



# 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, 11, 12.15pm  
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: 8.00, 10, 7.30 p.m. Mon. – Fri.; 10, 11 a.m. on Saturday

St. Joseph's:- 8.00, 11 a.m. Mon. – Fri.; 11 a.m. on Saturday

Cloughleigh Church:- 9.30 a.m. Mon. – Fri.

Friary:- 10 a.m., 1.05pm daily; 10 a.m. on Saturday

Poor Clare Monastery:- 7.45 a.m. daily

### Phone Numbers:

Cathedral:- 6824043; Email: cathedralennis@eircom.net

St. Joseph's:- 6822166; Cloughleigh: 6840715;

Friary: 6828751

Ennis Parish Web Site at: <http://www.ennisparish.com>

3rd Sunday of Advent (Year C)

13th December, 2009

## ***Gaudete -- Rejoice and be Glad***

Today, Gaudete Sunday invites us to rejoice and be glad for the goodness we experience in life. Despite the gloom and doom of the current economic demise, as well as the revelations in the Murphy report, we need to value the positive aspects of living. Particularly, as we approach the feast of Christmas, we could well reflect on the giftedness of family, friends, neighbours and voluntary workers.

For many, this Christmas could well be a time of sadness or setback in their living situation. However, being Christ-like enables us to be enriched by our caring for one another. We have ample evidence of the goodness that prevailed during the recent flood crisis; so many sectors of the community engaging in "help the neighbour" situation.

The question posed to John in today's Gospel "what can we do" is very relevant for each of us, considering the many options that present themselves to us. Getting our priorities in place, is

a prudent consideration, especially in the light of many distractions that challenge us.

It must be noted that the numbers of people from all walks of life, who reach out to the needy, is in fact the well-spring of spiritual growth. It can outweigh the negativity that is so prevalent in our media and culture today.

"Rejoice and be Glad" because we are a precious gift to one another. Cardinal Cushing of Boston once said "the one thing that the greed of the world cannot conquer is the generous heart".



"The pain of asking for help is more hurtful than the giving".

**Confucius.**



# What's on this week?



## Hospital & Sick Calls

This week: 13th December, 2009  
Fr. Fergal O'Neill ☎ 065 6824043  
Wednesday: 16th December  
Fr. John McGovern ☎ 086 3221210



The Irish Red Cross in Clare has been steadily working to procure materials for the families affected by the recent flooding in Clare. To date we have donated supplies delivered to us, containing bed linen, duvets, toiletries (toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo etc), some items of clothing, cleaning supplies, animal bedding and foodstuffs, and necessities for infants and small children (including toys). The local Red Cross has been working around the clock since the Saturday after the initial flooding to achieve this. We also have been securing donations through our national website [www.redcross.ie](http://www.redcross.ie) and also have a local bank account, through which we have been receiving donations at account number 13059971 at Permanent TSB.

These items that we have received will be ready for dispersing, as soon as we are advised that the people affected by the flooding are ready to return to their houses and are in need of the items collected. If any of the materials collected are needed prior to this we will arrange to deliver of them as soon as is possible.

The Red Cross in Clare accept donations of money or materials. All donations should be new and packaged and clearly labelled, so that they can be packed efficiently in our warehouses. Any cash may be forwarded to our local account. Further information please call 086-832-3456. For offers of time, services, equipment etc: [www.offersofhelp.com](http://www.offersofhelp.com)

**Cuan An Chláir** has launched its 'Donate A Brick' campaign. Bricks can be purchased for just €10 each on line by logging on to [www.cuan.ie](http://www.cuan.ie) and at Ennis Parish Office.

The 'Donate A Brick' campaign gives people the opportunity to donate an affordable amount of money, that will help make a big difference to the quality of older people's lives in Ennis. Businesses or individuals might consider donating a brick in lieu of a Christmas gift or card this year. The donor can enrol the recipient in the "Remembrance Book" which will be permanently displayed at the new Cuan An Chláir day care facility".

**Wanted for Car Boot Sale in aid of Cuan an Chlhair:** good quality clothes, delph, bric-a-brack. Contact Paul at Parish Office 6824043.

**Medugorje Prayer Meeting Monday 14th @ 8pm** in Clarecastle Daycare Centre.



## Ennis Parish Carol Service



The Annual Advent Ecumenical Service takes place in Ennis Cathedral at 8pm on this Sunday evening December 13th.

Combined choirs of Doora/Barefield, Quin/Clooney, Clarecastle/Ballyea, Ennis Cathedral,

St. Josephs The Friary, St. Columba's & The Ennis Brass Band, will lead us in the singing of the carols.

**Parish Radio:** The Parish Radio broadcast was off the air last week due to fault. All the Liturgies from the Cathedral are once again broadcast. Apologies for inconvenience.



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

## The Sacrament Of Reconciliation

### Penitential Services:

**Cathedral:**  
Monday 21st December at 7.30pm.  
**Friary:**  
Friday 18th December 1.05pm.  
Tuesday 22nd December 10.30am.



**Alzheimer Society Annual Burren Walk** on Sun. 3rd Jan 2010, Starting at O'Donoghue's Pub, Fanore, at 12:30 pm. Sponsorship cards from Unit 17 Clonroad Business Park, Ennis. ☎065 6868621 or 065 6845835'

### Newly Baptised



We welcome into our Christian Community: **Shane Patrick Horgan; Ava Margaret Clohessy; John Paul Delaney.**

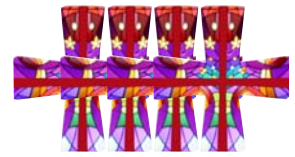


**Soccer for Cahercalla:** At Lees Road Sports Complex on Dec. 19th from 10am to 2pm. Super Soccer Blitz & fun day for boys & girls; aged 6-11; *The Clare Schoolboy & Schoolgirl soccer community supporting The Clare Hospice, Cahercalla. Please come & support a great cause.*

**Clare Hospice at Cahercalla Year 9 Week** 25. Tue, 8th 1st Prize €635: Christina Lynch, Newpark. 2nd Prize €127: Tom Glody, Shannon.

Ennis Parish Development Fund for Sunday 6th December €8,554.00  
Flood Relief Collection  
Total to date: €5,065.00

## Mass With a Difference



Next Sunday 20th December at 6.30pm in St. Joseph's Church.

Come along and celebrate your Christian faith in a lively Mass - joined by the fresh and upbeat **Ennis Gospel Choir**. All ages welcome. You are *especially* welcome if you haven't been to Church for a while.

**Citizens Information Centre Ennis** Will hold An Information Session on The **Nursing Homes Support Scheme Act, 2009**, also 'known as Fair Deal' on Tuesday 15th Dec in the Temple Gate Hotel at 8pm. Speaker Marie Keane Solicitor is a member of the Family Law Civil & Legal Aid Committee of the Law Society of Ireland and has contributed to a number of reports and publications undertaken by the Committee She has extensive experience in the area of Family Law and the emerging area of Mental Health Law.

# Advent

### In Ennis Cathedral:

- ◆ Morning Prayer of the Church each morning during Advent at 9.45am
- ◆ Evening Prayer/Carol Service with Cathedral Choir on this evening at 8pm.
- ◆ Gospel Reflections for Sundays Cathedral House at 8pm, each Thursday.
- ◆ Book of Expression following on from the Ryan report a book of expression is available in the Cathedral for people to write their feelings, reactions and hopes.

**Advent Giving Tree:** Please place under the tree any of the following and help organisations who work with our town's needy this Advent:

- Tea, coffee, sugar, tayto, selection boxes, minerals, biscuits, soup, jam, baked beans, peas, cornflakes, custard, crackers, shampoo, toilet rolls, tinned fruit.

**Young People & Parish:** We thank the young people and their teachers from the various second level schools in the Parish for their involvement in our Advent Mass at 12.15 pm in Cathedral. This week, the students from Rice College have prepared the music & Liturgy.

### Advent Talks Wednesdays at 7.30

Dominican Biblical Institute, Cecil St Upper, Limerick; **December 16th:** Until the Desert becomes a fruitful field by Jessie Rogers.



## St. Joseph's

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat 7pm: Niall Connolly, Gort Rd.  
 Sun 8am: Paul O'Shea, Tulla Road.  
 10am: Sean O'Connell, The Crescent.  
 11.30: James O'Keefe, Lifford Road.  
 Mon 11am: Bridget Orchard, Brookville & John McMahon, Dysart.  
 Tue 11am: Br. Senan, Rockwell College & 10 Mkt St. MM  
 7.30: Gaelscoil Mhichil Ciosog Carol Service.  
 Wed 11am: Delia & Jim Collins, Ard na Greine.  
 Fri 11am: Donal O'Brien, Turnpike Rd.  
 7pm: St. Joseph's Carol Service.  
 Sat 11am: Rosaleen Spooner, Clonroad Mews.  
 7pm: Sonny Murray, 36 St. Flannan's Tce (MM)  
 Sun 20th 8am: John, Bridget & Peig Crowley, Coolmeen.  
 10am: Jimmy Casey, Gort Rd.  
 11.30am: John O'Connor, 32 Marian Ave.



### Presbytery, Kincora Park

Repair work and maintenance is being carried out at Kincora Park Presbytery. The work includes rewiring, remedial work to roof and porch, painting and decorating. It is anticipated to have the work completed for early New Year.

Padre Pio Mass in St. Joseph's Church takes place on Wednesday 16th December @ 7.30pm. All welcome.



## Cloughleigh

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 9.30am: Louis Galvin, & son Dr. Tom Galvin, Cloughleigh Rd.  
 11am: Paddy & Bunny Tuohy, Old Mill Street.  
 Sun 20th 9.30am: Mgt & Joseph Clohessy, Cree.  
 11am: Thomas & Mary Chambers & deceased family members, Einagh, Kilrush



Scoil Chríost Rí, Cloughleigh will hold their annual Christmas Carol Service in Cloughleigh Church on Monday, December 21st at 7.30 pm. The children will sing a selection of their favourite carols. Come help us celebrate the Christmas season. Everyone welcome.

### People of the Year



#### 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 who 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 some information about the person being nominated and a brief outline of the reasons for the nomination.  
 Closing date 31st December 2009.



## Friary News

A Basket Collection will be held in The Friary for the Heating Fund on this weekend Sat/Sunday 12th/13th Dec.

### St. Flannan



Lived in the 7th century & was the son of a king of Thomond. He entered Molua's monastery at Killaloe & became abbot there. He is remembered as a great preacher.  
 Feast day Friday 18th Dec.

### Christmas Gifts

Support Your Local Fundraisers!

The Ennis Gospel Choir present their show "Gospel at the Movies" on 22nd/23rd Jan. in GLOR. Tickets €18 - 065-6843103, [www.glor.ie](http://www.glor.ie)

Holy Family Senior School proudly presents *Hansel and Gretel*, A Christmas Musical, Dec 15th & 16th @ 8pm in The Holy Family School Hall. Tickets on the door - Adults €8; Students/OAPs €5; Family Ticket (up to 5 people) €25

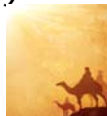
Lismorahaun Singers 10th Anniversary Christmas Concert in aid of Special Olympics; Friary Church on Wed. Dec. 16th @ 8pm. Tickets: €15 or €50 for family (2 adults & 2 children) from Scéal Eile or at door.

"The Stocking Filler Fair", at the Old Ground Hotel, Thurs. Dec. 17th from 5.30pm-8.30pm. In aid of Building of Hope Project - Adm €2.

'Faith, Hope and Love' - A CD of Church Music by Maretta O'Hehir. Available at Veritas, Ennis.

### Flood Crisis Concert

'Mystery of Christmas'



#### Ennis Cathedral

Friday 18th December 7.30pm

Kate Purcell & Guests

an uplifting night of song, music and reflection.  
 Tickets: €15 from Clare FM & on the night.

## Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

6.30pm Eileen O'Donovan, Turnpike 1st Anniv, Jack O'Donovan & his sister Nellie Ryan.  
 Sun.:9am Donal Cahill, Roslevan.  
 10am Don Farrell, 51 Cahercalla Estate. Liam Slattery, 25 St Michaels Villas. Mary Monks, 24 Glassan, Lahinch Rd. Desmond Guerin, 42 St Michaels Villas. Patsy Shannahan, 23 St Flannans Terrace.  
 11am Mass for the Visually Impaired.  
 12.15pm Eva Hogan 1st Anniv & Patrick Hogan, Ard na Greine.  
 Mon:8am Special Intention.  
 10am Frank Fox, 8 Cornmarket St.  
 7.30pm John & Bridget Daly, Parnell St. & Gallow's Hill  
 Tues.:8am Patrick & Mary Ellen McInerney, Doora.  
 10am Joe & Mary Nevin, Loughville.  
 7.30pm Peggy Corry, Loughville.  
 Wed.:8am Michael O'Brien, Ballybeg.  
 10am Neylon Family, Parnell St.  
 7.30pm Donal O'Brien, 84 Turnpike Rd.  
 Thurs.:8am Brian Kelly, Senior & Jnr., Limerick Rd.  
 10am Ricky Loughnane, Abbeyfeale & Ennis  
 7.30pm Frank Kears, 17 Connolly Villas.  
 Fri.:8am Mass for the People  
 10am P.K. Ryan, Gallow's Hill.  
 6.30pm Helen Fitzgerald (nee Casey), Parnell St. 1st Anniv.  
 Sat.:10am Vivian Lee, 30 Gallow's Hill.  
 11am Paddy & Mary Shanahan, 75 St. Michael's Villas  
 6.30pm Olive Duggan, McHugh's Villas. MM  
 Sun.:9am Jim Whymys, Cusack Rd.  
 10am Frances McInerney, 12 Park Ave., Clonroad Marie O'Loughlin, 31 Castlewood Pk. Maisie Riorden, 44 Castlewood Pk. Quinn Family, 15 St. Michaels Villas Jim Harnett, Rockmount. Peggy Corry, Loughville.  
 11am Maureen Hanrahan, 'Garyard', Cusack Rd. MM  
 12.15pm Nicholas Moloney, Ballycoree, Barefield. MM

### Roster for Cathedral:

Sunday, 20th December, 2009


Readers: Group 6

Eucharistic Ministers Weekday: Group 4

Eucharistic Ministers Sunday: Group 2



### Rest in Peace

 Anne (Una) McNamara, 4A Cooper's Place & Cullinagh, Crusheen;

Christian Life Sodality: Members will meet in The Christian Brothers' Monastery for Mass & Meeting @ 8pm on Tue. Dec. 15th. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Clarecastle G.A.A. Club presents Ireland's Young Tenors & Dean Power; In St. Peter and Paul Church, Clarecastle at 8.15 on Dec 19; tickets €20 at local shops or John at 086 8843751/ Mary at 087 2435025.

### St Joseph's Hospital Annual

Carol Service St Joseph's Church on Fri 18th Dec. at 7pm. All are most welcome to come along, join in the singing & get into the Christmas spirit.



Old Folk Christmas Get-Together on Monday December 14th @ 8pm in Community Centre.



# Today's Scripture Readings

## With Inclusive Text



### First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-18

#### A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,  
Israel, shout aloud!  
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,  
daughter of Jerusalem!  
The Lord has repealed your sentence;  
he has driven your enemies away.  
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;  
you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to  
Jerusalem;  
Zion, have no fear,  
do not let your hands fall limp.  
The Lord your God is in your midst,  
a victorious warrior.  
The Lord will exult with joy over you,  
he will renew you by his love;  
The Lord will dance with shouts of joy for you  
As on a day of festival.

#### The word of the Lord



### Responsorial Psalm

#### Response: .

*Sing and shout for joy  
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel*

Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
God became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water  
From the wells of salvation. **R**

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of His name. **R**

Sing a psalm to the Lord  
For He has done glorious deeds,  
Make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
For great in your midst  
is the Holy One of Israel. **R**

### Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

#### A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

#### 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!*

#### Gospel

Luke 3:10-18

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the person who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

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 fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

#### The Gospel of the Lord

