



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: info@ennisparish.com

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

Friary: 6828751

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

Feast of The Holy Family (Year C) 27th December, 2009.

The New Family of Jesus

Many people would think of the Holy Family as a happy peaceful family, where nothing ever went wrong. Not so.

Like every family before or since, Joseph and Mary had their problems. Remember how they searched for a place in which Mary could give birth to her child, Jesus. Then came their hazardous journey to Egypt to escape Herod. They were refugees in a foreign land.

Jesus was only twelve years when He went missing for three days. How did Joseph and Mary feel then? When they found Him, they must have been puzzled by His explanation – that He was about His Father's business.

His father's business??

As of now, we are the new family of Jesus – His sisters and brothers. He calls on us to be His co-workers in building a new creation, a better world for everybody. We might well ask ourselves what contribution are we making.

Have we stories of goodness and generosity, of life and love to tell?

The feast of the Holy Family is a reminder to us of what Christmas is all about. It is about family – where we first learned about love, and where we experience God's love for us through our parents, our sisters and our brothers.



Pope Benedict XVI: **"The family is a unique institution in God's plan and the church cannot fail to proclaim and promote its fundamental importance, so that it can live out its vocation with a constant sense of responsibility and joy"**



*Gúim sonas agus só oraibh um Nollaig
agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise dhíbh*



Hospital & Sick Calls

This week: 27th December, 2009
Priest on Duty: Please contact -
Parish Office: 065 6824043 or
Parish Website: www.ennisparish.com

Email from Fr. John....

Hola as I depart Lima. I have completed term in language school so await the real practical work next in my new parish. My thoughts as I begin to journey east are that there are not many signs or symbols to say that it is Christmas here i.e. little commercialism. My weekends in the parishes have been a learning and blessing. I love the way at all masses the 'appreciation of water' especially when sprinkled unsparingly upon all in Church. I had to be shown how to do it properly! My time here already has been a privilege and blessing. I so look forward to starting in new parish Monte Sinai, on the outskirts of Guayaquil a relatively small city here (4 million). I await to join Fr. Colm Hogan in March to continue work with him but he and parishioners will need a lot of patience waiting for the Spanish sentences to roll out of me!



I also look forward to meeting many of you at Christmas. After Christmas I will travel with the 200 volunteers to Mombassa for the Building of Hope where I will spend the 40 days working and hopefully learning much needed building skills for mission in Ecuador.

I am conscious of many in Ennis Parish who have been so affected by recent floods. You are in my thoughts and prayers. I ask you to remember those on this side of the world who see no Christmas joy because of poverty. But I so admire their hope, enthusiasm and care for family. Until we meet:

Les desea una Feliz Navidad y un prospero no Nuevo
 ...amigo, J.

Fundraising Walk for Special Olympics St. Clare's School, Ennis



will take place on Sun. 10th Jan. @ 12.30pm sharp. Starting and finishing at Toonagh Hall 2mls; 3mls; or 6.5mls, walks. Refreshments served after walk. Please come and support. Further information from Breda ☎ 6837380 or 0877900647.

Music for Missionvale... Seamus, Brendan Begley & Family; Kate Purcell & a Host of Musical Friends will hold The Annual Musical Night in Purcell's, Ruan on Sunday 3rd January at 9pm. Hot Food Served; Come Along, It promises to be a great night proceeds to St. Ethel Normoyle Missionvale.

New Year's Eve

**Pray out the Old
Pray in the New'**



Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration at the Cathedral on Thursday 31st December from 11.30pm to 12.15am.

Senior Help Line

Do you need someone to talk to? Senior Help Line is a confidential listening service for older people by older people for the price of a local call anywhere in Ireland, LoCall 1850 440 444. Senior Help Line is open every day from 10 am till 4 pm and 7 pm till 10 pm, 365 days a year. Older people call us for many reasons. They may feel lonely, isolated or have family or health worries. A small proportion may fear or be experiencing elder abuse, or are depressed and feel they don't have the strength to carry on. Senior Help Line's trained older volunteers offer a friendly, listening and non-judgmental ear to all callers. So don't be alone with your problem. Lifting the phone lessens the loneliness. We will be waiting for your call.

LoCall:
1850 440 444



One Solitary Life

He was born in an obscure village
 The child of a peasant woman
 He grew up in another obscure village
 Where he worked in a carpenter shop
 Until he was thirty
 He never wrote a book
 He never held an office
 He never went to college
 He never visited a big city
 He never travelled more than two hundred miles
 From the place where he was born
 He did none of the things
 Usually associated with greatness
 He had no credentials but himself
 He was only thirty three
 His friends ran away
 One of them denied him
 He was turned over to his enemies
 And went through the mockery of a trial
 He was nailed to a cross between two thieves
 While dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing
 The only property he had on earth
 When he was dead
 He was laid in a borrowed grave
 Through the pity of a friend
 Nineteen centuries have come and gone
 And today Jesus is the central figure of the human race
 And the leader of mankind's progress
 All the armies that have ever marched
 All the navies that have ever sailed
 All the parliaments that have ever sat
 All the kings that ever reigned put together
 Have not affected the life of mankind on earth
 As powerfully as that one solitary life

Dr. James Allan Francis



Flood Relief

Clare Flood Victims benefit dance (in association with St Vincent de Paul) in Cois na hAbhna on Monday 28th December at 9.30pm. Music by Micheál Sexton. Support would be greatly appreciated. Tickets available at Cois na hAbhna, Country Kitchen and St Vincent de Paul shop or on the night.

Bushypark Addiction Treatment Centre, Ennis:

recognise that this is a difficult time for people with addiction issues. We support people with alcohol, drug (illegal and prescribed) and gambling problems to take back control of their own lives. If you, or a family member or someone you care about needs assistance please call us in confidence at 065-6840944 or get more information at www.bushypark.ie



Newsletter items to Parish Office ☎ 065-6824043 Fax 065-6842541 or email: info@ennisparish.com .

Ennis Parish Development Fund for Sunday 20th December, €9,392.00

New Mass Times for Ennis Parish
From and including Sunday 3rd January, 2010

Ennis Cathedral

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30pm.

Sunday Morning: 9am; 10.30am; 12noon.

Monday to Friday: 8am; 10am; 7.30pm.

Saturday: 10am only.

St. Joseph's Church

Saturday: Vigil Mass 7.00pm

Sunday morning: 8am; 10am & 11.30am

Monday to Saturday: 11am only.

It is proposed to have a **Service of Readings & Communion** in St. Joseph's Church each weekday at 8am, beginning the second week in January. If you would like to volunteer to assist contact: Maeve McMahon ☎ 6821847 or drop into Sacristy.

Christ the King, Cloughleigh

Sunday: 9.30am & 11am

Monday to Friday: 9.30am

St. Joseph's



Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat 26 Dec 7pm: Patrick Seery, Tulla Road.

Sun 8am: Andrew O'Shea, Tulla Road.

10am: Bill Hanrahan, Ashfield Park.

11.30am: Clare & Sean McGrath, Lifford Road.

Mon 11am: Michael McGuane, 14 Corrovarrin Dr.

Tue 11am: Maureen Shanahan, 25 St. Senan's Rd.

Wed 11am: Brian, Gallagher, Tulla Rd.

Thurs 11am: Margo & Frank Mulqueenn, Highfield Pk.

Fri 11am: P.J. Garvey, Corrovarrin Green.

7.30pm: Gerry McGrath, Newpark, Roslevan.

Sat 11am: Dan Doorty, 8 Tulla Rd.

7pm: Eamon Dufy, Kincora Park.

Sun 3rd 8am: Johnnie O'Loughlin, Old Gort Rd.

10am: Frank Roughan, Fountain.

11.30: Tos O'Sullivan, New Rd.

Cloughleigh

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 27th 11am: Patrick Moroney, Woodgrove.

Wed 9.30am: Dan & Peggy, Sean & Margaret Mullins, Ennistymon

Thurs 9.30am: Bernadette Leyden, 17 Cloughleigh Rd.

Fri 9.30am: Maisie Hayes, late 34 Hermitage.

Newly Baptised

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

Kayla Bronagh Moylan.

Table Quiz in Magowna House in aid of Martin Keane Building of Hope Project on Sat 2nd Jan at 9pm. Teams of 3; cost €30; lots of spot prizes.



Friary News

Hour of Prayer for peace: Please join members of the Secular Franciscan Order on Saturday January 2nd from 4.30-5.30pm in the Poor Clare Chapel to spend a quiet hour in prayer for peace.

The next monthly meeting of the Secular Franciscan Order will take place on Wednesday February 3rd.

The National Counselling Institute of Ireland; A briefing meeting is being held in The Templegate Hotel, Ennis on January 18th 2010 at 7pm for our course 'Certificate in Counselling Skills & Practices'. Please contact 061 - 216288 or email info@ncii.ie for further details. All are welcome.

No 8am mass in the Cathedral or St Josephs this week.

Rest in Peace

John Sheehan, Ruan & formerly Cloughleigh, grandson of Kathy Downes, Marian Ave; **Mary Conlan,** Dublin, sister of Michael Conlan, Cusack Lawn.



The Bishop & Priests of the Parish thank those who subscribed so generously to their Christmas Collection. A reminder to those who were away or who forgot, that their contribution would be gratefully received today or during the coming week.

Bingo in Community Centre on Sunday night at 8.30pm.

All welcome.



First Saturday Devotions

On next Saturday, January 2nd. In honour of Our Lady of Fatima. Mass at 10am, followed by Rosary and Benediction with confessions.

Please note change of time.



Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat:6.30 Pat O'Sullivan, 3 Abbey Court

Sun.: 9am Gerry Roche, Tobertaoscairn

10am Pat Moloney, Tulla

Gerard & Ellen Hynes, late Connolly Villas.

Michael Crowe, Cree.

11am Gertrude Vaughan, Market St. **1st Anniv**

12.15pm Cormac Cannon, 56 Cahercalla Est. **1st Anniv**

Mon:12noon Michael Frawley, Cahercalla. **1st Anniv**

7.30 John & Maisie Bradley, Limerick Rd.

Tues.:12noon Nora & Ml Coughlan, Turnpike Rd.

7.30 Roger Fox, 28 Clancy Park.

Wed.: 12noon Sr. Una Doyle, Trinidad.

7.30 Ml & Mgt Fitzpatrick, 2 St. Patricks Tce.

Thurs.:12noon Bridie Connellan, 3 Cahercalla Woods

7.30 Ann Lane, 94 Hermitage

Kathleen, Mona & Peg Egan, Cooper's Place.

Fri.:12noon Tamara Kavanagh, 11 Corrovarrin Drive

7.30pm Tony Mahony, Hermitage & Clancy Park. **MM**

Sat.:10am Ann Ryan, 26 Childer's Rd.

11am Nora Daly, College View, Clonroadmore.

6.30pm Special Intention.

Sun.:9am Mary & Dan O'Keeffe, Ardlea Road

Charlie & Mary Nono, St. Clare's Close, Gallow's Hill

Thomas McMahon, Carmody St.

Michelle Malone, 10 Waterpark Heights.

Liam Madigan, 26 St. Michael's Villas.

10.30 Patrick & Frances Feeney, St. Michaels Villas.

12noon: Mass for the People.

Roster for Cathedral:

Sunday 3rd January, 2010

Readers: Group 3

Eucharistic Ministers Weekday: Group 1

Eucharistic Ministers Sunday: Group 1



from Nativity Poems by Joseph Brodsky



Imagine striking a match that night in the cave:

Use the cracks in the floor to feel the cold.

Use crockery in order to feel the hunger.

And to feel the desert - but the desert is everywhere.

Imagine striking a match in that midnight cave,
The fire, the farm beasts in outline, the farm tools and
stuff;

And imagine, as you towel your face in the towel's
folds,

The bundled up Infant, And Mary and Joseph.

Imagine the kings, the caravans' stilted procession
As they make for the cave, or rather three beams clos-
ing in

And in on the star; the creaking of loads, the clink of a
cowbell;

(but in the cerulean thickening over the Infant.

No bell and no echo of bell: He hasn't earned it yet.)

Imagine the Lord, for the first time, from darkness, and
stranded

Immensely in distance, recognising Himself in the Son
Of Man:

homeless, going out to Himself in a homeless one.



Today's Scripture Readings

With Inclusive Language



First Reading 1 Samuel 1:20-22.24-28

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel, since she said, I asked the Lord for him.

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord. There she left him, for the Lord.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: .

They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.

How lovely is Your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning,
Is yearning for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my soul ring out their joy
To God, the living God.

℟

They are happy, who dwell in Your house,
For ever singing Your praise.

They are happy, whose strength is in You;
They walk with ever growing strength.

℟

O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer,
Give ear, O God of Jacob.

Turn Your eyes, O God, our shield,
Look on the face of Your anointed.

℟

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-2.21-24

A reading from the first letter of St. John.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future
has not yet been revealed;
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like God
because we shall see God as God really is.



My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,
we need not be afraid in God's presence,
and whatever we ask God,
we shall receive,
because we keep God's commandments
and live the kind of life that God wants.
God's commandments are these:
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ
and that we love one another
as Jesus told us to do.
Whoever keeps God's commandments
lives in God and God lives in him.
We know that God lives in us
By the Spirit that God has given us.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Open our heart, O Lord,
To accept the words of your Son.*

Alleluia!



Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and all people.

The Gospel of the Lord

