



ENNIS PARISH NEWSLETTER



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

YEAR C

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

30th March 2025

It is difficult for us to see something new in the parable of the Prodigal son. We have heard the story so many times we believe that we have squeezed it dry of meaning. Not only that, but, as the saying goes, familiarity breeds contempt. When we hear the opening words of the parable once again, "And there was a Father who had two sons," we greet the words with hohum. Heard it. Heard it. Heard it.

Let's step back outside with the older brother, still in need of a shower, arms folded across his chest, the moral high road. "But when this son of yours came back ... you killed the fatted calf for him." He cannot even bring himself to acknowledge his brother with a name -- "this son of yours." A sense of unfairness, as you know, can turn venomous rather quickly.

So where are we at parable's end? Are we inside the party celebrating? Or are we standing outside with our arms folded, refusing to come in? Jesus will not tell us how this story will end. The father passionately invites the older son inside, "pleads with him" to join in the welcome. Curiously, however, we are never told what

the older brother decides to do. The story ends but it doesn't end. "You are there."

Will we RSVP to a party thrown by an unfair God? Or will we stubbornly remain outside? In a world which does not play fair, this parable forces us to make a choice. Who is the real "prodigal" here? Who is the real "waster"? From the beginning Jesus says that this is a story about two brothers. Which one is the authentic prodigal? Which one has yet to come home to the Father's extravagant love?



"Father,
I have
Sinned.."

Mass Times

Cathedral-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

Monday to Friday 10.30am

Saturday 10.30am & Vigil 7pm

Sunday 1 0am & 11.45am

Friary-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

St. Joseph's:- 6829584

Cloughleigh:- 6797 489;

Friary:- 6828751

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

Facebook : <http://www.facebook.com/ennisparish>



Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

6.30pm: Monica Ensko, Turnpike Rd. **1st Anniv.**
 Bridie & Albert Stephens & Sr. Marie Stephens,
 Clonroad.
 Mary Hynes, Clare Rd.
 Marty Browne, Cahercalla Estate.
 Margaret & Tom Coughlan, Clonroadbeg.
 Michael Woods, Circular Rd.
 Michael McGuane, Corofin.

Sun 30th 8am: Agnes & Sonny Hehir, Gortmore.

9.30am: Una Lee, Tralee.

William Guilfoyle, Hermitage.

11.30am: Jim Kitson, Claureen Drive.

Patrick Howard & Ann O'Sullivan,

St. Michael's Villas & Swords.

William & Martha Costin, Hospital, Co. Limerick.

John Staunton, Gallows Hill.

Anne Burke, Hermitage & London.

Nono Lynch, Dalcassian Drive.

Special Intention.

Mon: 7.40am: Holy Souls.

11am: Maureen Griffey, St. Flannan's Tce. **1st Anniv**
 Peg Courtney, Ard na Gréine.

7.30pm: Des Cullinan, Dalcassian Park.

Tues: 7.40am Book of Intentions.

11am: Patrick Talty, Clare.

Muriel O'Neill, Quin.

7.30pm: Michael & Mary Kate Griffin, Parnell St.

Tessie & Paddy Meere, Cahercalla.

Nurse Kathleen Duggan, Francis St.

Wed 7.40am: No intention booked.

11am: No intention booked.

7.30pm: Paddy & Ann Greene, Lanesborough.

Thurs 7.40am: No intention booked.

11am: Josephine & Patrick Kelly, Ard na Gréine.

Mary Keane, Clancy Park.

7.30pm: Geraldine Fitzpatrick, Shannon.

Fri 7.40am: No intention booked.

11am: No intention booked.

7.30pm: Dolores Nevin, Childers' Rd.

Christy & Kathleen O'Donovan, Clonroadmore.

Sat: 11am: Seán & Maureen Cronin, Mountain View.

Brian McMahon, Drumcaran, Lahinch Rd.

Brid Howard, Glenina, Gort Rd.

6.30pm: Sheila Guerin, Shanaway Rd. **MM.**

Declan Ward, Turnpike. **MM.**

Sun 6th 8am: Costelloe & O'Donoghue Families,
 Ennis & Gort.

9.30am: No intention booked.

11.30am: John Curran, St. Flannan's Drive. **MM.**

Thomas & Aoife Devitt, Derryharriv, Inagh.

Edward Baker, Hermitage.

Michael & Kitty Kenneally, Fergus Park.

Francis & Bobby O'Rourke, Dalcassian Ave.

John & Thomas Neylon, Kilmorane, Darragh.

Cathedral Renovation Appeal

In the past week Fr. Tom wishes to acknowledge a donation of €50. We thank the many people who have made once off contributions to this appeal.

Lenten Video Messages of Hope for Jubilee 2025



Welcome to join daily inspirational messages of hope from people around the diocese. They are available on all the main social media platforms under the handle @BishopFintan. Please like, subscribe and share the good news.

Healing Programme for People Bereaved by Suicide



Are you finding it difficult to cope with the death by suicide of a family member or friend? You could get help at a Healing Programme organised by Clare Suicide Bereavement Support at their premises in Innovation House (near Super Valu), Roslevan Centre, Tulla Rd., starting at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th April and continuing for eight consecutive Thursdays. Please feel welcome to come for support and meet others in the same position as yourself. An appointment is not necessary. For further information phone 086 0565373 or 087 3698315. www.claresuicidebereavementsupport.com

Friary News

The Monthly Mass for SFO members will take place on Wednesday 2nd April at 10 am. We will pray the office after Mass. There will be an evening meeting in the Friary Parlour at 7.30 pm for those that are unable to attend the morning meeting.

**Summertime
Reminder; clocks
go forward on
Sunday Morning
at 1am.**



St. Joseph's



Remembered in Masses this Week:

7pm: Pat O'Brien, Shannon Park.

Ann & Paddy Moroney, Kincora Park.

Michael Devitt, St. Senan's Rd.

Sun 30th 10am: Mary, James & John Sexton,
 Ballard, Miltown Malbay.

Flan Roberts, Kincora Park.

11.45am: Michael Fallon, Willow Park. **MM.**

MJ Twomey, Roslevan.

Mon 10.30am: Patrick & Michael Cleary, Clancy Pk.

Tues 10.30am: Book of Intentions.

Wed 10.30am: William & Elizabeth O'Dea.

Thu 10.30am: No intention booked.

Fri 10.30am: No intention booked.

Sat: 10.30am: No intention booked

11am: Confirmation CBS

7pm: Eileen (MM) & Peadar O'Brien, St. Senan's Rd.

Joe & Patrick Conway & Teresa Kalkhof,

Mullagh & New York.

John McCabe, Newpark, Roslevan.

Sun 6th: 10am: No intention booked.

11.45am: Christina Cullinan, The Green, Lifford.

1st Anniv.

Bridie Butler, Marian Ave.

Gerard Lane, The Crescent.

Marie O'Halloran, Mortyclough, Burren.

First Friday

Friday 4th April is the First Friday of the month. Sick and housebound parishioners will receive Sacraments at home this week.

If you know of any sick or housebound parishioners who would like to receive the Sacraments, please contact the Parish Office.

Confirmation

On Saturday next 5th April students from Ennis CBS will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation in St. Joseph's Church. Please keep the students, their parents and teachers in your prayers as they prepare to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Dawn Mass

This year the Dawn Mass for the Abbey Pastoral Area on Easter Sunday 20th April will be hosted by the parish of Clarecastle Ballyea and will take place at the Quay in Clarecastle. Time to be confirmed.

The Annual Matt Talbot Novena

will continue on Wednesday, April 2nd, at 7pm in Tulla Church with Mass and Benediction. Fr. Pat Malone from Clarecastle will be the celebrant on the night. Fr Pat will lead us in the service of healing with celebration of the sacrament of the sick. Attending this Novena could be a meaningful way to observe Lent.

Chapel Lane Community Counselling/ Psychotherapy Centre is an affordable service situated in the heart of Ennis. We are a qualified and experienced group of therapists whose aim is to provide counselling/psychotherapy for people in all areas of society. For a confidential appointment please ring 089 278 9194.

Cloughleigh

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 30th 11am: Special Intention.

Mon: 9.30am: Packie Murrhy, Mullagh.

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

Sun 6th 11am: Special Intention.



On this our 4th week of Lent, Trócaire is calling on us to hear the cry of the poor. By donating to Trócaire this Lent, you can help families work towards a more secure future for their children, giving them a chance to break the cycle of poverty.

A Prayer of Gratitude for our Mothers

Good and gentle God,
we pray in gratitude for our mothers
and for all women
who have joined
with you in the wonder
of bringing forth new life.
You who became human
through a woman,
grant to all mothers
the courage they need
to face the uncertain future
that life with children always brings.
Give them the strength
to love and to be loved in return,
not perfectly, but humanly.
Give them the faithful support
of family and friends
as they care for
the physical, emotional
and spiritual growth of their children.
Give them joy and delight in their children
to sustain them through
the trials of motherhood.
Most of all, give them the wisdom
to turn to you for help
when they need it most.
God bless all Mothers this Mothers' Day



Killaloe Diocese - Online Synodal Listening

A synod is a meeting of the people of God, priests and people, discussing the future of our church, together. Pope Francis started a consultation process which is also underway in the diocese of Killaloe. If you would like to contribute to the consultation, please click on his link to access an online response form. There will be a number of in-person meetings across the diocese which will be advertised locally. All contributions are welcome. Click or Copy this link into your internet browser to access the form.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd4FhXpXc2CMXImOAb9_hiEUBGpCSNA20Ncfr5Vu3aCexbgkg/viewform?usp=dialog

Rest in Peace

John Mangan, Woodlawn, Kilrush Rd;

Sr. Attracta Duggan, St. Xavier's Convent of Mercy, Bothar na Trocaire;

Vera Culhane nee Malone, Raheen Limerick and late of Beechpark;

Maura Connelly, Kilnamona & New Rd.

Breda O'Neill, Clareabbey, Clarecastle, Sister of John, Ann, Teresa & Paulette.



Walking in Faith

During Lent we reflect each week on individuals who walk in faith and can inspire us on our journey

This week Venerable Edel Quinn
14th September 1907—12th May 1944



Cork woman Edel Quinn was born in Kanturk on 14th September 1907, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. As a young girl her ambition was to enter a Contemplative Convent, but ill health prevented her from doing so. She went to work in Dublin after finishing school and was attracted to the Legion of Mary and at the age of 20 became an enthusiastic member of this fast growing lay organisation that was formed by Frank Duff in Dublin in 1921.

In 1932 she became seriously ill and spent long periods in hospital and for the remainder of her life she endured her illness. However this did not stop her from continuing her involvement with the Legion of Mary.

In 1936 Edel volunteered and was appointed Legion of Mary envoy to East Africa to countries such as Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Mauritius. This work of establishing the Legion was not easy due to her ill health and poor harsh conditions. She had great faith in God's love and a limitless trust in the maternal care of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Edel was blessed with a clear, practical mind, great organising ability, great depths of warmth and human empathy. Such gifts made her a ready made friend to all she encountered in her missionary travels.

Edel established the Legion of Mary on a firm footing in many African countries, meaning that thousands of Africans were mobilised in the service of the Church.

On the 12th May 1944 after eight wonderful years as a lay missionary in Africa Edel died in Nairobi where she was buried.

Her cause for canonisation was opened in Nairobi Kenya in 1957 and on the 15th December 1994 the late Saint Pope John Paul II declared Edel as Venerable as her cause continues to this day

Ennis Parish
Development Fund
for Sunday 23rd March,

Fund **€6,296.00**
Online **€419.50**

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Domhnach Laetare.

Inniu an Ceathrú Domhnach den Charghas. Tugtar Laetare ar an Domhnach seo mar de réir an traidisiúin ba lá ceiliúradh é san Eaglais i lár an Charghais. Is éard is brí le Laetara ná Gairdígí. Meabhraíonn an Scrioptúr dúinn go bhfuil cúis ghairdis sa Tiarna againn. Caitheann an sagart éide rósach agus an tAifreann á léamh aige inniu. De ghnáth ní bhíonn aon bhláthanna ar an altóir le linn an Charghais ach is féidir iad a bheith ann inniu. Fadó ní bhíodh an t- orgán le clos sa Charghas ach amháin ar Dhomhnach Laetara. Ceiliúrtar Lá na Máthar ar an gceathrú Domhnach den Charghas gach bliain.

Go raibh lá sona, saor ó bhuaire ag gach máthair inniu.

A Dhia grámhar, guímid ar son ár máithreacha beo nó marbh a tháinig i gcabhair orainn nuair a bhíomar gan neart, a thug solás dúinn nuair a bhíomar gortaithe agus uaireanta nár thugamar dóthain aitheanta di. Áiméan.

Laetare Sunday

Today the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday, has traditionally been viewed as a day of celebration midway through the season of Lent. Laetare means Rejoice. The Scriptures tell us that we have good reason to rejoice in the Lord. The priest wears rose coloured vestments today. There are usually no flowers on the altar during Lent but today is an exception. Long ago the organ was silent during Lent but played on Laetare Sunday. Mothers' Day is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent each year. May every mother have a happy and joy filled day. We can say the following prayer:

Today, loving God, we pray for mothers, those who are with us and those who have died. They cared for us when we were helpless, comforted us when we were hurt. May we never take their love and care for granted. Amen.

Bi Ullamh

The scouts were in camp. In an inspection, the scout leader found an umbrella neatly rolled inside the sleeping bag of a small scout. As an umbrella was not listed as a necessary item the Leader asked the Boy Scout to explain.

"Sir" answered the young boy with a weary sigh "did you never have a mother?"



Cahercalla
COMMUNITY CARE

Celebrate 30 amazing years of Cahercalla with us on Tuesday April 1st.

Start with Mass at 11am, then enjoy an afternoon of music, finger food, and fun from 1:30pm.

Everyone is welcome!

Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who are in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling
breast.

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 book of Joshua

Jos 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

R: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. *R*

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. *R*

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. *R*

A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

2 Cor 5:17-21

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ;

it is as though God were appearing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

*Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!
I will leave this place and go to my father and say:*

'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.'

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lk 15:1-3.11-32

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening." The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

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

You must rejoice, my son
for your brother was dead and has come
to life; he was lost and is found.