



# Ennis Parish News

Confessions in Cathedral Saturday After 10am Mass & before and after 6.30pm Mass

St Joseph's Saturday After 11am Mass

Parish Office open Mon to Fri 9.30-1pm & 2-5pm Sat 10.30-12noon

## Mass Times

### Sundays:

Cathedral:- Sat. Vigil: 6.30pm; Sunday: 9.30am & 11.30am

St. Joseph's:- Sat. Vigil: 7pm; Sunday: 10am, 11.45am

Cloughleigh Church:- 8.00am, 11am

Friary:- Sat. Vigil: 7.30pm; Sunday: 10.30am, 12.00 noon

Poor Clare Monastery:- 7.45 a.m.

### Weekdays:

Cathedral: Mon. – Fri: 7.40am; 10am & 7.30pm; 10am on Saturday

St. Joseph's:- Monday – Saturday: 11am

Cloughleigh Church:- Monday – Friday: 9.30am

Friary:- Daily: 10am & 1.05pm; 10am on Saturday

Poor Clare Monastery:- Daily at 7.45 am; Daily Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament from 4-6pm in the Chapel.

### Phone Numbers:

Cathedral:- 6824043; Email: [info@ennisparish.com](mailto:info@ennisparish.com)

St. Joseph's:- 6822166; Cloughleigh: 6840715; Friary: 6828751

Ennis Parish Web Site: <http://www.ennisparish.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ennis.parish>

Fourth Sunday in Advent (Year C)

23rd December, 2018

## Jesus Is The Reason For The Season!

Christmas can be crazy and chaotic, but it is also a beautiful and meaningful time of year. Whether you like listening to the classic carols, looking at lights and elaborate decorations, or just love time together with family and friends.

We all remember making lists and going through the toy catalogue and picking out what we wanted. When we see the gifts under the tree, we have all secretly shaken the wrapped presents, trying to determine what was in there. We won't always get what we want, but we will get more than we really need.

Christmas can be so meaningful if you know that someone who loves you is planning something special, specifically with you in mind. Your parents did that for you when you was growing up, and now you get to do the same for your own children and loved ones. God is doing this for each of us every single day.

God came to this Earth in such an incredibly humble way in the form of a baby born in a barn stall. The Christ-child is God's amazing gift to us. That's why we celebrate Christmas. God has prepared something great for each of us, and the way to that life is through Jesus!

As you begin to see Jesus as God's gift to you, then all the other things God has for you will be given. We don't need the trapping and tinsel of Christmas, we just need the simplicity of a family thinking about Jesus' birth and enjoying God's creation.

Our hope for all of us is that we will have those quiet moments this Christmas when we realize just what is truly important.

*Jesus is the reason for the season. After all is said and done, it's still Jesus. Jesus is at the very core of Christmas.*

JESUS is  
the Reason  
for the Season.

## Cathedral

### Remembered in Masses this Week:

**6.30pm:** Paddy & Mary Shanahan, St Michael's Villas.  
Noel Scanlan, Willow Park.  
**Sun: 9.30am:** Jimmy Duggan, Connolly Villas.  
Marie O'Loughlin Castlewood Park.  
Margaret & Patrick Daffy, Beechpark.  
**11.30am:** Shay Moloney, Hazelwood.  
Jim Harnett, Rockmount.  
Breda Kelly, Turnpike Rd late of Cranny.MM  
Teresa Collins, Clare Rd.  
Elizabeth Mc Inerney, Shanaway Rd, 1st Anniv  
Dr. Patrick O'Beirne, Willsgrrove.  
**Mon: 7.40am:** Michael O'Brien, Ballybeg.  
**10am:** Thomas & Margaret Collins, Ahern's Tce.  
**9pm: Vigil Mass**  
**Tues: Christmas Day**  
**Wed: 12noon:** Mary Fitzgerald, St. Flannan's Tce.  
Anna Murphy, Ashfield Pk.  
**4pm:** Deceased residents, members, players and  
supporters of St. Michael's Football Club.  
**7.30pm:** Patricia Hayes, Mc Namara Pk.  
**Thurs: 12noon:** Tom Reidy, St. Flannan's Tce.  
Pat O'Brien, Magowna, Inch.  
**7.30pm:** Bernard Mc Neill, Limerick Rd. 1st Anniv  
Roger Fox, Clancy Pk.  
Noel Mc Cullagh, Doorra.  
**Fri: 12 noon** Mary Browne, St. Anthony's, Circular Rd.  
Michael Frawley, Cahercalla, Kilrush Rd.  
Josephine O'Halloran, Limerick Rd.  
**7.30pm:** Cyril Hagger, Waterpark Heights. MM  
**Sat: 12noon:** Gerard O'Meara, Tulla Rd.  
**6.30pm:** Michael Meehan, Killimer, Kilrush.  
**Sun : 9.30am:** Mass for the People.  
**11.30am:** Una Ryan, Mc Namara Pk.

### Roster for Cathedral: Sunday 30th December, 2018

Readers: Group 3  
Eucharistic Ministers Weekday: Group 5  
Eucharistic Ministers Sunday: Group 2



## Cloughleigh

### Remembered in Masses this Week:

**Sun 11am:** Bridget & Patrick O'Loughlin, Cloughleigh Rd.  
**Tue 9.30am:** Christmas Day.

## Rest in Peace

Loreto (Lor) Ryan nee Piggott, Shalee Drive & Parnell St. John (Séan) Reck, Lifford Rd., Dr. Donagh Moylan, Bindon St., Michael O'Hanlon, Listowel, late husband of Mary Moloney, O'Connell St, Ennis



*Those we love don't go away,  
they walk beside us every day.  
Unseen, unheard, but always near;  
still loved, still missed and very dear.*

## Hospital & Sick Calls

23rd December, 2018

**Priest on Duty:**  
**Fr. Tom Ryan**

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

### Christmas Eve Children's Masses

**5pm:** St. Joseph's

**6pm:** Cathedral

### Vigil Masses

**7pm:** St. Joseph's

**8pm:** Cloughleigh

**9pm:** Cathedral

Poor Clare Monastery

**10pm:** Friary

**Midnight:**

Polish Midnight Mass in Cathedral

### Christmas Day

**7.45am:** Poor Clare Monastery

**8am:** Cloughleigh

**9am:** Cathedral

**10am:** St. Joseph's

**10.30pm:** Cathedral & Friary

**11am:** Cloughleigh

**11.45am:** St. Joseph's

**12noon:** Cathedral & Friary

**1.15pm:** Polish Mass in Cathedral



## Confession Times

### Penitential Services

**Monday 17th December**

7.30pm - Cathedral

**Tuesday 18th December**

10.30am - Friary

**Friday 21st December**

1.05pm - Friary

## Confession

**From Tuesday 18th to Saturday**

**22nd December**

11am - 12.30pm; Friary

3pm - 5pm; Friary

### Christmas Eve

10am - 5pm; Cathedral

11am - 1pm; Friary

11am-12.30pm St. Joseph's

2pm - 5.30pm; Friary

Ennis Parish Development  
Fund for Sunday 16th  
December: €7,027



## St. Joseph's

Mass intentions for scheduled Masses in St. Joseph's Church should be booked through the Parish Office. For all other events call Fr John 0656822166.

### Remembered in Masses this Week:

**Sun 10am:** Catherine & Michael Griffin, Maurice's Mills.

**Mon 11am:** Mass of Thanksgiving.

**Wed 11am:** Michael Keane, Fergus Lawn.

**Thu 11am:** Michael Mc Guane, Corrovorrin Drive.

**Fri 11am:** Dr. Brian Gallagher, Tulla Rd.

**Sat 11am:** Noel Ballinger, Gort Rd.

**7pm:** Eric Mc Nevin, Corrovorrin & Limerick.

**Sun 10am:** Winifred Leydon, Sligo.

**11.45:** Maureen & Paddy Shanahan, St. Senan's Rd.

### Mass Time from St. Stephen's Day, Thursday, Friday & Saturday.

**8.30am:** Poor Clare's

**11am:** St. Joseph's

**12noon:** Cathedral & Friary

**7.30pm:** Cathedral

### Normal Saturday Vigil Mass

**6.30pm:** Cathedral

**7pm:** St. Joseph's

**7.30pm:** Friary

Mass resumes in Cloughleigh Oratory on Sunday  
30th December.

Mass in the Poor Clare Dec 31st, Jan 1st, 2nd, 3rd,  
4th @ 8.30am.

## Pilgrimages 2019

**Killaloe Diocese Lourdes Pilgrimage 2019:** The 63<sup>rd</sup> Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes from the Diocese of Killaloe under the leadership of Bishop Fintan Monahan will leave Shannon Airport on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June returning Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June. £725pps full board with £20 discount for online booking. Special section for assisted pilgrims with details from Fr Tom Ryan, Cathedral Ennis 087-2349816 . All other bookings to joewalshstours.ie

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**Pilgrimage to Rome and San Giovanni Easter 2019:** (last remaining seats) with Papal Ceremonies in Saint Peter's Square in Rome for the 7 nights Ex Dublin €995 pps Payments can be made in instalment; contact James Treacy on 061921470 or 0860572216

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**Medjugorje Pilgrimage for the Youth Festival at August Bank Holiday Weekend 2019** one of the biggest events of the year in Medjugorje. ex Dublin costs €725 pps for 7 nights. Payment can also be made in instalments. Contact James Treacy on 061921470 or 0860572216

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**Fatima and Lisbon Pilgrimage** ex Dublin (last remaining seats) for Feast Day of Saint Anthony 9<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Full Board €675 pps Single supplement €32

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**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje:** Date 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019 Flight from Shannon to Split. Spiritual director Fr Paddy Conway Cost €725. Contact: Bernadette 0861634553

## Advent / Christmas Parish Events

**Friary & Poor Clare Winter Heating Fund:** Donations to the Winter heating fund for both the Friary & Poor Clares can be left into the Friary Office. Both communities are grateful for the support they receive to this annual appeal.

**Mass times for Christmas:** Please note that there will be three Masses in the Cathedral on Christmas Day 9am, 10.30am with Ennis National School and 12 noon.

**Priests' Christmas Collection:** The Christmas Collection for the Priests of the Parish will take place at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. As one of just four collections in the year we do appreciate the generosity of Parishioners and those who worship in our parish. Envelopes are available.

**Planned Giving envelopes:** Currently new boxes of envelopes for 2019 are available for distribution to those who use them. We thank our parish representatives who distribute those boxes and our parish calendar. New boxes become effective on 6th January 2019.

**Parish Calendar 2019:** Our 2019 Parish Calendar is now available free of charge. This year's calendar is produced in association with our Diocesan Vocation Committee and features the Ministry of Priests, Sisters and Brothers who minister in the Parish of Ennis.

**Parish Office:** The Parish Office will be open on Christmas Eve from 10am to 2pm. The office will reopen on Wednesday 2nd January at 9.30am.

**Annual Mass** for deceased residents, members, players and supporters of **St. Michael's Football Club** on St. Stephen's Day, 26th Dec 4pm at Cathedral. All welcome

**Christmas Dinner for lonely and homeless people** 26th December 5pm Maria Assumpta Hall, Station Road, Ennis V95 HT99. RSVP 087 7 405 902

**A new presidium of the Legion of Mary** has been formed. Meetings are held in the Parish Centre every Wednesday evening at 7pm. New members or those wishing to return to the Legion will be most welcome. Call 086 8164408 or 087 7803459

**All Ireland Rosary Rally for Faith & Life**, 1st January 2019. Feast of the Mother of God @ 12 noon at Dáil Éireann, Merrion Square, Dublin Contact Ann 087 7803459

**Scoil Chríost Rí Cloughleigh** is holding a clothes collection fundraiser. If you are throwing out any old clothes or doing a clear out before or after Christmas, unwanted clothes will be recycled to raise much needed funds to finish off our new school. These clothes are then sent to countries in the developing world. Bags can be left in the Hall adjoining Cloughleigh Church after Sunday Mass, after weekly masses or left into the school any day until Sunday Jan 27th. Phone 0656820105 for info. Thank you

**Goal Mile Ennis** takes place on Christmas day in the Fairgreen Ennis from 11am to 1pm. Join us to walk or run the mile and donate what you can to help the poorest of the poor on this very special day.

**In 2019, YOU CAN quit** - 2 Free HSE Quit Tobacco groups in January. Ennis group: Mondays 7<sup>th</sup> Jan to 11<sup>th</sup> Feb; 7 to 8pm and Kilrush group: Wednesdays 9<sup>th</sup> Jan to 13<sup>th</sup> Feb; 6.30 to 7.30pm; To book or enquire call 065 6865814

**St. Stephen's Night Céilí** at Cois na hAbhna Wednesday, December 26th, 2018 with The Star of Munster Céilí Band. Dancing from 9.30pm to 12.30am.

**A date for the Diary...** Sunday January 13th 2019. Annual Toonagh Walk in aid of The Huntington's Disease Association. Registration in Toonagh Hall @ 11am, €10 per adult, children free, Three routes to suit all fitness levels. Hot & Cold refreshments, treats, home baking and a monster raffle. All are welcome. Contact Denise on 087 6731966 for more details. Burn those Christmas calories and support a great cause!

**The Irish Red Cross Clare** will hold their Church Gate Collection on Saturday 29th December and Sunday December 30th. All funds will be used to support the work of the Irish Red Cross in Clare

**Trocaire 'Do not let the downtrodden retreat in confusion, give the poor and needy cause to praise your name.' Psalms 74:21.** Millions of people have had to flee conflict in South Sudan and Yemen. In one area alone in northern Uganda 33,000 mainly women and children from South Sudan have taken refuge. They have witnessed and experienced the worst kind of violence and have arrived traumatised and broken. Trocaire's Christmas Appeal will help these people and many others rebuild their lives. Visit [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org) to find out more.

### Praying with Christmas Cards.

Keep all your cards together as they arrive. Each day choose a different card. Talk or think kindly of the sender and family. As part of your night prayer pray for these people in a special way. This might be a good way to recycle the Spirit of Christmas: Keep the cards in a box or basket after Christmas and continue as above even for a month or so.

This idea could be adapted to other festive occasions like Birthdays, Easter, Anniversaries, Weddings and St. Patrick's Day



## Sr. Eileen's Cuinne

An Ceathrú Domhnach den Aidbhint

Inniu an ceathrú Domhnach den Aidbhint agus ceiliúrfar Breith Íosa ar fud an domhain ar an Mháirt seo chugainn. Tá an feitheamh thart nach mór agus comhlíonadh na Nollag buailte linn.

Seo mar a deir an Tiarna:

"Tusa, a Bhetlehem Efrata,

bíodh is gur beag le rá thú i measc treibheanna Judah,

is asat-sa a thioctaidh, dom-sa,

an té a bheidh os cionn Israel" (Micah 5:2)

Is féidir linn teachtaireacht na Nollag a mheabhú dúinn féin agus machnamh a dhéanamh ar an gcéad Nollaig. Bhí an tSlánaitheoir geallta don chine daonna agus rugadh é breis agus dhá mhíle bliain ó shin. Lonraigh a sholas sa dorchadas. Chan na haingil leis na haoirí an chéad oíche Nollaig "ná bíodh eagla oraibh; óir féach, tá dea-scéala agam daoibh, a chuirfidh áthas mór ar an bpobal uile, rugadh slánaitheoir daoibh" (Lúcás 2:10). Lastar coinneal gheal san fhuinneog mar chomhartha go bhfuil fáilte roimh an Leanbh Íosa, Muire agus Íosaef, ní amháin inár dtithe ach inár gcroí freisin. Fáilte romhat, a Rí na nAingeal! *Síocháin an Naí Íosa a gealladh do lucht na dea-thola go raibh ag cách an Nollaig seo agus san Athbhliain. Áiméan.*

Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent and the Birth of Jesus will be celebrated worldwide on Tuesday next. The waiting is almost over.

This is how the Lord speaks:

"But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me

one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days." (Micah 5:2)

We can reflect on the first Christmas and its true meaning. The Saviour was promised and born in a stable in Bethlehem more than two thousand years ago. A light shone in the darkness. The Angels sang to the shepherds on the first Christmas Night. "Fear not, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people, for unto us this day is born a Saviour." (Luke 2:10) A lighted candle is placed in the window to welcome Mary, Joseph and the Infant Jesus not only in our homes but also in our hearts. Welcome Saviour of the world! *May the peace of the Infant Jesus promised to people of good will be with you all this Christmas and in the New Year. Amen.*

### New Year's Eve

Pray out the Old Year

Pray in

The New Year

Cathedral

31st December @

11.30pm

To

12.15am



# Today's Scripture Readings

## Entrance Antiphon

Drop down dew from above,  
you heavens, and let the clouds rain  
down the Just One;  
Let the earth be opened  
And bring forth a Saviour.

## PENITENTIAL RITE

P. Have mercy on us, O Lord  
C. For we have sinned against you.  
P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.  
C. And grant us your salvation.  
P. May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins, and bring us to  
everlasting life.  
C. Amen.

## A reading from the prophet Micah.

Mi 5:1-4

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
the least of the clans of Judah,  
out of you will be born for me  
the one who is to rule over Israel;  
his origin goes back to the distant  
past,  
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to  
abandon them till the time when she  
who is to give birth gives birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will  
come back to the sons of Israel.  
He will stand and feed his flock  
with the power of the Lord,  
with the majesty of the name of his  
God.

They will live secure, for from then  
on he will extend his power  
to the ends of the land.  
He himself will be peace.

## The word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

*Response: God of hosts, bring us back;  
Let Your face shine on us and we shall  
be saved.*

O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
Shine forth from Your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up Your might,  
O Lord, come to our help. **R**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
Look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
The vine Your right hand has planted. **R**

May your hand be on the man you have  
chosen, the man you have given your  
strength.

And we shall never forsake you again:  
Give us life that we may call upon your  
name. **R**

## A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Heb 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the  
world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or  
oblation,  
prepared a body for me.  
You took no pleasure in holocausts  
or sacrifices for sin;  
then I said,  
just as I was commanded in the  
scroll of the book,  
'God, here I am! I am coming to  
do your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want  
what the Law lays down as the things to be  
offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations,  
the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin,  
and you took no pleasure in them; and then  
he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey  
your will. He is abolishing the first sort to  
replace it with the second. And this will was  
for us to be made holy by the offering of his  
body made once and for all by Jesus  
Christ.

## The word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I am the handmaid of the Lord:*

*Let what you have said be done to me.*

*Alleluia!*

## A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lk 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she  
could to a town in the hill country of Judah.  
She went into Zechariah's house and  
greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as  
Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child  
leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled  
with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry  
and said, 'Of all women you are the most  
blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your  
womb. Why should I be honoured with a  
visit from the mother of my Lord? For the

moment your greeting reached my ears,  
the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes,  
blessed is she who believed that the  
promise made her by the Lord would be  
fulfilled.'

## The Gospel of the Lord

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all things  
visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not  
made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven, and by the  
Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin  
Mary, and became man. For our sake he  
was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he  
suffered death and was buried, and rose  
again on the third day In accordance with  
the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the  
Father. He will come again in glory to  
judge the living and the dead and his  
kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the  
giver of life, who proceeds from the Father  
and the Son, who with the Father and the  
Son is adored and glorified, who has  
spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and  
apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins and I look  
forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

## Communion Antiphon

Behold a virgin shall conceive  
And bear a son;  
And his name will be Emmanuel

