



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: 9am, 10.30am & 12 noon
St. Joseph's:- Sat. Vigil: 7pm; Sunday: 8, 10, 11.30am
Cloughleigh Church:- 9.30am, 11am
Friary:- Sat. Vigil: 7.30pm; Sunday: 9.30, 10.30, 12.00 noon
Poor Clare Monastery:- 7.45 a.m.

Weekdays:

Cathedral: Mon. – Fri: 7.45am; 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
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 of Advent

(Year A)

18th December 2016



Just a few more sleeps
and it will be time to celebrate
Jesus' birthday.



Some friends drew pictures
to remind us all to be ready.
Let's try really hard
to stay on the nice list this week.

Happy Christmas



Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat 6.30pm: Do This In Memory.

Michael Bugler, Newmarket-on-Fergus. 1st Anniv.

Sun 18th: 9am: John & Bridget Stokes, Corofin.

John & Anne McNamara, Corofin.

Gertrude Vaughan, The Market.

Noel Scanlan, Willow Park.

Peggy Kearney, Summerhill.

Maureen Martin, Shanaway Rd.

10.30am: Marie O'Loughlin, Castlewood Park.

Deceased Kerin family, Clonroadmore.

Donal Cahill, Roslevan.

Donal O'Brien, Turnpike Rd.

PJ & Rita Coulter, Dublin & Ennis.

Mary Connolly & Family, Ard na Gréine.

Jim Harnett, Rockmount.

Paddy Quinn, Market St.

Bobby & Frances O'Rourke, Dalcassian Ave.

Paddy & Peggy Corry & Sr. Mary Corry, Loughville.

12noon: Mary Moroney, Hermitage & London. 1st Anniv

Mon: 7.45am: Brian & Tessie Kelly & Brian Jr.

Limerick Rd.

10am: Vivian Lee, Gallows Hill.

Fr. Jim Kennedy & family.

7.30pm: Penitential Service.

Tues: 7.45am: Book of Intentions.

10am: Christine O'Sullivan, Shragh & London. 1st Anniv

7.30pm: Michael & Mgt. Fitzpatrick, St. Patrick's Tce.

Wed: 7.45am: Deceased Meaney family, Cranny.

10am: Jimmy Duggan, Connolly Villas.

7.30pm: Tommy Lorrigan, College Park.

Thurs: 7.45am: Paddy & Norrie Kelly, Carmody St.

10am: Stephen & Stephen & Eileen O'Sullivan, Cork.

7.30pm: Frances McInerney, Park Avenue.

Fri: 7.45am: Michael O'Brien, Ballybeg.

10am: Sean McMahon, Lissycasey.

Christopher Dinan, Waterpark Heights.

7.30pm: Josie Garry, Sandfield Pk. MM

Sat: 10am: Thomas & Mgt. Collins, Hermitage.

6pm: Children's Christmas Mass.

9pm: Christmas Vigil Mass.

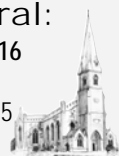
Roster for Cathedral:

Sunday 25th December, 2016

Readers: Group 1

Eucharistic Ministers Weekday: Group 5

Eucharistic Ministers Sunday: Group 2



Cloughleigh



Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 18th 9.30am: Do This In Memory

Juliette & TJ O'Connor, Lahinch Rd.

11am: Louis, Dr. Tom & Louis Galvin, Cloughleigh Rd.

Mon 9.30am: O'Halloran family, Tulla Rd & Maghera.

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

Wed 9.30am: Donors' Intentions.

Thu 9.30am: Christmas School Mass.

Fri 9.30am: Jim & Mary Coughlan & Ita O'Connor, Kilrush.

Sat 9pm: Christmas Vigil Mass.

Ennis Parish Development Fund for
Sunday 11th December, €7,019.00

Hospital & Sick Calls

18th December, 2016

Priest on Duty:

Fr. Tom O'Gorman

Please call: 065 6869098

Wednesday:

Fr. Ger Fitzgerald

Please call: 065 6869098

Baby Jesus Sunday



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.

Newly Baptised



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

Fitzpatrick, Ben Gerard Norton,
Rosemary Ellen Summerly.

Rest in Peace

P.J. Daly, Cahercalla Rd;
Edward Mc Donagh, Davitt Tce;
Imelda Carmody, Meadow
Court, Clonroad; Sr. Clare
O'Neill, St. Xavier's Convent;
Joe Marrinan, Waterpark &
Clarecastle; Agnes Devaney,
Inch, mother of Tom, Waterpark;
Brigid Flynn, Ballinasloe, mother
of Brigid Lucy, Clareen Dr.;



Live the Word: For this festive
period value what brings real
meaning to Christmas.
Spending and giving your
time to others is a gift in itself.
Pausing to reflect on the year that
has been, brings stillness and inner
reflection. Practising gratitude
focuses on how much we have in
our lives. Laughter, good cheer and
the exchange of conversation is the
flow of life. What you value, your
energy will flow to.



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:

Sat 7pm: Mary McInerney, Shannon Park. MM

Sun 8am: Michael & Catherine Griffin, Maurices Mills.

10am: Do This In Memory.

Bernadette Hamilton.

11.30am: Sean & Clare McGrath, Lifford Rd.

Mon 11am: Thomas Sheehy, Old Gort Rd.

Tues 11am: Bridget Orchard & John McMahon,
Dysart & Ennis.

Wed 11am: Mary Kelleher, Ros an Oir &
Pakie Spellissy, Kilmaley.

Thu 11am: Chrissie, Kathleen & Delma, Kearney,
Kincora Pk.

Fri 11am: Maura Nevin, Corrovorrin Crescent.

Sat 11am: Thanksgiving Mass.

5pm: Children's Christmas Mass.

7pm: Christmas Vigil Mass.

ABBEY CLUSTER

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION SERVICE

MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER

7.30-8.30PM

ENNIS CATHEDRAL



ALL WELCOME

People of the Year Awards

Many people are working in a voluntary
capacity (often unnoticed), giving of their
time and energy in the service of others and
enriching our community. Some years ago
the Pastoral Council decided to
acknowledge their contributions, and awards
have been presented to worthy participants
for the past number of years. If you know of
someone whom, you feel, would be worthy
of such recognition, we would appreciate
your nominating them. Nominations to be
sent to the Parish Office and should include
information about the person being
nominated and a detailed outline of the
reasons for the nomination.

Closing date: 31st Dec 2016.



Celebrate People
In Our Community

The monthly Mass of the Padre
Pio prayer group will be held in the
Friary Ennis on Wednesday 21st at
7.30pm. All are welcome.



CHRISTMAS MASSES

Cathedral of SS Peter & Paul

Christmas Eve: 6pm Children's Mass.

Christmas Eve: 9pm - Vigil Mass.

Midnight Polish Community Mass.

Christmas Day: 9am; 10.30am & 12noon.

10.30am Children's Mass: National School.

Christmas Day: 1.20pm Polish Mass.

St. Joseph's Church

Christmas Eve: 5pm - Mass for families with very small Children. (This mass is usually extremely busy, come early if you want to get a seat).

Christmas Eve: 7pm - Vigil Mass

Christmas Day: 8am; 10am & 11.30am.

Cloughleigh Church

Christmas Eve: 9pm - Vigil Mass.

Christmas Day: 9.30am; 11am

Friary

Christmas Eve: 10pm (Carols start 9.30pm).

Christmas Day: 9.30am; 10.30am & 12noon

Poor Clare Monastery

Christmas Eve: 9pm - Vigil Mass

Christmas Day: 7.45am

Cahercalla

Christmas Eve: 6pm

Christmas Day: 10.30am

No Evening Mass Christmas Day in Ennis

Sacrament Of Reconciliation

The Cathedral

Confessions 24th:

10.30am-1pm & 2pm-5.30pm.

St. Joseph's

Confessions: 24th: 3pm - 4pm.

The Friary

Confessions: 11am - 12.30pm; 3pm - 5.30pm

Fri 23rd & Sat 24th

11am - 1pm; 2pm - 5.30pm;

Advent/Christmas Parish Events

Parish Carol Service in Cathedral this Sunday 18th December; 7pm.

Cluster Reconciliation; Cathedral Monday 19th 7.30-8.30pm.

Ennis Men's Shed Christmas exhibition in the Scout Hall just across from the Ennis Parish Office; December 18th-24th. The exhibition will present some scenes from the Christmas story such as the Annunciation and Herod's Palace and there will be an opportunity to have a photo taken with the crib. Admission is free but any donations will go towards Ennis Men's Shed. All welcome to come and share a prayer or a thought. Opening after 12 mass; Sunday 18th, and after all masses during the week.

An Advent Giving Tree is situated in the Cathedral at the side of the Altar. Donate any of the following: Tea, coffee, sugar, Tayto, selection boxes, minerals, biscuits, soup, jam, baked beans, cornflakes, custard, peas, crackers, shampoo, toilet rolls, tinned food. Items can be left under the tree or delivered to the Parish Office.

Ennis Cathedral Organ Restoration Fund

Organ Restoration Fundraisers

- ◆ Triduum Mass Cards - (*Triduum of Masses offered on Christmas Day*)
- ◆ Parish Christmas Cards: 6 cards for €5
- ◆ Ennis Cathedral Choir CD: €10

All available for sale in Parish Office.

Our Cathedral organ, the second to be placed here, has been in place since 1930. Its installation was led by the then choirmaster and organist, Ernest de Regge and was made possible by the kind donations of the people of Ennis. It is a complex instrument consisting of numerous mechanical and electrical connections and over 2000 pipes. Considering the last refurbishment of the organ took place in 1985, it is not surprising that it is deteriorating - particularly in recent years. At the moment, the organ itself is approaching unplayable. It has had to be retired from concerts and major ceremonies; as would have been noticed at our most recent Episcopal Ordination. The instrument needs a new electrical system in addition to fixing cracked pipes, wind chests and mechanical valves. Without this, the organ will continue to deteriorate and will be entirely unplayable before too long. We have done our best to keep it in use but this cannot continue without significant investment and restoration.

Annual Remembrance Mass for Deceased players, members and supporters of St. Michael's Football Club on St. Stephen's Day, 26th December 4pm in Cathedral. All welcome.

John Burns is providing Supervised Study in Rice College for secondary school students from all schools over the upcoming Christmas holidays. Open every day starting Tuesday 27th December until Sunday 8th January (except 1st January). 9am to 5pm daily. 12pm to 5.30pm Sundays. Booking not necessary. Enquiries to John on 0872766338 and not to the school office

Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People: Our next clinic will be Wednesday 21st December: 10am to 1pm. in Ennis Parish Centre. This is a free service where you can acquire information regarding hearing loss, guidelines for good communication, information on equipment for your home to help you hear the doorbell, phone, smoke alarm and television. We also provide information on Irish Sign Language, Tinnitus and Lip-reading. Come in and have a chat, no need for an appointment. HSE hearing aid tubing can be changed and batteries for all hearing aids can be purchased for €2 for a packet of 6. Tel: 061 467 494; email: limerick@deafhear.ie

The Goal Mile Ennis on Christmas Day, any time between 11am to 13pm approx; at the Fairgreen, Ennis, St. Joseph's Hospital side. Crawl, Walk, Run, make a small donation and help the poorest of the poor worldwide. We will be there regardless of the weather.

Two pilgrimages to Medjugorje: September 6-13 spiritual director Fr. Tom O'Gorman. September 13-20. Spiritual Director TBA. €100 deposit secures €659 price. After 1st Feb, price of €709 applies. Book now before 1st Feb Contact group leader: Jimmy Considine: 085 738 5385 or 065 905 9328.

The Magic of Christmas Dec. 21st; 8pm in St. Columba's Church, Bindon St. with Helen Houlihan soprano, Owen Gilhooly tenor, Péter Sebestyén cello and Irina Dernova piano. Tickets available on the door.

Vocation Note: "When Joseph awoke he did as the angel of the Lord directed him." Are you prayerfully vigilant about discovering your vocation in Christ? Might He be inviting you to the priesthood? Contact: 086 2777139

Killaloe Diocese JPIC group in conjunction with Mid West Simon Community are launching the Christmas €2 appeal. At this time of year we all have gifts at the forefront of our mind but imagine if you could give the gift of a home to a family for just 2 euro. That is what this project seeks to do. Keep an eye out for posters and collection points as they go up. Collection takes place from December 12th - 24th.



Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

An Nollaig

Tá an Nollaig amach romhainn agus ní foláir dúinn ullmhúchán cuí a dhéanamh. Táimid ag tnúth go dílis le Féile na Nollag, Breith ár dTiarna, agus ní fada anois go mbeimid ag ceiliúradh le dícheall is le dúthracht. Tá na tithe agus na sráideanna maisithe cheana féin. Tá na cártaí Nollag á sheoladh, na bronntanais á cheannach agus is comharthaí grá iad seo go léir. Féile ghrá is ea an Nollaig. Ghráigh Dia chomh mór sin sinne gur sheol Sé a Mhac chugainn mar shlánaitheoir. Is mithid dúinn ullmhúchán spioradálta a dhéanamh. Is é ár gcairdeas le Críost solas mór an tsaol dúinne. Bhíodh an phaidir seo á rá ag ár sinsir mar ullmhúcháin do bhreith an Linbh Iosa.

Is beannaithe an nóiméad a rugadh Mac na hÓige, i meán oíche i mBeithil i lár an gheimhridh ghairbh. Deonaigh a Dhia, trí idirghuí Iosa Críost agus Muire Máthair Iosa, éisteacht le mo ghúí agus glac le m'achaini. Áiméan

Christmas is near and we must prepare for it in an appropriate way. We look forward with anticipation and excitement to the Feast of Christmas, the Birth of our Lord, and we will soon celebrate with fervour and devotion. Homes and streets are already decorated. Cards are posted and presents bought. These are signs of love. God loved each of us so much that He sent His son into the world to be our saviour. Let us prepare spiritually from now on. Friendship with Christ is the light that leads us in this world. This prayer was said by our ancestors in preparation for the birth of the Child Jesus.

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 petition through the intercession of Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary His Mother. Amen.

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 Isaiah

Is 7:10-14

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above'. 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test..

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men.

without trying the patience of my God, too?

The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us" '.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

**Response: Let the Lord enter!
He is the king of glory.**

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm.

R

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who shall stand in his holy place?

The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things.

R

He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves

him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. R

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Rm 1:1-7

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name.

You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. Alleluia!

A reading from holy Gospel according to Matthew. *Mt 1:18-24*

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.

Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally.

He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit.

She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

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 called Emmanuel.