



Ennis Parish News

Confessions in Cathedral every Saturday:
12 to 1pm & also before and after 6.30pm Mass

Mass Times

Sundays:

Cathedral:- Sat. Vigil: 6.30 p.m.; Sunday: 9, 10.30am & 12 noon
Mass in Polish each Sunday at 3pm
St. Joseph's:- Sat. Vigil: 7.00 p.m.; Sunday: 8, 10, 11.30 a.m.
Cloughleigh Church:- 9.30, 11 a.m.
Friary:- Sat. Vigil: 7.30 p.m.; Sunday: 9.30, 10.30, 12.00 noon
Poor Clare Monastery:- 7.45 a.m.

Weekdays:

Cathedral: Mon. – Fri: 8.00, 10 & 7.30 p.m.; 10am on Saturday
St. Joseph's:- Monday – Saturday: 11 a.m.
Cloughleigh Church:- Monday – Friday: 9.30 a.m.
Friary:- Daily: 10 a.m. & 1.05pm; 10 a.m. on Saturday
Poor Clare Monastery:- Daily at 7.45 a.m.

Phone Numbers:

Cathedral:- 6824043; Email: info@ennisparish.com
St. Joseph's:- 6822166; Cloughleigh: 6840715;
Friary: 6828751
Ennis Parish Web Site at: <http://www.ennisparish.com>

The Baptism of The Lord (Year C)

10th January, 2010

"I Have Called You by Name"

A group of ministers were gathered together for a conference. After the meeting three of them gathered for lunch and were talking about the problems in their churches. By some unexplained coincidence all three had experienced trouble with pigeons in the bell-tower. One reported that he had tried shooting them but that had only succeeded in getting a lot of holes in the ceiling. One captured them in a trap and released them fifty miles away only to have them return within a few days. The third minister was grinning from ear to ear. He smugly replied that he had experienced a terrible problem with pigeons earlier that year but now there weren't any. "What did you do", his amazed friends asked? "Well I just baptized and confirmed the whole lot of them and I haven't seen any of them since".

Today is *Baptism of Jesus* Sunday, the day on which we remember Jesus' baptism in the Jordan. As we celebrate this Sunday in the church, we must remember that baptism was not invented by either the early church or John the Baptizer. John was merely participating in a long tradition of offering the cleansing waters to baptism to anyone who had turned around, or repented, and sought to live a new life.

Baptism was also closely related to the various cleansing rituals required of faithful Jews on a regular basis. Indeed this cleansing, on a symbolic level, is still very much a part of Christian baptism. As time progressed, within the community which came to call itself the church, baptism became the sign of their

incorporation into the 'body of Christ' and thus into the family of God's people.

God says, *"I have called you by name, you are mine! When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you... you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you."*



Lord, you told Jesus he was your beloved Child. You have told us the same. Let the Spirit of passion and of peace descend again on us, renew us, remove the wrapper of our love so we may share now and eternally the salvation you have given us in Christ Jesus. Make me a servant. Amen.

Hospital & Sick Calls

This week: 10th January, 2010

Priest on Duty:

Contact Parish Office ☎065 68 24043

Wednesday Duty:

Fr. Martin Blake ☎065 68 24043

Blessing of Babies

All babies baptised in Ennis during 2009 and their families are invited to a Special Blessing for their first year of life, in the Cathedral on this Sunday, January 10th, 2010 at 2pm. As these little babies begin to crawl, walk and teethe, we want to ask God's Blessing on their infant years. *Baptismal Team members are most welcome.*



There is a welcome to all babies & young children.

Rescheduled - Bridge Charity Night

in aid of Irish Wheelchair Association, by Fergus Bridge Club. **This now takes place** in The Woodstock Hotel, Shanaway Rd on Thursday Jan 21 at 7.30pm. All are welcome.



Medugorje Prayer Meeting Mon Jan 11th at 8pm, Clarecastle Daycare Centre.



AGM of Clare Archaeological and Historical Society on Tue, 12th Jan at 7pm in Clare Museum. It will be followed by the next instalment of the joint lecture series between Clare and Shannon Archaeological and Historical societies, on The Knights Templar by Derry McGrath, starting at 8.30 in the same venue. Members and non-members welcome. Queries Ph. 087-9165916.

Clare Hospice at Cahercalla:

Weekly Draw Results - Year 9

Week 29 - Tue, January 5th; 1st

Prize €635: Brian Bormann,

O'Callaghans Mill; 2nd Prize €127: Patricia Moroney, Microsemi Ireland, Gort Rd.

**Beannacht**

("Blessing")

On the day when the weight deadens on your shoulders and you stumble, may the clay dance to balance you.

And when your eyes freeze behind the grey window and the ghost of loss gets in to you, may a flock of colours, indigo, red, green, and azure blue come to awaken in you a meadow of delight.

When the canvas frays in the currach of thought and a stain of ocean blackens beneath you, may there come across the waters a path of yellow moonlight to bring you safely home.

May the nourishment of the earth be yours, may the clarity of light be yours, may the fluency of the ocean be yours, may the protection of the ancestors be yours.

And so may a slow wind work these words of love around you, an invisible cloak to mind your life.

John O'Donohue
- Echoes of Memory

Lady's gold dress watch found outside Clare VEC Offices, Station Rd. Call 0656828107 & dial 0 for further details.

Migrant Sunday

17th January 2010

Next Sunday is designated Migrant Sunday. As a Christian Community we again welcome our brothers and sisters who have joined our community from whatever part of the world.



"In Jesus God came seeking hospitality... How can the baptised claim to welcome Christ if they close the door to the stranger who comes knocking." *Pope John Paul II*

Toonagh Walk for Special Olympics St. Clare's School Ennis due to take place Sun. 10th Jan. 2010 has been postponed, and will now take place Sun. 24th Jan at 12.30pm Starting and finishing at Toonagh Hall. Further information from Breda 065-6837380 or 0877900647.



Slevin School of Irish Dancing will reopen this week. Beginners welcome. Details of times and venues contact: Niamh Sleving TCRG 086 8481348/6821346

Variety Show, Cois Na h-Abhna, Sunday 17th January 2010 at 4pm Proceeds to: Share A Dream Foundation; Clare Haven; Clare Care; Performances by Health Service Executive Staff, Families, Friends and Surprise Guests; Raffle; Cupán Tae. Tickets: €10 Adult; €5 Children & €20 Family Available from Various Health Services Dept.; Box Office, Cois na hAbhna.



Volunteers Needed for Clare Branch of Diabetes Federation of Ireland, bag packing

Fundraiser from Thursday 14th January to Saturday 16th January. Contact 087 6415747 or email clarebranchdfi@gmail.com

Newly Baptised

We welcomed the following into the Christian Community through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Olimpia Sofia Chorostecki; Nikolas Malar; Anna Laurie Daly; Sadhbh Keeley; Jack Stephen Slattery;

Musicians Wanted; if you play music and are interested in playing in Church, we would love to hear from you for Cathedral Folk Group. Contact Fr. Fergal at 6824043.



Ennis Old Folks resumes Monday at 8.30pm in Community Centre. All are welcome.

Roslevan School of Theatre, Speech and Drama now enrolling



for Spring Term 2010. Very reasonable rates. Phone 6821452 for details or log on to our website at www.webs.com/dhalamh. Check us out!

Bingo in Community Centre on Sunday night at 8.30pm. All welcome.



SAMARITANS

Can be contacted by phone 6829777 or 185060 90 90.



St. Joseph's

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat 9th Jan 7pm: Vicky Keane, Corrovorrin Drive.
 Sun 10am: Bridie Purtill, 47 Marian Ave. 1st Anniv
 11.30am: Mary Brogan, College Green.
 Tue 11am: John & Maureen Arthur, Tulla Road.
 Fri 11am: Anthony Dormer, 36 Rosanoir.
 Sat 11am: Michael Kenny, Gort Rd.
 7pm: Paddy Joe Moloney, 3 Glenina.
 Sun 17th Jan 10am John Downes, Marian Avenue.
 11.30am Kalen & Catherine O'Brien, McNamara Pk.



A Service of Readings & Communion will be held in St. Joseph's Church Monday to Friday at 8am commencing on Monday 11th January.

Taizé: Prayers using the songs of Taizé next Thursday 14th January at 8pm in St Joseph's Church. All welcome.



Cloughleigh



Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 9.30am: Paschal Molloy, 14 Cloughleigh. 1st Anniv
 11am: Joe Crosse, Ennistymon.

A.G.M. of National Parents Council - Primary - Clare Branch, to be held in the Auburn Lodge Hotel, Ennis, on Jan. 13th 2010, at 8.30pm

Yoga with Antoinette; starting Monday 18th in Clonroad Business Park; Tues 19th, Thurs 21st, Fri 22nd Woodstock Hotel; Thurs 21st Ennis Leisure Centre. Further details from Antoinette at 086 3100827



Parish Readers

Missals for 2010 available to all Parish Readers in Sacristy/Parish Office.



St. Hilary was born in Poitiers, France around 315. After becoming a Christian, he was elected Bishop of Poitiers in what is now France, by the laity and clergy. He was already married with one daughter named Apra. His feast day falls on January 14th.

Prayer:

Saint Hilary of Poitiers, instead of being discouraged by your exile, you used your time to study and write. Help us to bring good out of suffering and isolation in our own lives and see adversity as an opportunity to learn about or share our faith.



Amen

Clare Money Advice & Budgeting Service: Would you like to manage your money better? Finding it hard meeting loan repayments or making ends meet, MABS can help you manage your debts and plan a budget. This is a Free, Independent & Confidential Service. Phone 6841991 for an appointment in your area.



Marriages



Kathryn Durack, Clonroadmore & Niall Considine, Liscannor.
 Alan Maguire, Carraroe, Sligo & Fiona Brennan, Morrissey Ave.
 Helen Meere, "Four Winds", Limerick Rd & David O'Loughlin, Tubber, Co. Clare.
 Nuala Tuttle, Connolly & Patrick McGrath, Ard na Gaoithe, Circular Road.
May they be united in love forever.

Clarecare Prism Parent Support Programme is a 12 week peer support programme for single parents and step-parents who are dealing with unresolved grief due to loss through Death, Desertion, Separation or Divorce. Dates: 17th Feb-12 May (Wednesdays only)
 At Clarecare, Harmony Row. Time: 7-9 Min 8 persons
 Cost €2 per night. **Introductory night on 10th Feb 2010. If you would like to participate in this programme & receive application forms or find out more, call Gina Norris at 065 6828178 or mobile 086 8348699 or email: gnorris@clarecare.ie**



Peace - - -

It does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work.
 It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart.

Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

6.30pm Kitty Casey, O'Connell Sq. 1st Anniv.
 Sun.:9am Nancy Roche, Quin.
 Paul Ewohunwa Bonisehi, 1A Ard Caoin & Africa
 Nora Malone, late Parnell St.
 John (Sonny) Hehir, Gortmore.
 Christina Malone, 6 Dalcassian Drive.
 Stephen Cunningham, Labasheeda.
 Mary Rowland, (nee Kelly) 16 Dalcassian Ave.
 Peter Skeritt, 112 Hermitage.
 10.30am Patrick McMahon, Carmody St. 1st Anniv.
 12noon Mary Catherine Sheehan, USA & Clare Rd MM
 Mon.:8am Tom Harnett, Tralee, Kerry.
 10am Andrew McShea, 2 Showgrounds View.
 7.30pm Sean & Sis O'Loughlin, Ennis & Alaska.
 Tues.:8am Brian Flynn, Blackrock Road, Cork.
 10am Bartholomew Torpey, Moyasta & London.
 7.30pm Colm Slattery, Moyriesk & 28 Golflinks Rd.
 Wed.:8am Andrew Cunningham, Donegal & Florida.
 10am Lucy Bradley, Showgrounds Rd.
 7.30pm Alice Brennan, late 62 O'Connell St.
 Thurs.:8am Imelda & Brendan Ryan, 101 Hermitage.
 10am Marian O'Neill Ball, Hermitage.
 7.30pm Christina Griffin, 60 Parnell St.
 Fri.:8am Dec'd members Griffin Family, Feakle.
 10am Bridget Crosse-Kinnane, Headford, Galway & Ennistymon.
 7.30pm Tony Shannon, 94 Clancy Park 1st Anniv.
 Sat 10am Paulette Cosgrove, 33 Castlewood Park.
 James Sheedy, 17 Greendale.
 2pm Tony Woods, Rockmount Grove, Ballybeg. MM
 6.30pm Liam Murray, 24 Francis St. 1st Anniv.
 Sun.:9am Gilian Brennan & Mary Theresa Heaslip, Considine Rd., & Knocktopher, Co. Kilkenny.
 Catherine & Patrick Murphy, Ballybeg.
 Martin Staunton & Marguerite Hastings, Dublin.
 10.30am Bobby O'Rourke, 6 Dalcassian Ave. MM
 12noon John O'Donoghue, Old Military Barrack & St. Michael's Villas. 1st Anniv.

Roster for Cathedral: Sunday 17th January, 2010

Readers: Group 5
 Eucharistic Ministers Weekday: Group 3
 Eucharistic Ministers Sunday: Group 3



Rest in Peace



Sean Lowe, 1 McHugh Villas, Ennis;
 Theresa (Tessie) Hickey, TOSF Order of St. Francis, Claremount, Clarecastle & late of Laureen, Ennis; **Cardinal Cathal B. Daly;**
John Galvin, Inagh, brother of Jimmy Galvin, St. Joseph's Hospital; **Brigid (Bridie) Mulhall (nee Cropera),** London and Turnpike; Tomsie Burke, Miltown Malbay brother of John, Circular Rd.; **James Curley,** Tralee, son of Paul Curley formerly Showgrounds Road and Clarecastle.



Unwanted Christmas Gifts for CUAN



If you receive a Christmas gift that you have no need for - Why not donate it to Cuan an Chláir Christmas Gifts Appeal?

There will be a sale of the unwanted gifts in the Old Ground Hotel on this Sunday 10th January, from 12noon to 4pm.



Today's Scripture Readings



With Inclusive Language

First Reading: Is 40:1-5.9-11 A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

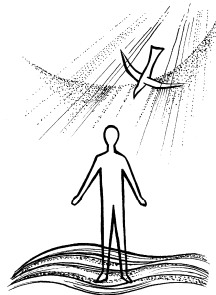
'Console my people, console them,'
says your God.
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her
that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
let every cliff become plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the lord shall be revealed
and all humankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
'Here is your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.



The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response:

Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are.

Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent.

R.

Above the rains you build your dwellings.
You make the clouds your chariot,
you walk on the wings of the wind,
you make the winds your messengers
and flashing fire your servants.

R.

How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
There is the sea, vast and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting,
living things great and small.

R.

Second Reading: Tt 2:11-14; 3:4-7 A reading from the letter of St. Paul to Titus.

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made
salvation possible for the whole human race and taught
us that what we have to do is to give up everything that
does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we
must be self restrained and live good and religious lives
here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope
for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the
glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He
sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all
wickedness and to purify a people so that we could be his
very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Someone is coming, said John,
someone greater than I.*

*He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit
and with fire.*

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16.21-22 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke..

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people,
who were beginning to think that John might be the
Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you
with water, but someone is coming, someone who is
more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the
strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy
Spirit and with fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while
Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven
opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily
shape, like a dove, And a voice came from heaven, 'You
are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord

