express a goal or ideal*. I chose it for a number of reasons, but most especially because it expresses what is at the heart of our Christian faith. Its core message is that God overcomes all obstacles through the fire of hope. We live in a troubled world where all around us there is difficulty and pain, so much so that at times we are inclined to despair.

What is needed in all of us, you and me, and all those who believe in Christ is that fire of hope. This is the gift that we give to others and pass on to our children. The people who have gone before us have left us a legacy of perseverance in the faith, keeping Christian hope alive in their time. Now is our turn to persevere, so that this same light of hope shines from us. We do not know what the future brings, but we do know that the flame of Christian hope can continue to burn brightly, even in the most difficult situations.

The beauty of the Christmas message is the hope that is found in this weak and vulnerable Christ child who has come to save us. We are reminded of the love that God has for each of us, that He is a kind and merciful God. We are reminded that despite the darkness that engulfs our world today, especially in the Holy Land, the light of hope, of faith will endure. To quote Pope Francis:

*Let us exult in this gift of grace!  
Rejoice you who have abandoned all hope,  
for God offers you His outstretched hand;  
He does not point a finger at you,  
but offers you His little baby hand,  
in order to set you free from your fears,  
to relieve you of your burdens and to show you that,  
in His eyes,  
you are more valuable than anything else.*

I wish every one of you a blessed, peaceful Christmas, full of the joy and peace that the Christ child brings into our lives.

+ Paul Connell

Bishop of Ardagh & Clonmacnois