



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>

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 1st January 2017 (Year A)

At the birth of the New Year we honour Mary, through whom Christ entered into our world. At the gate of the new year we entrust ourselves and our world to Mary, the Gate of Heaven. But who is this woman? What do we know about her? Why is she so important to us?

Primarily, and this is very important, Mary is one of us. She is fully human, not a supernatural being, not part of the Godhead, or the missing part of the trinity. She is not some reflection of the Goddess myth in ancient religion. She is one of us. However, there is something crucial to recognise.

She is one of us, made special by the grace of God. Her titles (of which there are many) 'Blessed Virgin' 'Theotokos' 'Queen of Heaven', are titles of grace, not of right. Because she did what the Angel asked of her, because she kept the faith, right through and beyond the end, because she showed us how to be a disciple of Christ, and took on a role for which she was not prepared; for all these reasons, she wins favour with God.

And that, my dear friends, shows us the way. If we have the faith to follow God's call, to venture out of our comfort zones to live the Gospel, then we can be similarly blessed, filled with grace as the angel said. The opportunity to be lifted up with such grace is available to all who have faith, and we can learn from her example how to become true disciples of faith. As Pope St. John Paul II once said, "*Never hesitate to look to Mary as a sure guide amid the trials of life.*"



Here in today's Gospel text, we see why Our Lady is a model of faith for all of us: her response to the shepherds – indeed her response to the wise men, to the Angel Gabriel, to the presentation in the temple, in fact to all that God reveals to her is to treasure these things in her heart, to ponder, to reflect, to draw upon them; perhaps over many years. It is the

prayerful, contemplative response to God that Our Lady makes, which should be our mark as Christians, and which I want to set as our challenge for this coming year – to make 2017 a praying year, a year where we draw closer to the heart of God in prayer and seek to do God's will, both as a parish and as individuals.

Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

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

Sun : 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.
Tamara Kavanagh, Clooney.

12noon: Pat O'Sullivan, Abbey Court.
Ann Ryan, Childers Rd.

Mon: **Bank Holiday**

12 noon: Fionnuala Fitzpatrick, Springfield &
decd Blake & Fitzpatrick families.

7.30pm: Brian & Elsie McDonagh, England & Ennis.
Teresa & Peter McDonagh, Turnpike & Hermitge.

Tues: 7.45am Book of Intentions.

Michael Kearns, Galway.

10am: Jordan family, Mayo.

7.30pm: Michael McMahon, Gallows Hill.

Wed: 7.45am: Hanna Ahern, Co. Limerick.

10am: Nora Daly, Clonroadmore.

7.30pm: Joe Connery, Dalcassian Pk.

Thurs: 7.45am: Donor Intentions.

10am: Brenda & Imelda Ryan, Hermitage.

7.30pm: Andrew Woods, McNamara Pk.

Fri: 7.45am Mass for the People.

10am: Flan & Mary Hynes, St. Michael's Villas.

7.30pm: Anne Tierney, Kilrush Rd. 1st Anniv

Sat: 10am: Tom & Peggy Fox,

Joseph & Mgt McCormack, late Barrack St.
Gilligan Family, Ennis.

6.30pm: Mgt. Counihan, Fergus Lawn. MM

Sun 8th: 9am: Bridie Rynne, Castlewood Pk.

Kevin Keane, Connolly Villas.

10.30am: Jim & Peggy Casey, Shanaway Rd.

Patrick Feeny, St. Michael's Villas.

Vincent Neylon, Parnell St.

P.J. Foudy, Ivy Hill, Gort Rd.

Nora Malone, Parnell St.

Kitty Casey, Monument Hse., O'Connell Sq.

David Barrett, Willow Pk.

12noon: Mass for the People.

Roster for Cathedral:

Sunday 8th January, 2017

Readers: Group 3

Eucharistic Ministers Weekday: Group 2

Eucharistic Ministers Sunday: Group 1



Hospital & Sick Calls

1st January, 2016

Priest on Duty:

Fr. Brendan Quinlivan

Wednesday Duty:

Fr. John McGovern

Duty No: 065 6869098

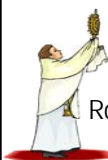


Friary

January 7th is the First
Saturday. The Rosary is
ongoing after 10am

Mass in the Friary Church,
Francis St. Please come and
Pray with us. Everyone
welcome. "Prayer is a

1st Saturday Devotions in
honour of Our Lady of Fatima, in
Ennis Cathedral on next Sat.



Adoration of the Most
Blessed Sacrament
with Confessions,
Rosary & Benediction,
after 10am Mass.

Newly Baptised



We welcome into the
Christian Community
through the Sacrament
of Baptism: Nathan

Alan Woros; Maria Therese
Smith; Jack Conor Hayes; Riaín
Culliney; Sabastian Oran Vaden
Hengel; Luca Francis Garrihy;

Divine Mercy Chaplet. We will
continue to pray the Divine
Mercy chaplet as a prayer
group on Tuesday 3rd January
at 8pm in the chapter room. All
are welcome to come and pray
and we hope to keep up the
wonderful attendance and new
friendships formed so far. There
will also be a short Lectio Divina
after the chaplet. All welcome.

Have you an unwanted artificial Christmas tree?

If so, please leave it into
Parish Office where it will
be re-used.

Also previously loved
decorations will be
gratefully received.

Newsletter items to Parish Office
☎ 065-6824043 Fax 065-6842541
or email: info@ennisparish.com
Deadline is 12 noon on Tuesday.



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 10am: Noel Ballinger, Gort Road.

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

Mon 11am: Johnny O'Loughlin, Old Gort Rd.

Tues 11am: Jimmy Cronin, Clonroad. MM

Wed 11am: Michael Purcell, Birr.

Thu 11am: Tubridy family, Cree.

Fri 11am: Ger O'Meara, Tulla Rd.

7.30pm: Michael, James & Mgt Meehan, Killimer.

Sat 11am: Eamonn Sheehy, Pine Grove.

7pm: Paddy & Mary Darcy, Arbutus Hse, Lifford. 1st Anniv

Sun 8th 8am: Thomas Scanlon, Newcastle West.

10am: Thomas (Toss) O'Sullivan, New Rd.

11.30am: John McNamara, Kilkee.

Rest in Peace

Patrick O'Meara, Birr, Co. Offaly, father of Muriel
O'Meara, Oakleigh Wood; Pat O'Brien, late
McNamara Pk., & Magowna, Inch; Muriel Doig nee
Conlon late of Hermitage & Australia; Joseph T.S.
father of Joman Joseph, Hazelwood; Angela
Normoyle Nee Barry, Kilmihil & late of Cahercalla
Rd, sister of Joe Barry, Ballybeg & Michael Barry,
Cahercalla Rd;



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.

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.

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.



Seminary Concert

The Coming of the Three Kings

Saturday 7 January 2017 at 7:30pm; Ennis Cathedral,
Families with children are very welcome. At the end
of the concert the Three Kings will come to meet the
children on their way back from Bethlehem. For info:
Redemptorist Mater Seminary; Tel: 042 933 6584

Cahercalla Hospice Yellow Ribbon Remembrance
Tree Project 2016; in association with Lions Club
of Ennis together with Ennis Rotary Club:

Ecumenical Closing Ceremony at The Oratory
Cahercalla Hospital; January 6th 2017 at 6pm.

Led by Bishop Fintan Monahan.

Yellow Ribbons from the Tree will be brought in
procession during the Ceremony and all those
remembered will be prayed for. Everyone welcome to
join us celebrate this very successful partnership.



Cloughleigh



Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 9.30am: Johnny & Bridie Murray, Mullagh.

11am: Maisie Hayes, Hermitage.

Dermot O'Halloran, Limerick Road.

Mon 9.30am: Patrick Crowe, Kilrush.

John & Annie Lane & Bridie O'Loughlin, Hermitage.

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

Sun 11am: Joan Ryan, Cusack Rd.

Sr. Clare O'Neill RIP



In her ninety fourth year, Sr. Clare O'Neill died peacefully on the 14 December 2016 in Cahercalla Community Hospital, Ennis. A native of Kilkerrin, Labasheeda, Co. Clare, she was the youngest of seven children, all of whom have pre-deceased her. She entered St. Xavier's Convent of Mercy, Ennis, in 1942 and made final Profession of Vows in 1948.

Having trained as a nurse in Cork, Clare took up a post in 1952 in St. Joseph's Hospital, Ennis where she was highly regarded for her gentle, caring and thorough attention to the elderly patients. In 1977 she joined the Mercy mission in Iceland where she spent seven happy years. She later cared for the sick in St. Xavier's for many years and contributed to the Killaloe Apostolic Works Society. Above all Clare was a woman of deep faith and prayer with a particular devotion to Our Blessed Lady.

Sr. Clare will be sadly missed by her many nieces and nephews, her extended family, a wide circle of friends and by her Mercy Community.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dilis.

The Back to Education Initiative, Further Education and Training Centre, Clonroad Campus, Clonroad Business Park, Ennis; are currently recruiting for learners interested in courses in the Childcare area. This QQI Level 4 Introductory programme prepares learners for working in a crèche or other Childcare settings. Modules on the programme include Child Development and Play, Nutrition and Healthy Options and Computer Applications. This QQI Level 4 programme aims to introduce learners to the knowledge and skills required to progress to further learning in Childcare at QQI Level 5. The programme will run on Monday evenings from 6pm – 9pm & Thursday 11am – 4.30pm. Commencing on 12th January 2017. Phone: 065-6843633 or Email: Martina.crowleyhayes@lcteb.ie or Eilish.liddy@lcteb.ie

The Christmas Season can be a difficult time for people bereaved by suicide. Support and help is only a phone call away. Clare Suicide Bereavement Support Volunteers are available to help you. This is a free and confidential support service. *086 0565373/087 3698315.

Feast of the Epiphany

Church Holyday, Friday, 6th January

Vigil Mass Thursday 5th:

Cathedral: 7.30pm

Friary: 7.30pm

No Vigil Mass in St. Joseph's



Friday 6th:

The Cathedral: 7.45am, 10am & 7.30pm

Friary: 10am, 12noon & 1.05pm

St. Josephs: 8am, 11am & 7pm

Cloughleigh: 9.30am

Poor Clares: 7.45am

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 joewalshtours.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.

The organisers of the Christmas day GOAL Mile would like to thank the hundred or more families who braved the adverse weather on Christmas morning to bring the true spirit of giving to this annual family event in the Fairgreen. Collectively they generously donated €2045 that GOAL will soon distribute to distressed families in opposite corners of the globe. With gratitude and best wishes to all for 2017. Mike Ryan on behalf of the GOAL event organisers.



Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

Bliain Úr, Nua 2017

'Tús maith leath na hoibre', a deir an seanfhocal. Tá bliain úr nua thar tairseach isteach chugainn agus ag síneadh amach romhainn. Cuirimis fáilte mhór na taoide tuile roimpi agus slán go deo le brón is buairt. Gabhaimid buíochas le Dia as na laethanta geala a bhí againn i 2016.

Iarraimid ar Dhia a bheannacht a chur orainn i rith 2017 agus sinn ag gabháil buíochais leis as na grásta go léir a bhronn Sé orainn go fial sna blianta atá imithe tharainn. Is maith an rud é ag an tráth seo an bhliain atá romhainn a chur faoi choimirce na Tríonóide. Is féidir linn machnamh ar an véarsa seo a leanas:

Dia lámh liom,

Fiú san oíche dhubh - Dia Liom

Fiú i lár an cheobhráin -Dia romham

Fiú le scamaill dhorchá thar mo cheann,

Dia i gcónaí ann

Fiú ar strae ar na sléibhte -Dia liom

Fiú sa stoirm fhíochmhar -Dia romham

Fiú gan réalta le soilsiú thar mo cheann,

Dia i gcónaí ann.

(Liam Lawton aistrithe ag Clare Maloney)

According to the proverb a good start is half the work. A New Year has dawned. Let us welcome it wholeheartedly. We say goodbye to the sorrows of 2016. As we begin we thank God for all His graces during the past year. It is prudent at this time, to place the coming year under the protection of the Blessed Trinity. Let us reflect on this verse from *The Cloud's Veil* (Liam Lawton)

Even though the rain hides the stars,

Even though the mist swirls the hills,

Even when the dark clouds veil the sky,

You are by my side.

Even when the sun shall fall in sleep,

Even when at dawn the sky shall weep,

Even in the night when storms shall rise,

You are by my side. You are by my side.

A Prayer for the New Year

May we have enough happiness to keep us agreeable

Enough trials to keep us strong,

Enough sorrow to keep us human,

Enough freedom to keep us happy,

Enough failure to keep us humble

Enough success to keep us eager

Enough wealth to meet our needs,

Enough faith to banish depression,

Enough hope to look forward,

Enough love to give us comfort,

And enough determination to keep going.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

SAMARITANS

People can contact the Samaritans by phoning 116 123, email jo@samaritans.org, write to Pat or Mary, Samaritans, Sunville, Kilrush Road.

Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King who rules heaven and earth for ever.

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 Book of Numbers

Nb 6:22-27

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Say this to Aaron and his sons: "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord let his face shine on you be gracious to you.

May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace."

This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: O God, be gracious and bless us.

God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us.

So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help.

R

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice.

With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. R

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

May God still give us his blessing til the ends of the earth revere him.

R

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

Gal 4:4-7

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba, Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

At various times in the past

and in various different ways,

God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;

but in our own time, the last days,

he has spoken to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke. Lk 2:16-21

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the 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.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

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

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.