



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: 9.30am & 11.30am

St. Joseph's:- Sat. Vigil: 7pm; Sunday: 10am, 11.45am

Cloughleigh Church:- 8.00am, 11am

Friary:- Sat. Vigil: 7.30pm; Sunday: 10.30am, 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 Advent (Year B) 17th December, 2017

Gaudette Sunday

On the third Sunday our church puts aside the priest's purple vestments with their penitential flavour; instead priests don rose-coloured chasubles to remind us of the joy that will soon be ours. It is called Gaudete Sunday, from a Latin word meaning "*Rejoice!*" We are supposed to feel good because Christmas is less than two weeks away.

Well, "*Gaudete*" does not simply mean "*cheer up.*" When Paul tells us to "*rejoice always, in all circumstances give thanks,*" he is not just telling us to lighten up. This is not about mere cheerfulness, looking on the bright side of things. Paul is not speaking about the joy of the light-hearted and carefree, but about a deep-down joy at the core of our being. There have been times when, no matter how many things were going wrong, we have been basically at peace with ourselves and with our lives. We have not lost sight of what we know by faith: that God is a loving parent who cares and watches over us. We are going to be reminded of this at Christmas, when we recall that God sent his only Son, of whom Isaiah foretold, "*The Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor; to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim a day of vindication by our God*" (Is 61:1).

In the readings for the last days of Advent, the

church speaks not only of consolation but also of power and majesty. The Lord assures King David that his kingdom will endure forever. The angel tells Mary that her son will inherit David's throne and that his kingdom will have no end. What is the power that these people are talking about? The impact of Jesus on hearts and minds has never waned. He continues to influence every corner of the world. He inspires fidelity, conviction, courage, generosity, forgiveness and mercy.



Men and women have dedicated their lives to spreading his message and living by his ideals. His divine majesty is expressed in impressive and enduring cathedrals. He is celebrated in art as well; the most beautiful Christmas cards you receive reproduce great paintings that portray the mother and child of Bethlehem. And the soaring notes of Handel's "*Messiah*" add to the symphony of celebration.

This is power! This is majesty!

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

Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

6.30pm: Mary Hassett, Pearse Ave. MM
Bill Chapman, Ennistymon & late Hermitage. MM

Do this in Memory

Sun 9.30am: Michael Bugler, Newmarket on Fergus.

Paddy & Nora Quinn, Market St.

Peggy Kearney, Summerhill.

Gertrude Vaughan, The Market, Ennis.

George Bradley, Drumcliffe Rd.

John & Bridget Daly, Parnell St & Collins Pk.

Donal Cahill, Hazelgrove, Roslevan.

Peggy Corry, Loughville.

Paddy & Ita Gilligan, Cloughleigh Rd.

Donal O'Brien, Turnpike Rd.

Patrick & Maura Keane, Market St & Kilrush Rd.

Encarnacion Guilo & Tedfid Guilo Sr., Philippines.

Maureen Martin, Woodstock View.

11.30am: Mass for the People.

Mon: 7.45am: Patrick & Fr. James McInerney.

10am: Vivian (Thomas) Lee, Gallows Hill.

Fr. Jim Kennedy & deceased family.

7.30pm: Penitential Service.

Tues: 7.45am Book of Intentions.

10am: Tom Reidy, St. Flannan's Tce.

7.30pm: Tommy Lorigan, College Park.

Wed: 7.45am: Michael Kearns, Galway.

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

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

Thurs: 7.45am: Jimmy Duggan, Connolly Villas.

10am: Frances McInerney, Park Ave.

7.30pm: Sean McMahon, Lissycasey.

Fri: 7.45am Michael O'Brien, Ballybeg.

10am: Stephen O'Sullivan, Hazelgrove, Ruan.

Helen & Stephen O'Sullivan.

3pm: Mary McDonagh, Larchill.

7.30pm: Mass for the People.

Sat: 10am: Ricky Loughnane, Abbeyfeale.

Paddy & Mary Shanahan, St. Michael's Villas.

Noel Scanlan, Willow Park.

6.30pm: Mass for the People.

Sun: 9.30am: Thomas & Mgt Collins, Honan's Terrace.

Jim Harnett, Rockmount.

Anna Murphy, Ashfield Park.

Marek Skiba.

11.30am: Joe Callinan, Gallows Hill.

Roster for Cathedral:

Sunday December 24th, 2017

Readers: Group 5

Eucharistic Ministers Weekday: Group 2

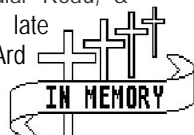
Eucharistic Ministers Sunday: Group 3



Could all readers please ensure they are following our new time table which started on 1st Sunday of Advent 2nd December.

Rest in Peace

Martin Fawl, Pairc na Coille & Lisheen Ballynacally, Vinnie O'Connor, Inisfree, Circular Road, & Lisheen, Ballynacally, **P.J. Quinn**, late of Hermitage, brother of Michael, Ard na Greine & Caroline Slattery, Church Dr., Clarecastle.



Hospital & Sick Calls

17th December, 2017

Priest on Duty:

Fr. Tom Hogan

Wednesday:

Fr. Dariusz Plasek

Duty Phone: 065 6869098

Organ Restoration

Fundraiser: Christmas tea bag gifts for sale after all Masses in Cathedral.

Newly Baptised



We welcome into the Christian Community through the Sacrament of Baptism: **Ashley Susanne Browne.**

Cloughleigh Community Centre has meeting rooms available daily and evening times. Also Main Hall available on Thursdays from 12:30pm. Reasonable rates. Contact Noel Fawl 0860610211 or Fr. Tom O'Gorman 087 2285355.

Wanted

Record player to play LP's.
Parish office: 065 6824043

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:

7pm: Nancy Sherlock, Watery Rd.

Sun 10am: Patrick Kilker, St. Senan's Rd.

11.45am: Sean & Clare McGrath, Lifford Rd.

Mon 11am: Tom McCarthy, Sligo & Cree.

Tues 11am: Tom & Phenie Sheehy, Old Gort Rd.

Eamon Sheehy, Pine Grove.

Wed 11am: Mary Kelleher, Ros an Oir.

Thu 11am: Patrick & Lily Greene, Clonroad.

Fri 11am: Maura Nevin, Corrovorrin Crescent.

Sat 11am: Rosaleen Spooner, Clonroad.

7pm: Ml & Kathleen Griffin, Drumcliffe & Maurices Mills.

Sun 8am: Mass of Thanksgiving.

Cloughleigh



Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 8am: Louis, Dr. Tom & Louis P. Galvin, Cloughleigh Rd.

11am: Kathleen Shannon, Cloughleigh Rd. **1st Anniv**

Do This In Memory

Mon 9.30am: Johnny Joyce, St. Enda's, Beechpark.

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

Wed 9.30am: Patrick Crowe, Knockerra.

Thur 9.30am: Peter & Kathleen Fallon, Roscomman.

Fri 9.30am: James & Mary Coughlan, Kilrush.

Ita O'Connor, Kilrush

Sun 11am: Patrick (Sonny) Kearney, **1st Anniv**

Micko, Chrissie & Patrick Ball.

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.



**Celebrate People
In Our Community**

Advent / Christmas Parish Events

Parish Carol Service in Friary today Sunday 17th December; 7pm. Celebrate this occasion as a family to help us have the "Real" Christmas atmosphere in our lives and homes.



Cluster Reconciliation; Cathedral Monday 18th 7.30-8.30pm. This is an opportunity for us to seek forgiveness and enter the Christmas feast with Peace in ourselves & others.

An Advent Giving Tree is situated in the Cathedral at the side of the Altar. Any of the following can be donated: Tea, coffee, sugar, Tayto, selection boxes, minerals, biscuits, soup, jam, baked beans, cornflakes, custard, peas, crackers, shampoo, toilet rolls, tinned food. By donating any of these food items, you will be helping organisations who work with our town's needy this Christmas. **Items can be left under the tree or delivered to the Parish Office.**



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: 10am & 11.45am

Cloughleigh Church

Christmas Eve: 8pm - Vigil Mass

Christmas Day: 8am; 11am

Friary

Christmas Eve: 10pm (Carols start 9.30pm)

Christmas Day: 10.30am & 12noon

Poor Clare Monastery

Christmas Eve: 9pm - Vigil Mass

Christmas Day: 7.45am

Cahercalla

Christmas Eve: 6pm - Vigil Mass

Christmas Day: 10.30am

Monthly Mass of the Ennis Padre Pio prayer group,

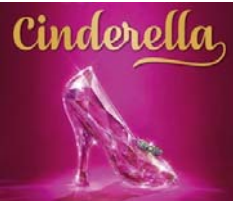
will be held in the Ennis Franciscan Friary on Thursday 21st Dec. At 7.30pm. All are welcome.



Annual Mass for deceased residents, members, players and supporters of **St. Michael's Football Club** on St. Stephen's Day, 26th Dec 4pm at Cathedral. All welcome

Special Performance of Cinderella Panto

On Friday 22nd December we present a relaxed performance of Cinderella, which is aimed at people who will benefit from a more relaxed



performance environment, including (but not limited to) people on the autism spectrum, people with sensory and communication impairments, and people with intellectual disabilities. The audience is welcome to move around and make noise during the show. The performance will be slightly adapted to make a more comfortable environment; the lights in the theatre remain on low throughout the show, loud noises are softened and you'll be free to leave and re-enter at any point if you need to. **Panto will continue at Glór on Dec 23rd, 27th to Dec 31st all at 2.30pm**

Christmas Dinner for lonely and homeless people. Maria Assumpta Hall 26th December 5pm. Join us for a warm welcome and lovely Christmas meal. Kindly RSVP 6824043

The Birth of Jesus according to St. Luke

At this special time of year we all, like the shepherds, seek the face of Jesus and try to come to know him more. On December 21st at 8:30pm there will be a presentation on the birth of Jesus according to St. Luke, given in Ennis Parish Centre by Fr. Ger. We invite you to come and we will read this story together and gain new insights into the wonderful mystery of the incarnation.



Buíochas.....

To the members of Ennis Men's Shed for providing the beautiful Crib in the Cathedral this Christmas Season.

Ennis Track Club Annual Turkey Trot

(4 miles & 2 miles Fun Run, Jog or Walk)

takes place St. Stephen's Day;

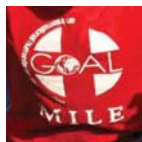
Ballyea Community Centre,

walkers 12.30 & runners 1pm.

Contact Gerry: 086 3781912.

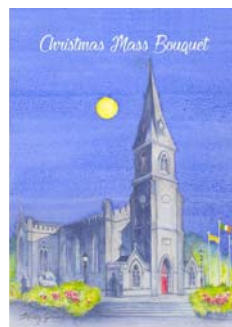
Charities to benefit this year are:

St. Vincent de Paul & R.N.L.I.



Goal Mile Ennis takes place again this Christmas Day from 11am to 1pm in the Fairgreen. Run, walk or crawl and donate what you can to help the poorest of the poor on this special day.

Ennis Parish Christmas Project



Triduum Mass Cards (*Triduum of Masses offered on Christmas Day*) and **Parish Christmas Cards** are now available from Parish Office. **Proceeds from cards towards: Cathedral Organ Restoration Fund.**

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Naomh Flannán

Ceiliúrtar féile Naomh Flannán ar an Luan 18 Nollaig. Is patrún deoise Chill Dalua é. Mac Turlough, rí Thuamhain ab ea Flannán. Mhair sé sa seachtú haois. Fuair sé a chuid oideachais ó Naomh Molua. Chuaigh sé isteach i mainistir Naomh Molua i gCill Dalua agus de réir cosúlachta rinneadh ab de sa mhainistir sin tar éis tamaill. Chuaigh sé ar thuras go dtí an Róimh agus rinne an Pápa easpag de. Tháinig sé ar ais go hÉirinn agus bhí sé ina ab i gCill Dá Lua ar feadh i bhfad. D'imigh sé go hOileán Árann agus chaith sé seal gearr ann.

Tharla go leor míorúilt trí a idirghuí. De réir na seanscéalta deirtear go raibh sé ag bácáil gan stad sa mhainistir ar feadh tríocha uaire an chloig tráthnóna áirithe. Lonraigh solas neamhaí trí mhéara a láimhe clé sa dorchadas. Chuir an solas seo ar a chumas a chuid oibre a thabhairt chun críche.

A íosa, bronn do ghrásta orainn go fial agus féile Naomh Flannán á chomóradh againn. Spreag grá Dé i measc pobail na deoise. Cuir do bheannacht ar theaghlaigh uile an pharóiste i mbun saothair nó saoire dóibh. Tabhair faoiseamh agus sólás do dhaoine faoi ualach galair, imní nó brón. Aiméan

St Flannan

The feast of St Flannan is celebrated on Monday 18 December. He is the patron saint of this diocese. Flannan was the son of Turlough, King of Thomond. He lived in the seventh century and was educated in St. Molua's monastery. Flannan then entered Molua's monastery in Killaloe and became abbot. He travelled to Rome and the Pope ordained him bishop. He returned to Ireland and later went to the Aran Islands for a short period.

Through Saint Flannan's intercession many remarkable miracles are said to have taken place. According to tradition, on one occasion after he had been baking continuously for thirty-six hours, a heavenly light shone through the fingers of his left hand. It lit up the darkness to enable him to continue with his task.

Jesus, through the intercession of St. Flannan bestow on us many graces. Inspire the love God among the community. Bless all families of the parish in their work and recreation. Comfort and console those who are sick or worried or in sorrow. Amen

Carinne di Francesco, of St. Flannan's College, will provide 1-Day Intensive Revision Courses during the Christmas Holidays for 2018 French and German Leaving and Junior Certs Honours students. A French native speaker, Carinne is a qualified French and German teacher with over 20 years experience as a Teacher, Oral Examiner and Leaving Cert. Corrector. Students from all schools are welcome. Details: 083 8287708.

St Flannan's College Trad Group in concert with Kilfenora Ceili Band - Fundraiser for the school. **Friday Jan 5th** in Glór, Ennis. Tickets: www.glor.ie; 065-6843103.

Ennis Parish Development Fund for Sunday 10th December, €6,093

Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I say, rejoice
Indeed, the Lord is near.

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 61:1-2.10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the
poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;
to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.
'I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of
salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.'
'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and
praise spring up in the sight of nations.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

R

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.

R

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy.

R

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians.

1 Th 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and
for all things give thanks to God, because
this is what God expects you to do in Christ
Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or
treat the gift of prophecy with contempt;
think before you do anything - hold on to
what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you
perfect and holy; and may you all be kept
safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body,
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. Jn 1:6-8.19-28

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through
him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a
witness. When the Jews sent priests and
Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who
are you?' he not only declared, but he
declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.'
'Well then,' they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I
am not,' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He
answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who
are you? We must take back an answer to
those who sent us. What have you to say
about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as
Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the
Pharisees, and they put this further
question to him, 'Why are you baptising if
you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and
not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise
with water; but there stands among you -
unknown to you - the one who is coming

after me; and I am not fit to undo his
sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany,
on the far side of the Jordan, where John
was baptising.

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

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.

Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

