



# ENNIS PARISH NEWSLETTER



## FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

YEAR C

1st December 2024

### Advent is a Time to Prepare to Receive Jesus

The first Sunday of Advent we begin a new liturgical year. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord, and one of the key themes of the season is watchful waiting. The season of Advent is a time of waiting, which traditionally is defined as preparation. Advent provides a wonderful opportunity to consider what is going on inside me, to reflect on the reason for our waiting: the arrival of Jesus, the arrival of love, in our hearts in ever-new ways.

### A Season of Hope

During this season, we light the First Candle on the Advent Wreath, symbolizing hope. Hope is not merely wishful thinking; it is a confident expectation that God's promises will be fulfilled. In the midst of 'dark clouds over the sky', what gets lost is Hope- a hope in a better world, a hope in overcoming the situation, a hope in life and a hope in the lord. As messengers of Hope, we are called to be the salt of the earth and light of the world.



### Slow Down To Silence the Distractions

In the busyness of our lives, it's easy to lose sight of the spiritual significance of Advent. Sometimes due to our weakness we lose sight of god and lose hope. It's a season which invites us to slow down, to silence the distractions, silence the unpleasant dreams and to turn our hearts and minds toward God's presence and also to wake from the slumber. Advent invites us to cultivate a spirit of watchfulness, not just for the signs of Christ to return, but for the opportunities God places before us daily to grow in Faith, Hope and Love. And to be faithful servants.

As we begin our Advent journey, let us reflect on our hearts: Have we grown complacent in faith or allowed sin to distance us from God? Now is the time to awaken, be watchful, and zealously fulfill our responsibilities. This season invites us to rekindle our devotion and recommit to discipleship, waiting eagerly for the birth of our Redeemer. As we light the first Advent candle, may it symbolize Christ's light guiding our hearts and filling us with hope.

### Mass Times

**Cathedral-[www.ennisparish.com/webcam](http://www.ennisparish.com/webcam)**

**Radio link:106.4fm**

Monday to Friday 7.40am, 11am & 7.30pm

Saturday 11 am & Vigil 6.30pm

Sunday 8am, 9.30am & 11.30am

**St. Joseph's- [www.ennisparish.com/our-parish/stjosephs-church-webcam](http://www.ennisparish.com/our-parish/stjosephs-church-webcam)**

Monday to Friday 10.30am

Saturday 10.30am & Vigil 7pm

Sunday 1.0am & 11.45am

**Friary-[www.ennisparish.com/our-parish/franciscan-friary-webcam/](http://www.ennisparish.com/our-parish/franciscan-friary-webcam/)**

Monday to Saturday 10am

Vigil Mass Saturday 7.30pm

Sunday 10.30am

**Christ the King Oratory Cloughleigh**

Monday to Friday 9.30am

Sunday 11am

[www.ennisparish.com](http://www.ennisparish.com)

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Cathedral & Friary**

Cathedral: Monday to Friday 7pm to 7.25pm

Saturday after the Vigil Mass

Friary: Tuesday to Saturday 11-12 noon & 4-5pm

**Baptisms**

Can be booked through the Parish Office.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** will take place

Monday to Friday in the Cathedral from 5pm until 7pm

**Phone Numbers: Cathedral:- 6824043;**

Email: [info@ennisparish.com](mailto:info@ennisparish.com)

St. Joseph's:- 6829584

Cloughleigh:- 6797 489;

Friary:- 6828751

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

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

**Priest on Duty 1st December, 2024**  
**Contact: Fr. Ger Jones 065 6869098**



**Cathedral**

**Remembered in Masses this Week:**

**6.30pm:** Michael Rynne, 'Derrynane', Cusack Rd. MM  
 Tony O'Loughlin, St. Flannan's Tce. **1st Anniv.**  
 Mary & Michael Hayes, Loughville.  
 Cyril Lynch, Circular Rd.  
 John Daly, Clare Rd.  
 Nicola Davis O'Sullivan, Ballyalla.  
 Deceased Clancy & Desmond Families,  
 Kilrush & Tuam.  
 Maura Griffin, Lissycasey.  
 Julie & Thomas Guilfoyle, Dalcassian Park.

**Sun 1st 8am:** No intention booked.  
**9.30am:** Costelloe & O'Donoghue Families,  
 Ennis & Cork.  
 Ned Monahan, Bramble Lane, Limerick Rd.  
 Kathleen, Peter & Joe Fallon, Roscommon.  
**11.30am:** Glenise Downes, Drumbiggle. **1st Anniv.**  
 Barbara Smith (nee Daffy), Hermitage.  
 Peggy Malone, Dalcassian Drive.  
 Peter Cullinan, Cooper's Place.  
 Michael Griffin, Clarecastle & Ennis.  
 John & Bernadette Connolly, Galway.  
 Kathleen O'Donoghue, Castleknock, Dublin.  
 Jean Crowe, Waterford.  
 Janice Hall, Yorkshire.  
 White Family, Hermitage.

**1pm:** Mass for the Ukranian Community.  
**6.30pm:** Mass for the Polish Community.  
**Mon 7.40am:** Holy Souls.  
**11am:** Frank Dinan, Cahercalla Heights.  
**7.30pm:** Matt Talbot Prayer Society.  
**Tues 7.40am** Book of Intentions.  
**11am:** Geraldine McCarthy, Ballynacally.  
**7.30pm:** No intention booked.  
**Wed 7.40am:** No intention booked.  
**11am:** Marian Carmody (nee Rice), Circular Rd.  
**7.30pm:** Michael Quinn, Cahercalla.  
 Kathy Chin, London & Ennis.  
 McEnery Family, Hermitage.  
 Mary O'Loughlin, St. Michael's Villas.  
 Kathleen Dinan, Hermitage.

**Thurs 7.40am:** Donor's Intention.  
**11am:** Mary & John O'Looney, Kilfenora.  
 Kitty Hanrahan & Dan Herbert., Dalcassian Drive.  
 Patrick & Anne Dargan, 'St. Gabriel's', Limerick Rd.  
 Nicholas & Catherine McMahon, Fountain House.  
**7.30pm:** Deceased residents of Parnell St., High St.  
 & Old Mill Street.  
 Kurvilla Joseph, India.

**Fri 7.40am:** Mass for the People.  
**11am:** No intention booked.  
**7.30pm:** Maura Kennedy (nee White), Liverpool &  
 Connolly Villas. MM.  
 Daragh & John O'Halloran, Ard na Gréine.  
**Sat: 11am:** Tim Flanagan, Rockmount House.  
 Patricia, Christopher & Robert Gormley,  
 Dalcassian Park & Ann Kelly, Kilcock, Co. Kildare.  
 Michael Hogan, England & St. Flannan's Tce.

**6.30pm:** Mary **1st Anniv.** & Joseph Connery,  
 Dalcassian Park.  
 Mary Conway, 'Greenlea', Station Rd.  
 William Bloomfield & Family, Ennis  
 Frank & Florrie Burns, Clare Rd.  
 Christy Burns, Kilkee.  
 Ciss, Paddy & Michael Hanrahan, St. Michael's Villas.  
 Claire, Flan & Donohue Family, Parnell St.  
 Humphrey & Margaret Counihan, Fergus Lawn.  
 PJ Daly, Cahercalla Rd.  
 Vincent & Nonie Meehan, Tulla.

**Sun 8th 8am:** Deceased Leyden Family, Carmody St.  
 & Cloughleigh Rd.  
**9.30am:** No intention booked.  
**11.30am:** Peggy MM. & Seán Connolly, 'St. Patrick's',  
 Ard na Gréine.  
 Michael Moloney, McNamara Park.  
 John & Patrick Quinn, Edenvale.  
 Mary Ellen Quinn, Edenvale & Kincora Park.  
 Joe & Mary Nevin, Loughville.  
 & Daughter Mary, Dysart.  
 Maureen & Martin O'Halloran, Clauren.  
 Patrick & Helen Casey, Parnell St.

**Cathedral Renovation Appeal**  
 In the past week Fr. Tom wishes to acknowledge a donation of €100. We thank the many people who have made once off contributions to this appeal.

**Matt Talbot Prayer Society**

The monthly mass praying for all suffering or sharing in the life of Addiction will take place on Monday at 7.30pm in the Cathedral.

**Sunday Missal 2025**

St. Paul's Sunday Missal for 2025 is now available to purchase for €7 from the Parish Office. It would make an ideal Christmas gift.

**Tea Bags**



Tea Bags €4 each or 3 for €10. Also available a Candle and Tea Bag gift set for €8. On sale at Parish Office and after all Masses this weekend. All proceeds to the Cathedral Restoration Fund.

**Ecumenical Carol Service**



Ecumenical Carol Service takes place on Sunday 15th December at 7pm in the Cathedral, bringing together the combined choirs of parishes in Drumcliffe & Ennis.

**Parish Readers**

Parish readers are asked to collect their Sunday Missal for 2025 at the Sacristy of the Cathedral.



**Clare Roots' Society**

The People of High Street & Parnell Street, formerly Mill Street, Ennis by Lucille Ellis in association with Clare Roots' Society.

**Remembrance Mass** on Thursday 5th December in The Cathedral at 7.30pm.

**Book launch** in Maria Assumpta Hall on grounds of Cathedral at 8.15pm. All Welcome.

**St. Joseph's**



**Remembered in Masses this Week:**

**7pm:** Eddie Ryan, Clancy Park.  
 Tom & Mary Darcy, Castlerock, Tulla Rd.  
 Terry & Martin Barry, Clonroad.  
**Sun 1st 10am:** Martin, Bridie & Paul Byrnes, Gort Rd.  
**11.45am:** Margaret & Bill Hanrahan, Ashfield Park.  
 Seán & Vera Moloney, 'Rahona', Tulla Rd.  
 Pat Kilker, St. Senan's Rd.  
**Mon 10.30am:** Holy Souls.  
**Tues 10.30am:** Book of Intentions.  
**Wed 10.30am:** No intention booked.  
**Thu 10.30am:** No intention booked.  
**Fri 10.30am:** No intention booked.  
**Sat: 10.30am:** No intention booked.  
**7pm:** Frances Murphy, Riverdale.  
**Sun 8th 10am:** Bridget, John & Michael Mulligan,  
 Roscommon.  
**11.45am:** Anne McNamara, Turnpike Rd.  
 Seán & Claire McGrath, Lifford Rd.  
 Maura Beakey, Cahercalla Estate.  
 Patrick & Margaret O'Sullivan, Kilkee.

**Cloughleigh**

**Remembered in Masses this Week:**

**Sun 1st 11am:** Mary & Jimmy Neylon, Cloughleigh.  
 Adeline & Cyril Cosgrove, Clancy Park.  
**Tue 9.30am:** Book of Intentions.  
**Thu 9.30am:** Maisie Murrighy, Mullagh.

**Abbey Pastoral Area  
 Advent Reconciliation Service**

Advent Reconciliation Service on Monday 16th December at 7.30pm in the Cathedral.



*'Blessed are the Peacemakers'*

You are welcome to come along and receive the peace of Christ in preparation for Christmas. Priests will be available to hear individual Confessions.

**Newly Baptised**

*We welcome into the Christian Community through the Sacrament of Baptism:*

**Realtín Halpin** Good  
**Noah Jordan** Kerin  
**Elsie Ruth** Corry



**Altar Servers' Training**

The third session of training for our new Altar Servers will take place on Wednesday from 4.10pm to 4.45pm in the Cathedral.



Ennis Parish  
 Development Fund  
 for Sunday, 24th November

Fund **€5,747**  
 Online **€244.50**



The Society of St.Vincent dePaul will hold a Church Gate Collection at all Masses on Sunday 8th December and the Vigil Masses on Saturday 7th.

Your support is much appreciated.

### First Friday



Friday next 6th December is the First Friday of the month. Parishioners will receive the Sacraments at home. If you know of any housebound parishioners who would like to receive the Sacraments please contact the Parish Office.

The Season of Advent will be celebrated for the next 24 days, beginning this weekend with the lighting of the Advent Wreath.



### Bambinelli Sunday

The Third Sunday of Advent will be celebrated with the blessing of the Baby Jesus figure from the crib. On that weekend, you are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figure to mass for a special blessing on you and your family this Christmas.

### Friary News

The Monthly Mass for the SFO will take place on Wednesday 4th December 2024 at 10am. We will pray the office after Mass. There will be an Evening Meeting in the Friary Parlour at 7.30 pm for those who are unable to attend in the morning. You will all be most welcome.

**Candlelight Walk** on the 3rd December to remember women who have died through violence.

Assembling at Ennis Garda Station at 18:15, walking to Ennis Courthouse. All are welcome to attend.

**RIP**



**Monica O'Loughlin,**  
Cappahard, Tulla Rd;

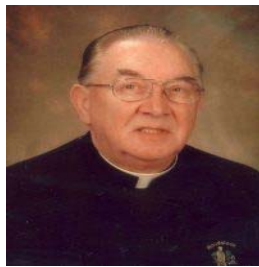
**James O'Brien,** Shannon Park;

**Martha Hayes (née Noonan),** College Green & Newmarket on Fergus;

**Helen Liddy,** Blackweir, Castlefergus, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Co. Clare and formerly of College Road, Ennis,

**Elizabeth (Lil) Keane,** Ballyalla.

**Fr. Michael O'Loughlin**  
1935 – 2024



Michael was born to Peter and Margaret O'Loughlin on the 29<sup>th</sup> September, 1935. Educated at the Convent of Mercy, Ennis CBS Primary and Secondary Schools, he studied for the Priesthood at St. Columban's College, Dalgan Park, Navan, Co. Meath, where he was ordained on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 1960.

His missionary journey as a Columban Priest brought him to Korea, the United States and here in Ireland for the past twenty years.

Michael had notable characteristics – determination, single mindedness, independence, a 'free thinker', a man with a big intellect who had a thirst for knowledge and a curiosity about new ideas, right up to his death.

In his missionary work he was an advocate for justice and peace wherever he saw it lacking. He was a leader, a diplomat, a writer, a man who loved to chat and socialise. He was passionate about proclaiming the Gospel Message.

In recent times with declining health he returned to live and be cared for by his Columban Community in Dalgan Park. Following a short illness he died peacefully in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November. His Funeral Mass took place in St. Columban's, Dalgan Park on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, eve of the Feast of St. Columban with burial in the Community Cemetery.

To his sisters Peggy, Maureen, Eileen and Pat and their families and his Columban Family, we offer our sympathy and thanks.

**May Fr. Michael's soul rest in peace.**

**Ennis Flower and Garden Club** present Jane O'Dwyer, Tipperary, for our Christmas Demonstration and also our Christmas sales table on Tuesday December 3rd at Treacys West County Hotel Ennis, doors open at 7.30pm and demonstration commences at 8.15pm sharp, €10 non members, all are welcome,

**The Ennis Brass Band** will be performing their annual Christmas concert on Sunday 8th December at 7.30pm in St Columba's Church, Ennis.

This is a free event, with a retiring collection afterwards if desired. Special guests on the night are the Quin n' tonic Choir. All welcome.

## *Sr. Eileen's Cuinne*

*Mi na Nollag*

I rith mí na Nollag bí linn a Thiarna, mí Bhreith ár Slánaitheora, mí Iár an Gheimhridh, mí dheiridh den bhliain, mí na mbronnntanas. Inniu an chéad Domhnach den Aidhaint agus tá bliain úr, nua na hEaglaise ag tosú agus ár n-aird dírithe ar chomhlíonadh phlean Dé nuair a thioctaidh a ríocht. Agus sinne Críostaithe ag feitheamh le Dia, ní le Dia anaithnid éigin, ach Dia dofheicthe a d'fhoilsigh é féin agus atá linn i gcónaí go deireadh an tsaol i gCríost agus sa Spiorad Naomh. Is ionann feitheamh le Dia dúinn agus feitheamh le comhlíonadh ghealltanas Dé, teacht ríocht Dé, ríocht shíoraí gan teorainn, ríocht na fírinne agus na beatha, ríocht na naofachta agus an ghrásta, ríocht an chirt, an ghrá agus na síochána.

Le linn na hAidhbhinte ba chóir dúinn iarracht a dhéanamh chun bealach an Tiarna a réiteach agus cúl a thabhairt dár bpeacaí ionas go mbeimid in ann fáilte a chur roimhe nuair a thioctaidh Sé. *Guimis: A Dhia, a Athair uilechumhachtaigh, impimid ort as ucht do thrócaire, bí taobh linn i gcónaí le cabhair an Spioraid Naoimh. Go dtuga Féile tréimhse na hAidhbhinte lúcháir, sonas agus síocháin dúinn féin, dár muintir agus don tír eile. Sin é ár nguí chugat trí Chríost ár dTiarna. Áiméan.*

Lord be with us during the month of December, month of the Birth of Our Saviour. middle of Winter, last month of the year, month of the gifts.

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer. Today is the first Sunday in Advent; the beginning of a new Liturgical Year. Our attention is focused on the fulfilment of God's plan for us when His kingdom will come.

As Christians we are waiting for God, not some unknown God but an invisible God who has revealed himself and is with us always to the end of time in Christ and the Holy Spirit. Waiting for God means waiting for the fulfilment of God's promise, the coming of God's kingdom an eternal kingdom of justice love and peace. During Advent we ought to follow the way of the Lord and repent of our sins so that we can welcome Jesus when He comes. We pray: *Almighty God in your mercy, be with us always with the help of the Holy Spirit. May the season of Advent be a time of joy, happiness, peace for each of us, our people and the country. We make our prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.*

### CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

**Christmas Spirit - Annual Christmas Concert**  
St Columba's Church of Ireland, Bindon St, Ennis V95 D261 Saturday Dec 7th at 8.00pm  
Booking: [www.reginanathan.com](http://www.reginanathan.com) or 0879188222  
Tickets €30 Regina Nathan Soprano  
Michael Hennessy Piano

The Joyful Sounds of Christmas Concert is on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December at Ennis Cathedral from 6.30pm.** This concert features Coole Music Youth Orchestra; The Burren Baroque Ensemble; Coole Harmonies Choir; Sonic Strings; and Helen Hancock Soprano. Donations at the door with all proceeds towards Coole Music & Arts CHY20071325 & Ennis Cathedral.

**Cantare Choir and Orchestra Christmas Concert** December 20th, 8.15pm, SS Peter & Paul Cathedral, Ennis - a very special start to your Christmas!

Tickets available online at [www.glor.ie](http://www.glor.ie) or from Glór box office - 065 6843103. In support of Samaritans, Clare. See you there!

# Today's Scripture Readings

## Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

## 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 Jeremiah Jr 33:14-16

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfill the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.

In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

## The word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

*Response:*  
*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth,  
and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. R.

The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
He guides the humble in the right path;  
He teaches his ways to the poor. R.

His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will.  
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;  
to them he reveals his covenant. R.

## A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians.

1 Thess 3:12 - 4:2  
May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

## The word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!*  
*Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help*  
*Alleluia!*

## A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Lk 21:25-28.34-36  
Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

## 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

The Lord will bestow his bounty,  
and our earth shall yield its increase