



# ENNIS PARISH

## NEWSLETTER

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

YEAR C

John 8:1-11

6th April, 2025



**W**ouldn't you love to know what Jesus wrote with his finger in the sand. While those who brought the woman to Jesus were pointing their fingers at her, Jesus uses his pointing finger, not to point and accuse, but to write in the sand.

Interestingly what Jesus initially wrote seems to have made no impression on the accusatory mob. Might the first message that Jesus wrote in the sand have been for the woman? Might it have been this message, written in the sand, that enabled her to hold her ground and to begin to stand tall?

Then Jesus invites her accusers to reflect on themselves and if they have never sinned, by all means be the first to throw a stone. But then we are told that Jesus returns to writing in the sand again. Whatever he wrote this time seems to have had an effect because the accusers walked away one by one, beginning with the eldest. There is nothing as powerful as self-reflection that leads to self-realisation.

And the story finishes with Jesus looking up to the woman who has up to now been looked down on by these finger pointing men. Jesus has not only freed her from these men who were using her to get at him, he has gifted her the new perspective of being looked up to in life. In doing so Jesus gifted her the freedom found in forgiveness. He gifted her the possibility of a future filled with possibility and hope. He gifted her the liberating invitation to live and truly love again.

May we see where Jesus has written this lifegiving message of love in the sands of our lives and our hearts this Lent.

**Mass Times****Cathedral-[www.ennisparish.com/webcam](http://www.ennisparish.com/webcam)****Radio link:106.4fm**

Monday to Friday 7.40am, 11am &amp; 7.30pm

Saturday 11 am &amp; Vigil 6.30pm

Sunday 8am, 9.30am &amp; 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 &amp; Vigil 7pm

Sunday 10am &amp; 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 &amp; 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 6th April 2025

Contact: Fr. Tom Ryan 065 6869098



## Cathedral Remembered in Masses this Week:

6.30pm: Sheila Guerin, Shanaway Rd. MM.  
Declan Ward, Turnpike. MM.

Anthony O'Connell, Abbey St. MM.

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

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.

Frances & Bobby O'Rourke, Dalcassian Ave.

John & Thomas Neylon, Kilmorane, Darragh.

Mon: 7.40am: Jack, Deborah & Bro. Neal McCarthy.  
Killarney.

11am: No intention booked.

7.30pm: Patrick O'Brien, Ballaghboy, Doorra. 1st Anniv

Tues: 7.40am Book of Intentions.

11am: Irene O'Doherty, Stillorgan, Dublin. 1st Anniv.

Joan O'Neill, Sixmilebridge.

Teresa Flanagan, Connolly Villas.

7.30pm: Thomas McGann, Bellharbour, Mary Ann and

Frank Caulfield, Louise Treanor, Monahan.

Martin, Teresa & Phyllis O'Grady, McNamara Park.

Wed 7.40am: Mass for the People.

11am: Kelly Family, Durrow, Co. Laois. 1st Anniv

7.30pm: Gerry, Doris & Gerard Molloy, Hermitage.

Belle & Josie Broderick, Ardlea Rd.

Thurs 7.40am: Michael Kelly, Summerhill.

11am: No intention booked.

7.30pm: Mary, Paddy, Jack & Deceased Moroney

Family, Drehidnagabhair, Gort Rd.

Louie Clune, Breaffa West, Lissycasey.

Fri 7.40am: Tom, Bridget, Maura & Kay McNamara

& Deceased Family, Lahinch.

11am: Thomas & Annie Hynes, Limerick Rd.

7.30pm: Joe Moloney, Hermitage.

Sat: 11am: Oonagh Fitzpatrick, Cahercalla Rd.

Norah & Daniel O'Neill, Connolly.

6.30pm: Betty Cuniffe, Tramore & Ennis. 1st Anniv

Nell & Mary Ryan, Stonepark, Barefield.

Jim Ball, Connolly Villas.

Jean O'Donoghue, Ennis & Limerick.

Lilly Cleary, Ennis.

PJ Coote, Cahercalla.

Angela O'Loughlin, (nee Skerritt), Lissane East  
& Hermitage.

Sun 13th 8am: Donor's intention.

9.30am: PJ Meaney, Cranny.

Norrie Power, Considine Tce.

11.30am: Christy & Breda Carpenter & Deceased

Carpenter Family, Hermitage.

William McGovern, 'St. Martin's', College View.

Monica Brooks, Drumcaraun, Fountain.

Norah & James O'Halloran, Dalcassian Ave.

Bernadette Fahy, England.

James, Nonie & Martin, Fahy, Peterswell, Gort.

Mary Forde, Caherbanna, Fountain.

## Matt Talbot Prayer Society



The monthly mass for all those suffering or sharing in the life of addictions takes place on this Monday at 7:30pm Mass in the Cathedral.

## St. Anthony's Magazine

The latest edition of St. Anthony's Magazine supporting the missionary work of the Franciscan Friars is available for sale in both the Friary and Cathedral. €2 is the cost and your support is very much appreciated.



Trócaire is the Irish word for mercy. Irish people have a great reputation for sharing mercy and kindness to those most in need. Each Lent with our Trócaire box and generosity we show mercy and kindness to the poor, who cry out to us to please share what we have with them.

## Lenten Video Messages Windows 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.

## Evening of Entertainment

Come and enjoy an evening of traditional music, singing, recitations and dance in Cois na hAbhna, Cloughleigh CCE and cupán tae. Tuesday 8th April @ 7.30pm

Lost: Claude Monet walking umbrella, sentimental value. If found please leave into Parish

## St. Joseph's



## Remembered in Masses this Week:

7pm: Joe & Patrick Conway & Teresa Kalkhof,  
Mullagh & New York.

John McCabe, Newpark, Roslevan.

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

Special Intention.

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.

Mon 10.30am: Mary Cornu, Tullassa.

Tues 10.30am: Book of Intentions.

Gerard Rooney, London & Roslea.

Jim McLoughlin, Ard na Gréine.

Wed 10.30am: No intention booked.

Thu 10.30am: No intention booked.

Fri 10.30am: Michael Foley, Fergus Park.

Sat: 10.30am: No intention booked.

7pm: Tony Cullinan, Barnhill, Doorra. MM.

Noel O'Regan, Corrovorrin Grove.

Johnny Darcy, Shanaway Rd. 1st Anniv

Kevin Lynch, Ennis.

Cissie & Kevin Lynch, Kilrush.

Martin Cotter, St. Senan's Rd.

Sun 13th 10am: Martin & Kathleen Kelly,

Old Gort Rd. & Baby Emma, Toonagh.

11.45am: John English, St. Senan's Rd.

Joe Daly, Lifford.

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## 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 at 6am.

## 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., Ennis. - 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](http://www.claresuicidebereavementsupport.com)

## Clare Roots Society

On Thursday 10 April 2025 (a week earlier than usual due to Easter) at 7:30pm in the Clare Education Centre in Ennis (V95 F782), Paddy Waldron will give the last Clare Roots Society monthly talk of the 2024-25 season, entitled 'Collaborative Genealogy.'



## Cloughleigh



## Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 6th 11am: Special Intention.

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

Fri 9.30am: Bridget Crowe, Knockerra.

Sun 13th 11am: Kevin Maxwell, Shallee Drive.  
Special Intention.



## Abbey Pastoral Area Lenten



*Together we make our  
pilgrimage of Hope as we  
rediscover the  
Joy of the Sacrament of  
Reconciliation.*

*All Welcome.*

**Monday April 14th**

**Ennis Cathedral**

**7.30pm**

**Priests available for  
individual confessions.**

**Week 5 of Our Lenten Journey**  
**Morning Prayer Mon to Fri 7.30am**  
Cathedral.

### Daily Mass:

Seven daily masses to choose from in the parish.

7.40am	Cathedral
7.45am	Poor Clare's
9.30am	Clougheigh
10am	Friary
10.30am	St. Joseph's
11am	Cathedral
7.30pm	Cathedral.



### Eucharistic Adoration

Monday to Friday 5pm – 7pm

### Stations of the Cross:

Friday at Cathedral 8pm.

### Catechesis for Adults & Youth

Tuesdays & Thursdays 8pm at Chapter Room, Cathedral.

## Holy Week



Palm Sunday next weekend is the beginning of Holy Week. Palm will be blessed at all masses.

The Annual Matt Talbot Novena will continue on Wednesday, April 9th, at 7pm in Tulla Church with Mass and Benediction. The celebrant for the night is Fr Roch from Poland who is currently based in the Friary in Ennis.

This evening will include the opportunity to celebrate God's healing love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation to help us prepare for Easter. Visiting priests will also be available for confessions. Attending this Novena could be a meaningful way to observe Lent.

## Sr. Attracta Duggan 21st June 1935—25th March 2025



Sr. Attracta Duggan died peacefully at St. Xavier's Convent, Ennis on Tuesday 25th March 2025 on the Feast of the Annunciation; after a short illness.

Known as Maura, Mary Christina, the youngest of ten children, was born to Kate Kearney and James Duggan on 21st of June 1935 in Caherkine, Newmarket-on-Fergus. Her primary education was at Quin National School and secondary at Colaiste Muire, Ennis. Her five brothers and four sisters have all pre-deceased her.

Maura joined the Sisters of Mercy St. Xavier's Convent, Ennis, on Mercy Day, 24th of September 1953. Her chosen motto was: "*Thy will be done*". Sr. Attracta, completed a B.A. at University College, Cork, followed by the Higher Diploma in Education at University College, Galway. Attracta had an uninterrupted teaching career - in Colaiste Muire, Spanish Point and Killaloe. People who were her teaching colleagues or past pupils always add, when they enquire about her current welfare, 'she was one great teacher! All who knew her agree with that assessment. Attracta was a dedicated, committed, hardworking teacher who had an obvious love for her subject, the Irish language. For many years, she spent at least a month of her Summer holidays teaching Irish in gColaiste Laichtin Naofa, Inis Thoir.

Attracta's devotion to the Irish language was symbolic of her deep love of Irish culture in its totality: history, song, dance, customs, traditions as well as language. In her years in Spanish Point, she never missed the annual Fleadh Cheoil in Ennis and particularly loved the final event of the week which was the Saturday night concert - she regarded it as the highlight. Her interest also extended to the GAA- especially Clare hurling!

Coming from a large family, Attracta has many nieces and nephews who kept regular contact. In her younger days, she had a special concern for people who were sick, and was a regular visitor especially to those who were to be hospitalized.

In the words of Venerable Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy "*let us take care of the present. God will take care of the future. The best preparation for death is a life well spent*". Sr. Attracta lived that type of life. She lived it well and in the present.

Her Funeral took place in the Cathedral on Friday 28th March with burial in the Mercy Plot of Drumcliffe Cemetery.

World Youth Day is the largest youth event in the world and in this Jubilee year of Hope 2025 Rome will host this event from 27th July until 3rd August. The Diocese of Killaloe will be sending 20 young people to Rome to be part of this world event. If you are over 18 years and have an interest in travelling, please contact your local priest by Easter Sunday.

## 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 Matt Talbot.

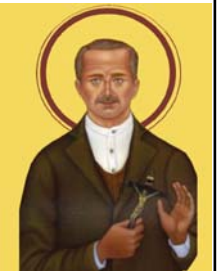
**2nd May 1856—7th June 1925**

On 19th September 1853 Charles Talbot married Elizabeth Bagnell in Clontarf, Dublin.

Both came from a working class background where poverty and excessive use of alcohol were prevalent.

These were the years after the great famine where people struggled to survive. Charles & Elizabeth were parents to 12 children, 9 of whom survived beyond infancy. Their second child Matthew was born on 2nd May 1856. Matt's parents were good people who handed on a solid faith to their children. While poor in the eyes of the world they were rich in their love of God. Charlie was a good worker, his only weakness was that he drank too much. The family lived in 18 different addresses over a 41 year period. Through all their difficulties the family prayed the Rosary together each day.

Matt like so many others did not avail of the opportunity for education offered by the new emerging Religious Orders. He was eleven years old when he did a crash course in Religious Knowledge. Lacking education he frequently stole and was rough spoken and drank heavily. He began working at the age of 12 and by the age of 17 he was a chronic alcoholic and this continued until he was 28. In 1884 he found himself unemployed and lacking money for drink. He made the decision to become a pioneer and abstain from alcohol. It wasn't easy for him but he turned to Prayer, Mass and Holy Communion to give him the strength to keep his promise and was able to turn his life around. On Sunday 7th June 1925 he died suddenly on his way to Mass. In 1931 the Archbishop of Dublin began the process of investigating his life. On 7th June this year Matt will be 100 years dead and devotion to him continues to grow as people seek his Intercession with their own struggles and addictions.



## Rest in Peace

**Maureen Gillard**, Castleconor Co Sligo, mother of Ann McMahon, Woodlawn.

**Mary Rose McMahon (née Considine)**, Shannon Park, Ennis & formerly of Tulla.

**Brian Corey**, Old Military Barracks, Kilrush Rd.

**Mary Collins**, Waterford and Skibereen, Co. Cork sister of Ollie O'Regan, Beechpark.

**Ennis Parish  
Development Fund  
for Sunday 30th March 2025**

**Fund €5,127.00  
Online €570.50**

# Today's Scripture Readings

## Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.  
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me. For you, O God, are my strength

### 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 Isaiah

Is 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before.

See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it?

Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds.

The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink.

The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

### The word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

R: *What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.*

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. **R**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. **R**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **R**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back,  
full of song, carrying their sheaves. **R**

## A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

Phil 3:8-14

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

### The word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

*Praise to you, O Christ,  
king of eternal glory!*

*Seek good and not evil  
so that you may live,*

*And that the Lord God of hosts may really be with you.*

*Praise to you, O Christ,  
king of eternal glory!*

## A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jn 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?'

They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir', she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus, 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

### 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

Has no one condemned you, woman?

No one, Lord.

Neither shall I condemn you.

From now on, sin no more.