



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>

Third Sunday of Lent - 28th February 2016 (Year C)

GOD'S IDENTITY CARD – MERCY

On December 8th 2015 Pope Francis declared the beginning of a Holy year of Mercy at which time he opened a Holy Door, a door of mercy that will remain open for the duration of this year 2016.

This is more than a symbolic gesture but a clear expression of Francis call to the world to be merciful, loving and work for justice and peace. It is and invitation to all human kind without exception that there is a vital need in the world to embrace mercy, forgiveness and compassion.

The mercy being referred to is not an abstract idea but a concrete reality of God's love for the world and all its creatures. This love of God is made visible and tangible in the life of Jesus; every word, every work of Jesus offers a lesson in mercy. Through his parables Jesus revealed the nature of God who never gives up until wrong has been corrected and where injury has been forgiven.

Neither is anyone lost to God because he constantly reminds us that *"his mercy endures forever"* us

the psalmist writes. Mercy derives from *miseracordia* a Latin word for compassion which means opening of the heart to wretchedness. The late Cardinal Cushing of Boston once said **"There is one thing the world will not conquer– the mercy of the human heart"**



*Miseri Cordes
Sicut Pater*

Merciful like the
Father

Mercy is an embrace of what God gives to the world. Pope Francis said in his recent book **"The Name of God is Mercy"** where Francis describes God's identity card as mercy. This book is highly recommended for a deeper understanding of what the Pope means by mercy. It is available at any book store.

It is published by Bluebird press and cost €18.

Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

6.30pm: Dudie McDonagh, Turnpike Rd. 1st Anniv

Sun 28th: 9am: Johnny Purcell, Ard na Greine.

10.30am: Frank Lillis, Beechpark.

Gerry Brady, Ballybeg.

Bridie Coffey, Lisheen, Ballynacally

James Burke, Park Ave.

Bryan & Nancy McMahon, Woodlawn.

Presentation of the Creed—RCIA

12 noon: Ann Barrett, Willow Park. 1st Anniv

Mon:7.45am: Special Intention.

10am: Martin & Thomas Byrnes, Lisdoonvarna.

7.30pm: Martin & Brid Moloney, Clare Rd.

Tues:7.45am Book of Intentions.

10am: Michael & Maureen Rice, Summerhill.

7.30pm: Mike Archer, The Park, Quin.

8pm: **Ceremony of Light ENS**

Wed:7.45am: Donors' Intentions.

10am: Paddy, Nancy & Anthony Guilfoyle,
Gallows Hill & USA.

7.30pm: Philip Smyth, Roscommon.

Thurs:7.45am: Special Intention.

10am: Barry & Kevin Hinton, England.

7.30pm: Brian McMahon, Caherea, Lissycasey.

Fri:7.45am: Mass for the People.

10am: Eddie Gallagher & Mrs. Byrnes, Donegal & Scotland

7.30pm: Tony Coffey, Clancy Park. 1st Anniv

Sat:10am: Paddy Brennan, O'Connell St.

11am: **Ennis NS Confirmation.**

6.30pm: Ann Marie Conway, Westbourne Court. MM

Sun: 9am: James & Mary Teresa Quinlivan, Lissycasey.

10.30am: Leovigilda Navarette, Phillipines.

Carmel Ryan, Gallows Hill.

12 noon: Mary Honan, Kilrush Rd. 1st Anniv

Margaret Hayes, Villa Rosa, Clonroad. 1stAnniv
Féile na hInse Mass

Roster for Cathedral:

Sunday 6th March, 2016

Readers: Group 5

Eucharistic Ministers Weekday: Group 3

Eucharistic Ministers Sunday: Group 2



Cloughleigh

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 28th 11am: Lucille Hayes, Pearse Ave.

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

Wed 9.30am: Elly Murrhly, Mullagh.

Thurs 9.30am: Annie & Jack Moloney, Hermitage.

Fri 3pm: **Confirmation Scoil Chríost Rí**

Sun 6th 11am: Anna Moroney, Cornmarket & USA.

Rest in Peace

Nora Kearse nee Ryan, 22 St Michael's Villas &
Killaloe; Francis Lyons, Golf Links Road & Co Mayo;
Michael Reddan, Waterpark Heights;



*Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near;
still loved, still missed and very dear.*

Hospital & Sick Calls

28th February, 2016

Priest on Duty:

Fr. Tom O'Gorman

Please call: 065 6869098

Wednesday Duty:

Fr. Ger Fitzgerald

065 6869098



Friary News

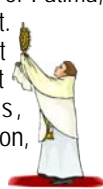
March 5th is the first Saturday. The Rosary is ongoing in the Friary Church, Francis St after 10am Mass. Please come and pray with us. Everyone welcome. "Prayer is a weapon".

Secular Franciscan Order will be held on Wed 2nd March at the Friary, 10am and at St Anthony's Hall at 7.30pm.

Monthly hour of Prayer for peace will be at the Poor Clare Chapel on Sat 5th March from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. All members and passers by are welcome to attend.

1st Saturday devotions

in honour of Our Lady of Fatima, in Cathedral next Sat. Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament with Confessions, Rosary and Benediction, after 10am Mass.



Visitation team meeting on Wednesday 2nd March @ 10.45am in the Pastoral centre.

Newly Baptised



We welcome into the Christian Community through the Sacrament of Baptism: Tommy Lee Quinn; Dylan Thomas Murphy; Kevin Antony Gilganesh Skerritt;

Speakers for Lent in Cathedral

This Sunday Cyril Farrell will speak at the 12noon Mass.



Cyril is a native of Woodford, Co. Galway. Journalist, sportsman and a retired school teacher.

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: Pat O'Brien, Shannon Park.

Sun 28th 8am: Anna Casey, Marian Ave.

10am: James & John Sexton, Miltown Malbay.

11.30am: Brendan Armstrong, Mountain View.

Mon 11am: Rita & John Mulkeerrins, Marian Ave.

Tues 11am: Mary McMahon, Steele's Tce & Maura Byrnes, Tulla Rd.

Wed 11am: Bridget Rooney, London.

Thu 11am: Mary Hartney, Mountain View.

Fri 11am: Mary Curtin, Willow Park.

7.30pm: Joe, Kitty & Sheila Glynn, Lifford Rd.

Sat 11am: Matt O'Connor, New Rd.

7pm: Paul Flaherty, Willow Park. 1st Anniv.

Patrick Barrett, Lifford. MM

Sun 6th 10am: Peadar O'Keeffe, Drumcliffe Rd.

11.30am: Jim O'Driscoll, Elm Park.

Year of Mercy

At times we are called to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father's action in our lives. For this reason I have proclaimed an 'Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy' as a special time for the Church, a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective. (# 3)



'How can a dark cloud be a sign that the sun has lost his light, and that dark black convictions be an argument that God has laid aside His mercy?' rightly questions Charles Spurgeon.

The word mercy is a concept that is loosely banded about.

Pope Francis stopped us in our tracks with the recent publication of his book: 'The name of God is mercy'. This is the real meaning of mercy, 'not any righteous thing we had done but because of His *mercy* that God has saved us.' Psalm 23 reminds us: 'He is *true* to his *name*... Forgiveness and hope are given us. How mercy full! Thankfully we have this YEAR OF MERCY to grapple with its connotations and obligations.

If God wants so much to give His mercy to us, would we not be wise to ask for such a grace so that we in turn can be merciful to our brothers and sisters and make some small difference in our world today?...

Sr. Gabrielle Murphy, Poor Clare Convent.

Ceremony of Light



Is a pre-Confirmation ceremony, which has been added to the Confirmation preparation process in recent years. The key part of the service is when parents hand the lighted Baptism candle to their child as an acknowledgement that the child is now ready to be a responsible Christian.

At their child's baptism parents light the baptismal candle from the paschal candle. This is a sign that they are willing to hand on their faith to their child. In the same way, at the service of light, parents once again light their child's baptismal candle from the paschal candle and hand the lighted candle to their children; in doing so parents promise to help and support their child live out the call of their Confirmation. They are agreeing, together with their child, to keep the light of faith burning in all of their lives.

Now more than ever children heading into adolescence need the help and the support of their parents. They need their parents to be the 'light' of Christ in their lives and to be able to rely on them in times of crisis.

Ceremony of Light for:

- ◆ Scoil Chríost Rí, Monday 29th February 7pm.
- ◆ Ennis National and parish afterschool students, Cathedral, Tuesday 1st March 8pm.
- ◆ Holy Family, Cathedral, Tuesday 12th April 8pm.

Next Mass in the extraordinary form (the Tridentine or 'Latin' rite) takes place on Sunday 6th March 5.30pm in St. Joseph's Church. All are welcome.



Taizé Prayer: Our monthly gathering praying the songs of Taizé, Short Scripture Reading, reflective quiet time. This month we join with Trócaire "join the fight for Justice" Thursday 3rd March, Church of Our Lady, Roslevan 7.45pm - 8pm. All welcome, and welcome to bring a friend.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, wish to recruit new volunteer members. We are holding an open Information evening on Wednesday 2nd March; 7.30pm in Temple Gate Hotel in Ennis. People interested from all areas of the County are invited to attend, the younger generation are also most welcome. SVP welcomes volunteers from all walks of life who respect and share its ethos and wish to support its work. Home visitation is our core work, when people and families in need contact the Society for assistance.



Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2016:...but no one who drinks the water I shall give will ever be thirsty again... *John 4:14.* Millions of farmers in Kenya suffer from a lack of rain due to the effects of climate change. Trócaire is installing irrigation systems and piping in drinking water to ensure farmers can grow enough to feed their families and there is clean water to drink without having to rely on the rain. Join the fight for justice at: www.trocaire.org

TROCAIRE
Working for a Just World



Live the Word:

You cannot change what is going on around you until you start to change what is going on within you.

Lenten Reflections: A one page reflection on each Sunday Gospel called *Hearing, Happening, Hoping* can be downloaded from the Killaloe Diocesan website <http://www.killaloeodiocese.ie/diocesan-news/hearing-happening-hoping-2016.html>. Weeks four and five are available now. These reflections were compiled by Fr. Seamus O'Connell, Maynooth, Jane Mellett, Dublin Diocese, Philip Carder, Armagh Diocese, Sr. Marie McNamara and Maureen Kelly Killaloe Diocese.

Chapel Lane Market - indoor craft & food market - continues in the Community Centre on Chapel Lane; every Saturday 10-5. Info chapellanemarket@gmail.com Facebook: /chapellanemarket

PEER GROUP SUPPORT FOR

ADOPTED ADULTS: Would you like to hear other adopted adults' experiences of being adopted and also have the opportunity to share yours? Perhaps you have traced your birth family or you are thinking about it or just wish to meet others who have been adopted. Why not join us at our evening group? The group will be facilitated by two members of the post adoption team. We have many years of experience working with adopted people, birth parents/relatives and adoptive families. Minimum of 8 participants required. Clarecare, Harmony Row, Ennis; Tuesday Evenings; 7pm -9pm; April 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th. (Confirmation required by 29th March). GROUP ATTENDANCE IS FREE OF CHARGE BUT DONATIONS ARE WELCOME. Please contact: 065 6828178 or Joan O' Keffe: jokeeffe@clarecare.ie or Laura O' Callaghan: locallaghan@clarecare.ie



Meeting of St Joseph's young priests society after 7.30pm Mass in St Josephs on Friday March 4th. All are welcome.

A workshop entitled: 'The Healing Heart' is being hosted by Ennis Mental Health Association next Monday night February 20th in the Ennis Mental Health Resource Centre Chapel Lane Ennis (Community Centre). For more information and bookings contact Clare Sheehan 086 3823205.

Celebrating 60 years of Pilgrimage: This year the Killaloe Diocese is celebrating 60 years of pilgrimage to Lourdes. On 26th June four flights will leave Shannon Airport bringing pilgrims to Lourdes for five days celebrating the Jubilee Year of Mercy. €687 full board with online discount available on www.joewalshtours.ie Booking forms also available in the Parish Office. Assisted pilgrims are most welcome to travel and care will be provided by medical, nursing and carers. Cost for an assisted pilgrim €585. Application forms for assisted pilgrims to Fr. Tom Ryan Shannon Pilgrimage Director: 061-364133.

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE ex SHANNON May 25th; 7 days with Group Leader Kathleen Lee. Spiritual Director: Fr. Gerard Fitzgerald. Cost €659. Kathleen will be happy to answer enquiries at 086 1031508.

Ennis Parish Development Fund for
Sunday 21st February, €7,110.00

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

An Tríú Domhnach den Charghas

Is é seo an tríú Domhnach den Charghas. Inniu táimid leath bealaigh tríd an gCarghas agus is féidir linn machnamh a dhéanamh ar Phríomhoibreacha Spioradálta na Trócaire i mBliain seo na Trócaire. Seo iad: Eolas a thabhairt don ainbhiosach; Dea-chomhairle a thabhairt don té atá ina easnamh;

Teagasc a leasa a thabhairt don pheacach; Éagóir d'fhulaing go foighneach; Olc a mhaitheamh; Sólás a thabhairt do dhaoine dobrónacha; Guí ar bheo agus ar mharbh;

Déanaimis comhghairdeas leo siúd ar fad a toghadh chuig Dáil Éireann san olltoghchán. Ar ndóigh déanaimis comhbhrón leo siúd nár éirigh chomh maith sin leo. Beidh lá eile ag an bPaorach. Tíocfaidh na teachtaí dála nua tofa le chéile ar an 10 Márta chun rialtas nua a bhunú. Is féidir linn an phaidir seo a rá ag tráth cinniúnach do mhuintir na hÉireann. *A Thiarna Dia gúimis ar son Rialtais na tíre 'Ta croí an rí i láimh an Tiarna mar shruthán uisce; iompaíonn sé é pé treo is toil leis'* (Leabhar na Seanfhocal 21:1). *Mar sin iarraimid ort an rialtas nua in Éirinn a threorú i dtreo na fírinne de réir do bhriathar Áiméan*

Third Sunday of Lent

Today is the third Sunday of Lent. We are half way through the season of Lent and we can meditate on the Spiritual Works of Mercy in this Year of Mercy which are:

- To instruct the ignorant;
- To counsel the doubtful;
- To admonish sinners;
- To bear wrongs patiently;
- To forgive offences willingly;
- To comfort the afflicted;
- To pray for the living and the dead.

We congratulate the newly elected TD and sympathise with those who were not successful. There will be another chance. The newly elected candidates will meet on March 10th to form a government. We can pray at this decisive time for Ireland. *O God we come before you in the Name of Jesus on behalf of the leaders of this nation. You said the heart of the king is in your hand and you will turn it whatever way you choose (Proverbs 21:1). We ask You to direct the hearts and the minds of the Leaders of this nation to make decisions that will lead this country in your ways and according to your Word. Amen.*

Clare Archaeological and Historical Society: Lecture **Tuesday, March 1st Clare Museum, 8pm** entitled "County Clare and the Irish Revolution 1913 - 1923" by Dr. Pádraig Óg Ó Ruairc author of "Blood On The Banner - The Republican Struggle in Clare". The lecture will give a brief overview of events in County Clare from the 1916 Rising to the civil war. All welcome, non members €5.

Comhrá: For an informal chat in Irish drop in to Bia agus Caife, Dé Céadaoin/Dé Sathairn ar 11am, nó an Temple Gate, Déardaoin ar 8pm agus déan Caint agus Comhrá linn. Newcomers welcome. Email: caintaguscomhra@eircom.net

French conversations and preparation for exams, native speaker. Ennis & surrounding areas. Contact Catherine 083 8421866.

Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

My eyes are always on the Lord,
For he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
For I am alone and poor.

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 Exodus

Ex 3:1-8.13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up.

"I must go and look at this strange sight", Moses said, "and see why the bush is not burnt".

Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush, "Moses, Moses"! he said. "Here I am" he answered. "Come no nearer" he said. "Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father", he said the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob". At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, "I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow".

Then Moses said to God, "I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you". But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?" And God said to Moses, "I Am who I Am. This" he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come'.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

R: *The Lord is compassion and love.*

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. R

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. R

The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons. R

The Lord is compassion and love,
Show to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
So strong is his love for those who fear him. R

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 1 Cor 10:1-6.10-12

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Repent, says the Lord,

for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke Lk.13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices.

At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans?'

They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it; it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."'

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

**The sparrow finds a home,
And the swallow a nest for her young:
By your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King
and my God.**

**Blessed are those who dwell in your
house, for ever singing your praise.**