



# ENNIS PARISH

## NEWSLETTER



THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

YEAR C

15th December 2024

**W**e always encounter John the Baptist during the season of Advent. He is a figure that keeps inviting us to repent. Repenting is a way to prepare ourselves to be worthy of Christmas grace. John summons us to prepare the way of the Lord Jesus so that Christ may pass through our life without delay. If we are going to ask John about what we do in order to make straight the Lord's path in our life, he would tell us plainly to change our selfish way and think of others in life. John asked people to share, the tax collectors not to cheat and the soldiers not to use violence. Lord help us to be conscious that you are with us throughout this week, help us to be generous caring and kind, as we see Christ in the people we meet and they will meet a reflection of Christ goodness in us.

Today is also Bambinelli Sunday. A beloved annual tradition at the Basilica [Rome] in preparation for Christmas, the Blessing of the Bambinelli was first instituted by St. John Paul II. On the Third Sunday of Advent, the children of Rome are encouraged to bring the baby Jesus (Bambinelli) from each of their Nativity sets to St. Peter's Square. Following the Sunday Angelus address, the Pope blesses the figurines. Now celebrated

in other churches around the world, this Advent tradition is a way for children to connect their Nativity scene at home to the celebration of Christmas at their church.

*God, our Father  
you so loved humankind  
that you sent us your only Son Jesus,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
to save us and lead us back to you.  
We pray that with your Blessing  
these images of Jesus,  
who is about to come among us,  
may be a sign of your presence and  
love in our homes.  
Good Father,  
give your Blessing to us too,  
to our parents, to our families and  
to our friends.  
Open our hearts,  
so that we may be able to  
receive Jesus in joy,  
always do what he asks  
and see him in all those  
who are in need of our love.  
We ask you this in the name of Jesus,  
your beloved Son  
who comes to give  
the world peace.  
He lives and reigns  
forever and ever.  
Amen.*

**Blessing by  
Pope Emeritus  
Benedict XVI**



### 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

### 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/ennisparish>**

# Priest on Duty 15th December, 2024

Contact: Fr Joy 065 6869098



## Cathedral

### Remembered in Masses this Week:

**6.30pm:** Joe Hehir, Considine Rd. MM.  
Christy Greene, Beechpark MM.  
Graham Judkins, London. MM.  
Dr. Donough Moylan, Bindon St.  
Peggy Corry, Loughville.  
Patrick & Michael Stephens, Summerhill & Kilmaley.  
Frawley Family, Shean, Kilmaley.  
PJ Daly, Cahercalla Rd.  
Patrick & Amy Molloy, Dalcassian Park.  
**Sun 15th 8am:** No intention booked.  
**9.30am:** Sr. Zita Reidy, St. Xavier's. **1st Anniv.**  
Donal O'Brien, Turnpike Rd.  
Peggy Kearney, Summerhill.  
Special Intention.  
**11.30am:** Michael Cronin, Hermitage. MM.  
John Liddy, Shepperton, Newmarket-on-Fergus. MM  
Michael & Teresa McMahon, Coore.  
Eileen & Jack O'Donovan & Nellie Ryan  
(nee O'Donovan), Turnpike Rd.  
Liam Slattery, St. Michael's Villas  
& Deceased Torpey Family.  
Ignatius McCarthy, Tulla Rd.  
Joe & Margaret O'Shaughnessy, Tuamgraney.  
Donal Cahill, Hazelgrove, Ennis.  
Tess & Frank White, Clare Rd.  
Jim Whymys, Cusack Rd.  
Anthony Shannon, Cooper's Place & Dalcassian Park.  
Christopher Nolan, Listowel, Co. Kerry.  
**Mon 7.40am:** Holy Souls.  
Patrick Gegan, Inch, Kilmaley.  
**11am:** Austin (Gus) & Nancy Mooney, Cornmarket St.,  
Ennis & Lisdoonvarna.  
**7.30pm: Advent Reconciliation Service.**  
**Tues 7.40am:** Book of Intentions.  
**11am:** Sarah McCarthy, Ballynacally. **1st Anniv.**  
O'Connell Family, St. Michael's Villas  
& Pauline Clune & Philip Ostenseo.  
**7.30pm:** Michael Fitzpatrick, Clonroadmore. **1st Anniv.**  
Byrnes Family, Doolin.  
Michael Quinn & Barry Family, Golf Links Rd.  
**Wed 7.40am:** Bridget & John Stokes, Limerick.  
Brian, Tessie & Brian Jr. Kelly, Limerick Rd.  
**11am:** No intention booked.  
**7.30pm:** Michael, Margaret, Ann & Martin Fitzpatrick,  
St. Patrick's Tce.  
**Thurs 7.40am:** Michael Kearns, Galway.  
Mike Stokes, Limerick.  
**11am:** Vivian Thomas Lee, Gallows Hill.  
Fr. Jim Kennedy & Lee & Kennedy Families.  
**7.30pm:** George Brigdale, Primrose Gardens,  
Clarecastle & Ennis. MM & Mary Brigdale.  
Frances & Michael McInerney, Parnell St. & Park Ave.  
**Fri 7.40am:** Mass for the People.  
**11am:** Christine O'Sullivan, Shragh & London.  
**7.30pm:** No Mass - Concert.  
**Sat: 11am:** Colin Barton, Cahercalla Heights.  
Mary & Paddy Shanahan, St. Michael's Villas.  
Marie O'Loughlin (nee Breen), Castlewood Park.  
**6.30pm:** Vera Madden, St. Flannan's Drive. MM.  
Michael O'Brien, Ballybeg.  
Michael McNamara, McNamara Park.  
Brian Malone, Ennis.  
Fiona Knox, Clarecastle.  
Noel Scanlan, Willow Park.  
**Sun 22nd 8am:** No intention booked.  
**9.30am:** Michael Bugler, Ballygireen.  
**11.30am:** Joe Callinan, Gallows Hill,  
John Costin, Gallows Hill.  
George & Margaret McMahon, St. Michael's Villas.  
Lily Cusack, Parnell St. & Mary Cleere, Tubber.  
Maureen Martin, Woodstock View, Shanaway Rd.  
Patsy & Pauline Guerin, McNamara Park.  
**1pm:** Mass for Ukrainian Community.  
**6.30pm:** Mass for Polish Community.

### 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.

### Priests' Christmas Collection

The Christmas Collection for the Priests of the Pastoral Area who serve the parish will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. As one of only four appeals for your support in the year, your generosity is very much appreciated. Envelopes are now available in all churches and in the Parish Office.

### Church Envelopes 2025

In recent days thanks to our Parish Representatives the annual box of envelopes with the parish calendar for 2024 are being distributed. Our thanks to those Parish Reps who do this very important and valuable work for the parish. Our thanks also to those who use envelopes. No matter where you go to Mass, the envelope used makes its way back to the home parish. For any changes or updates, please contact the Parish Office. These boxes enable the parish to make a claim to Revenue each year for tax rebates.



### Advent Carol Service

This Sunday Evening at 7pm in the Cathedral, we welcome Rev. Vicki Lynch and her congregation from St. Columba's in Bindon Street who lead us in this year's Ecumenical Carol Service as we prepare in prayer and carols for the Feast of Christmas.

### Feast of St. Flannan

On Wednesday 18th December we celebrate the Feast of St. Flannan, our Diocesan Patron. Bishop Fintan and the priests of the Diocese will celebrate mass at 1pm in St. Flannan's College Chapel to celebrate the Feast.



### Newly Baptised

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

**Dakota Donna Donovan**

## St. Joseph's

### Remembered in Masses this Week:

**7pm:** No intention booked.  
**Sun 15th 10am:** John Leydon, Sligo.  
Aidan & Nora McEvaddy, St. Senan's Rd.  
**11.45am:** Seán Curtin, Willow Park.  
**Mon 10.30am:** No intention booked.  
**Tues 10.30am:** Book of Intentions.  
**Wed 10.30am:** Thomas & Elizabeth Nugent.  
**Thu 10.30am:** Tommy Lorrigan, College Park.  
**Fri 10.30am:** Donor's Intention.  
**Sat: 10.30am:** Patrick & Moira Kearney,  
Brookville, Lahinch Rd.  
Maria Fox, Golf Links Rd.  
**7pm:** Catherine & Michael Griffin,  
Maurice's Mills.  
**Sun 22nd 10am:** McMahon & Coulter Families, Lifford Rd.  
**11.45am:** McMahon & Coulter Families, Lifford Rd.

Fr David has been appointed by Bishop Fintan to assist with the pastoral care in Inis Cealtra pastoral area which covers Bodyke, Feakle, Killanena, Mountshannon, Ogonneloe and Scariff parishes. This will result in his reduced involvement in our local Abbey Pastoral Area especially at weekends. The appointment is on a temporary basis until Summer 2025.

## Cloughleigh

### Remembered in Masses this Week:

**Sun 15th 11am:** Special Intention.  
**Tue 9.30am:** Book of Intentions.  
**Fri 9.30am:** Humphrey, Mamie & Tim Murphy,  
'Hillview', Cloughleigh Rd.  
Special Intention.

### Friary and Poor Clares' Heating Appeal

Both the Franciscan Friars and Poor Clare Sisters appreciate the generosity of so many who have contributed to their appeal. If you wish to contribute, please leave your contribution in the Friary Office or Parish Office, marked "Friary and Poor Clare's Heating Appeal". The sisters and Friars pray each day for their benefactors and appreciate the goodness of so many people.

### 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.

Ennis Parish  
Development Fund  
for Sunday, 8th December

Fund €5,689  
Online €723.50

## Bambinelli Sunday



This Sunday in St. Peter's, Rome, Pope Francis will bless the figure of Baby Jesus for use in the crib. Here in our parish you are invited to bring the figure of Baby Jesus from your crib for a blessing at mass for your home and family this Christmas.

## St. Anthony's Magazine

The Christmas edition of St. Anthony's magazine supporting the missionary work of the Franciscan Friars is available for sale in both the Friary and the Cathedral for just €2.

This edition features a tribute to the late Fr. Cletus, OFM and the story of a Derry Woman on the road to sainthood.

## Altar Servers



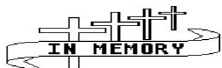
We thank the boys and girls who have begun training as Altar Servers. They will begin their Ministry at masses in the Cathedral next weekend. We thank their parents who have supported them in their preparation.

## Thanks!



Thanks to the children of CBS primary school for their Christmas art work on display in St Joseph's Church; and, of course, to their teachers.

## REST IN PEACE



Noel Crowley, Cahercalla Estate;  
 Frank (Frankie) Liddy, McHugh Villas, Drumbiggle, Ennis & Newmarket-on-Fergus;  
 Moira Cosgrove, Clancy Park;  
 Mary Murphy Jordan, Ashfield Park;  
 Mary Cosgrove nee Kelly, Gallows Hill;  
 Tom Quinn, Sixmilebridge, brother of Michael Quinn, Fernhill.  
 Carmel Flannery, Ballyea, late Teacher, Holy Family Senior School, sister of Goretti Gleeson, Westfields.  
 Edel Kelleher, Clareabbey, Clarecastle, sister of Dermot, Caroline & Leonard.  
 James (Seamus) Lanigan, Clare Rd.

**Evening Mass Friday 20th December**  
 Evening Mass on Friday 20th December will be celebrated in Cloughleigh Oratory at 7.30pm as a concert is taking place in the Cathedral on that date.

## 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. All proceeds to the Cathedral Restoration Fund.

## Parish Office



The Parish Office will close at 5pm on Monday 23rd December and re-opens at 9am on Thursday 2nd January, 2025.

The Friary Office will close at 12 noon on Christmas Eve, re-opening on Monday 30th December and closed on New Year's Day 1st January, 2025.

## Gaudete Sunday

The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday, the day when we light the pink candle on the Advent Wreath.



Rose vestments are worn to emphasise our joy that Christmas is near. Gaudete means 'rejoice'. This day reminds us of the joy that is to come, and serves, amid this season of penance, as a kind of 'break' when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of Our Lord Jesus.

## Sr. Eileen's Cúinne



Is beannaithe an nóiméad a rugadh Mac na hOighe ag meán oíche i mBeithil i lár an gheimhridh ghairbh. Deonaigh, a Iosa, trí bhrí agus onóir do Mháthar rónaofa, ár saol, ár sláinte agus ár neara a chaitheamh i d'sheirbhís bheannaithe, tríd an Slánaitheoir naofa agus a Mháthair Bheannaithe ag treisúint go glóir na bhFlaitheas. A Naionáin usail bheannaithe, déan trácaire orainn Áiméan.

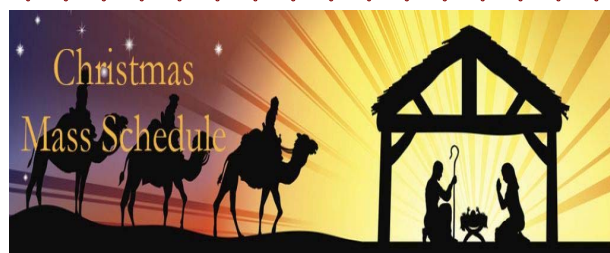
Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Saviour Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen

## Joe Slattery Fundraiser



St. Michael's Villas Community Choir Joe Slattery Fundraiser at Dunnes' Foyer Friday 20th December 5pm to 6.30pm. Join us for festive fun and support the Slattery Family who are part of the SMV Family. All welcome.

Clare Crusaders Children's Clinic Annual Bag Packing - Dunnes Stores, Ennis Sunday 22nd December 9am to 10pm & Monday 23rd December 9am to 10pm. If you have some time to spare this Christmas and Volunteer for a Children's Charity, please Volunteer for a 2 hours slot. To book a slot, please ring the Clare Crusaders on 065 6896015 or Text 087 7178108



## Masses for Christmas in Ennis Parish

### Christmas Eve

4.30pm Cathedral  
 5pm St. Joseph's  
 5.30pm Cloughleigh  
 6.30pm Cathedral  
 7pm St. Joseph's  
 8pm Friary  
 8.30pm Cloughleigh  
 9pm Cathedral  
 12 midnight Cathedral  
 Polish Mass.

### Christmas Day

7.45am Poor Clares  
 8am Cathedral  
 8.45am Ennis Hospital  
 9.30am Cathedral  
 10am St. Joseph's  
 10.30am Friary  
 11am Cloughleigh  
 11.30am Cathedral  
 11.45am St. Joseph's

# Today's Scripture Readings

## Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.

### 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

**Zephaniah Zp 3:14-18**

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

## Responsorial Psalm

*Response: 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. R

Give thanks to the Lord,  
give praise to his name!

Make his mighty deeds known the  
peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name. R

Sing 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. R

## A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians Ph 4:4-7

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

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The spirit of the Lord has been given to  
me.*

*He has sent me to bring good news to  
the poor.*

*Alleluia!*

## A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke Lk 3:10-18

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 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

### 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

**Say to the faint of heart:**

**Be strong and do not fear.**