



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>

The Nativity of the Lord (Year A) 25th December 2016

THE GOOD NEWS OF LUKE'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

The focus of Luke's Christmas story is on the shepherds who symbolise all the people of the world who are despised, oppressed, poor or marginalised in any way. It was to them that the angels proclaimed the Good News of Christ's birth not to kings or to the rich and powerful. Luke also stresses that the angels came to them out in the fields where they were minding their flocks. The message for us is that God is present among us wherever we are, in what we do and His love is shown in ordinary simple ways.

The Lucan story invites us to see the story of Christ's birth from the view point of the shepherds and to look through their eyes at the crib of the Gospel and the crib of faith. The Good News of Christmas extends beyond Bethlehem to the places where all the people of the world live and toil, where people feel oppressed by war or famine and who are anxiously hoping and waiting for freedom and peace. It challenges us to pray and work for peace and to have an empathy with those who are wronged. It challenges us to be committed to the cause of the poor which is also the cause of God.

Luke's Christmas story challenges us to look at our own lives. To face the consequences of knowing and believing in the presence of God in our lives. To be willing to examine our outlook on life, our sense of values, our way of looking at things, our way of relating to events and to look at our deepest self.



The Good News is that God with all the mighty power of His love has made himself one with all the aspects of our human condition. Truly happy is Christmas where that faith is lived and witnessed to in the daily lives of Christians.

*Fáilte-Bienvenue-Willkommen-Benvenuto-Bienvenido-Witajcie-Bemvindo-
Welkom-Velkomin-Vitejte-Karibu-Croeso-Valkommen-Tervetuloa-Welcome*

Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 25th: Christmas Day

Mon: 12noon: Mary Fitzgerald, St. Flannan's Tce. 1st Anniv

4pm: Deceased Supporters & Members St. Michael's FC

7.30pm: Delia Reddan, late Beechpark & London.

Tues: 12 noon: Book of Intentions.

7.30pm: Gerry Roche, Tobartaoscaín.

Wed: 12noon: Mary Browne, Circular Rd. 1st Anniv

7.30pm: Roger Fox, Clancy Pk.

Sean Connolly, Limerick Rd.

Thurs: 12 noon: Micheál Frawley, Cahercalla.

7.30pm: John, Maisie, Jim & Martin Bradley, Limerick Rd.

Fri: 12noon: Una Ryan, Brookville, Lahinch Rd.

7.30pm: John Mc Inerney, England & Ennis. MM

Sat: 12 noon: Bridie Connellan, Cahercalla Woods.

Pat & Mary Finn, Golf Links Rd.

6.30pm: Marek Skiba, Kilrush Rd. 1st Anniv

Sun 1st : 9am: Anna Murphy, Ashfield Park.

Brian McSweeney, Lissycasey

10.30am: Mary & Dan O'Keeffe, Ardlea Rd.

Martin & Haulie Reidy, Golf Links Rd

Frank Roughan, Fountain.

Joe & Tess Kerin, Clonroadmore.

Mgt & Patrick Daffy, Cahercalla

12noon: Pat O'Sullivan, Abbey Court.

Ann Ryan, Childers Rd.

Hospital & Sick Calls

25th December, 2016

Priest on Duty:

Please call: 065 6869098

Wednesday: 065 6869098

Seminary Concert; The coming of the Three Kings; Saturday 7th January 2017; 7:30pm; At St Peter and St Paul's Cathedral, Ennis. Families with children are very welcome.

Family Evening with children's entertainment in Ennis on Saturday January 2nd 2016, from 5 – 7pm. to mark the launch of Clare – County of Culture 2016 followed by FIREWORKS Display at 7pm. Further info: www.clare.ie



Live the Word: Wishing you a very peaceful, happy and relaxed Christmas. A time to reflect, be still, recharge and look forward to the new. Happy Christmas to all.



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:

Sun 25th: Christmas Day

Mon 11am: Michael Keane, Fergus Lawn.

Tues 11am: Noreen & Paddy Shanahan, St. Senan's Rd.

Wed 11am: Eric McNevin, Corrovorrin Green.

Thu 11am: Dr. Brian Gallagher, Tulla Rd.

Fri 11am: Winifred Leydon, Sligo.

Sat 11am: Imelda, Michael & Johnny Hayes, Rockmount.

Sun 10am: Noel Ballanger, Gort Road.

11.30am: Annie, Peter, Anne & Barry family, Shanaway Rd.

Next Mass in the extraordinary form (the Tridentine or 'Latin' rite) Sunday 1st January 2017 at 5.30pm in St. Joseph's Church. All are welcome.

Rest in Peace

Breda Meehan, Drimeen; Sonny Kearney, Corofin & Hermitage; Tess White, The Halfway House, Clare Rd.; Kathleen Shannon, Cloughleigh Rd.; Kitty Killeen, Doonbeg, mother of Eddie, Inisgrove, Lahinch Rd; Josephine Carr, Barrack Court; Michael Kirby, Limerick, brother of Eddie, Summerhill;

Roster for Cathedral:

Sunday 1st January, 2017

Readers: Group 2

Eucharistic Ministers Weekday: Group 1

Eucharistic Ministers Sunday: Group 3



Cloughleigh

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 25th: Christmas Day.

Mon 9.30am: Peter & Kathleen Fallon, Roscommon.

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

Wed 9.30am: Michael Mc Guane, Corrovorrin Drive.

Thu 9.30am: Brannan & Canepa families, U.S.A.

Fri 9.30am: Peggy, Dan, Mgt, Sean Mullins, Ennistymon.

Sun 1st Jan 9.30am: John & Bridie Murray, Mullagh.

11am: Maisie Hayes, Hermitage.

Dermod O'Halloran, Limerick Rd.

People of the Year Awards



Celebrate People
In Our Community

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 2015

Buíochas...

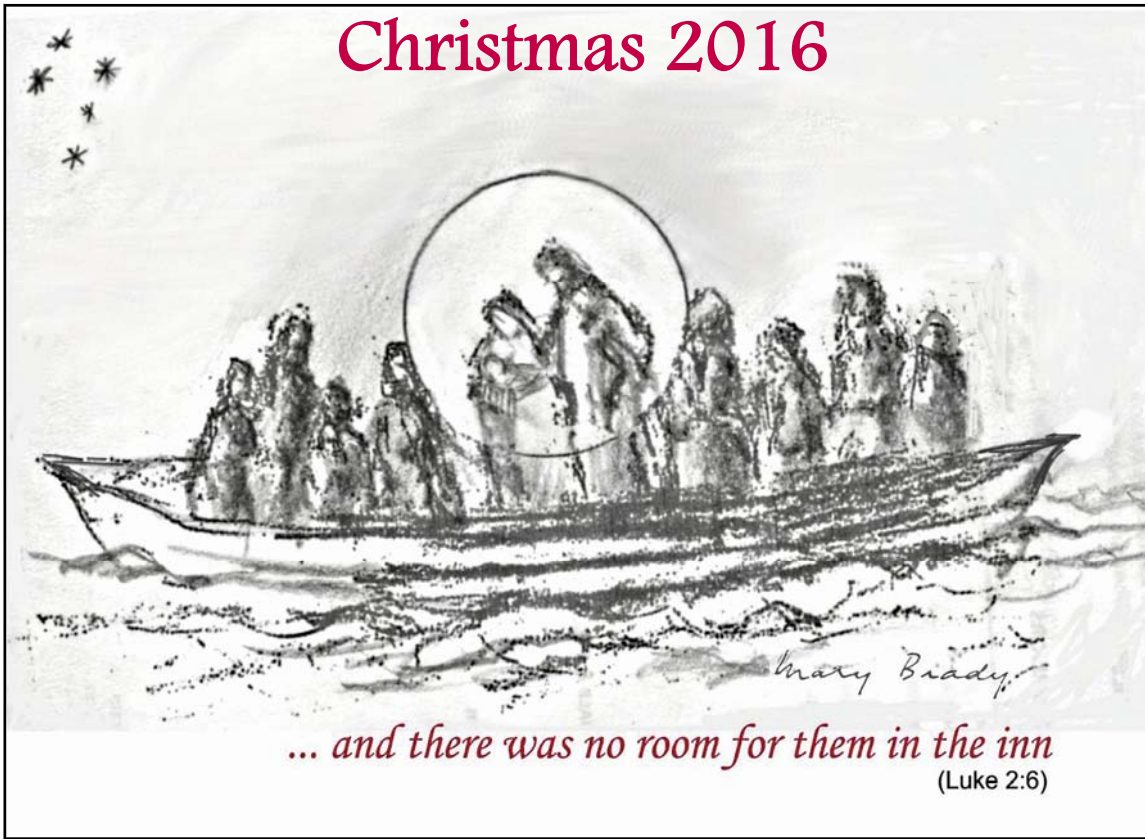


Christmas is one of the times of the year we acknowledge the goodness and generosity of our Parishioners. Bishop Fintan and the Parish Team say a sincere word of thanks for the kindness, support and encouragement throughout the year.

We are blessed to have such an extraordinary number of people who are actively involved in the life of the Parish above and beyond the call of duty. Our thanks to all who help in a special way with the Sunday Liturgy, Readers, Altar Servers, Eucharistic ministers & people involved in the Ministry of Welcome. To all involved in the decoration of our Churches, the Cathedral Altar Society, and individuals who enhance our Churches with floral displays throughout the year; to the various people who take responsibility for the sacristy in St. Joseph's, Cloughleigh and Cathedral; We acknowledge the work of the Pastoral Council; Connect Groups; Property and Finance Committee; Parish Representatives; Basket Collectors, Counters, The organisers of the Eucharistic Adoration; The Play and Pray Groups. We are conscious of the contribution our Teachers make in handing on the Faith; we acknowledge all the work and effort schools have put into Carol services and liturgies in recent weeks. We thank all who serve on the Boards of Management of our Primary Schools; A special thanks to our Choirs, Cantors, Liturgical Dancers & Liturgy Group and all involved in the Music Ministry in our Parish, in particular Michael Hennessy; Leon Walsh; Therese Murphy; Organists: Mary, Dylan and Clare; Browne's Fruit & Veg, Tulla Rd & O'Connor's, The Market who donated the Christmas trees to St. Joseph's & Cathedral. Thanks to our office administration and house staff, caretakers, cleaners and the hundreds of people who voluntarily help in making the Parish such an alive and welcoming community. **Míle Buíochas.**

Tom Hogan, Parish Priest.

Christmas 2016



... and there was no room for them in the inn
(Luke 2:6)

Pilgrimages 2017

The Killaloe Diocese is organising a once off pilgrimage to Fatima for the Centenary Year 2017 and a visit to the shrine of St. Anthony in Lisbon. Pilgrimage will be direct from Shannon Airport; Easter Monday 17th April, to Friday 21st April. (Easter week). Cost €699 with €10 reduction for online booking to joewalshstours.ie. Booking forms available from Fr Tom Ryan pilgrimage Director Shannon 061 -364133 or Fr Brendan Quinlivan Ennis.

MEDJUGORJE CHRISTMAS GIFT: Consider giving a deposit for Pilgrimage ex Shannon on 17th May, 2017. Contact Kathleen: 086 1031508.

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.

ENNIS PARISH PADRE PIO TRIP TO ADRIATIC COAST & SAN GIOVANNI; For information contact Group Leader: Mary O'Sullivan: 087 1247669; Spiritual Director: Fr Tom Hogan P.P. All Dinners; Tours & Taxes included; September 15-22 - 2017; Afternoon flights from Dublin; €995.

Turkey Trots

Ennis Track Athletic Club annual charity turkey trot. A family fun run, walk, jog. 4 miles or 2 miles. St Stephen's Day . Meeting at Ballyea community hall. Official start: Walkers 12.30pm, Runners 1pm. Family €20 individual €5. Refreshments served. Contact Gerry Hayes 086 3781912. Donations to St. Vincent de Paul Society.



Annual Marian AC/Ennis Council Turkey Trot on St. Stephen's Day at Waterpark House, Ennis commencing at 12 noon. Registration from 11.30am. All proceeds to RNLI and Clarecastle Daycare Centre.

The Justice and Peace Group

are anxious to promote *care of elderly people* who may be living alone during the entire year, but in particular at this Christmas time. If you know of any elderly neighbour or person living in your area who may be alone or in need of some assistance during these times, we would urge you to drop in for a chat or a quick visit. The smallest of things can mean the world to someone, so we would encourage those of us who are able, to keep an eye to our elderly neighbours and friends this Christmas season.



Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Lá Nollag

Is saoire mhór phoiblí í an Nollaig, atá á chomóradh ar fud an domhain inniu, fiú ina lán de na tíortha nach bhfuil cónaí ar mhórán Críostaithe iontu. Tá gealltanas Dé comhlíonta. Rugadh Íosa. Is é Íosa Solas an Domhain, ár ndóchas, ár lúcháir. Nach aoibhinn go deo mar a chan na haingil do na haoirí ar an gcéad oíche Nollag: 'Ná biodh eagla oraibh: óir féach, tá dea-scéala agam daoibh a chuirfidh áthas mór ar an bpobal uile: rugadh slánaitheoir daoibh inniu – is é Críost an Tiarna é - i gcathair Dháiví'. (Lúcás 2:10-12) Is deas Cró na Nollag a fheiceáil i ngach séipéal mar chomhartha ómóis don leanbh Íosa.

Tá an Cró Nollag againn le beagnach ocht gcéad bliain. Naomh Proinsias, Assisi a chuir tús leis an gCró Nollag san Eoraip. Sa bhliain 1220 thug sé cuairt ar Bheithil agus thaitin an tslí inar ceiliúradh an Nollaig ansin go mór leis. Nuair a d'fhill sé abhaile rinne sé mainséar in uaimh. Chuir sé íomhá chloiche den leanbh Íosa isteach inti agus chuir sé ainmhithe beo timpeall uirthi. Bhí na daoine an-sásta leis an gCró Nollag agus d'fhás an nós as sin.

Nollaig bheannaithe agus athbhliain faoi mhaise go raibh agaibh go léir.

Is é seo a leanas mo ghúí daoibh: **Go raibh síocháin an Naí Íosa a gealladh do lucht na dea-thola, ag lucht léite an Chúinne seachtain i ndiaidh seachtaine.**

Christmas is a great public celebrated worldwide even in countries where Christians are a minority. God's promise is fulfilled. Christ is born. He is the Light of the World, our hope, our joy. How lovely the angels sang to the shepherds that first Christmas night 'Do not be afraid I bring you good news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you: he is Christ the Lord' (Luke 2:10-12). Cribs are displayed in Churches in honour of the Infant Jesus. This custom is almost eight hundred years old. St. Francis of Assisi started the custom in Italy and it spread throughout Europe. In 1220 he visited Bethlehem and he admired the way Christmas was being celebrated there. When he returned home he created a manger in a cave. He placed a stone image of the Infant Jesus surrounded by live animals in it. People were very pleased with the Crib and the custom spread.

May you have a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

This is my wish for all who read the *Cúinne*. **May the peace of the Infant Jesus promised to people of good will be with you and all who read the *Cúinne* throughout the year.**

New Year's Eve

Pray out the Old Year

Pray in

The New Year

Cathedral

31st December @

11.40pm.



Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

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.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah Isaiah 9: 1-7

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; On those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as people rejoice at harvest time, as people are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt, and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder - Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal - Father, Prince of Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he

establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response:

Today a saviour has been born to us; he is Christ the Lord.

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless his name. *R*

Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. *R*

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, Let the sea and all within it thunder praise, Let the land and all it bears rejoice, All the trees of the wood shout for joy At the presence of the Lord for he comes, He comes to rule the earth. *R*

With justice he will rule the world, He will judge the peoples with his truth. *R*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus Titus 3:4-7

When the kindness and love of God our Saviour for humankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our Saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

The word of the Lord

Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to all who enjoy His favour.*
Alleluia

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 2: 15-20

Now when the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us". So they

hurried away and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

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 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 glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.