



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: 7.45, 10am, 7.30 p.m. Mon – Fri.; 10, 11 a.m. on Saturday

St. Joseph's:- 7.45, 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>

Mothers' Day - 4th Sunday of lent (Year B)

22nd March, 2009

TO LOVE IS TO SHARE IN DIVINITY

The sentence that speaks strongly to me in today's readings, is in St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians which says:

“God, out of the great love with which we are loved, makes us alive with Christ and raises us up with him.We are God's work of art”

God is mystery. God is love. Whenever I am loving I share in divinity.



A mother's loving best reflects that sharing in divinity because her loving is a constant self giving. A mother makes God's love and tenderness visible. The first sound a child hears is mother's voice. It's her smile that helps to nurture and encourage a response from her child.

Her loving is unconditional in compassion and forgiveness.

She must be forever aware of the present and the now.

Her comfort zone is challenged by cries for food or for changing.

Her life is one of continual foot washing, carrying with her the towel of service,

Her prayer is the continuous action for her family, that transforms her life because love is at the centre.

Caring for family is a work of God that draws out of one an energy and responsiveness that cannot be imagined

The poet John O Donohue wrote:

“Mother formed from the depths beneath your heart

You know us from the inside out”.

There is also a self emptying in a mother's life that comes from a continual loving, without sensing a return of love, or a continual forgiving that is taken for granted. There is also a sense of self emptying when children want to leave home and a mother no longer feels needed or wanted.

As we celebrate Mother's Day let us remember our mothers living or dead and pray for them.

God of holy people Listen to our prayer

Loving God, You who gave us our mothers to be life-givers, we thank you for them. In pain and joy they gave us life, nurtured us, and imaged your loving care.

Bless all mothers with the strength of your Spirit.

Bless them today, now with good health and a happy life

Bless them with joy, love and laughter and pride in their children

Bless them with wisdom and the company of good friends

Bless our homes and may our mams and dads, brothers and sisters continue to make it a holy place



What's on this week?



Hospital & Sick Calls

This week: 22nd March, 2009

Fr. Martin Blake ☎ 065 6824043

Wednesday: 25th March

Fr. Jackie Sharpe ☎ 086 8940556



Home is a Holy Place.

Preparing for Easter - Meditation & gentle movement in St Anthony's Hall, Francis St., on Wed 25th & 1st April at 7.30pm.

The Cathedral:

Stations of the Cross: Every Friday morning prior to 10am Mass.

Gospel Reflection: Thurs March 26th & April 2nd; 8-9pm Cathedral House.

Secondary Schools' involvement with Sunday Liturgy: Rice College 22nd March; St. Flannan's College 5th April;

St. Joseph's:

Taizé Prayer: Thursday of Lent @ 8pm.

Ennis Parish Book Club meet Wed 25th May at 8pm in Cathedral House.

Book for March - Lorna Byrne's *Angels in my Hair*.



ENNIS PARISH FOOD APPEAL

St. Joseph's House, Bucharest Charity Number 14820; casafiosif@mailbox.ro

All the recent food items were gratefully received and generosity overwhelming.

We sincerely thank you for the food given and your loyal commitment to these children. Our volunteers who sorted, packed and gave much time to the project on this occasion, we also thank.

WANTED: PLANTS

Yes! Plants, preferably perennials, that can be divided up. So no matter what variety or type would you like to see your favourite plant bloom at the Cathedral this summer? If so, drop it in and it will be planted and also divided for a plant sale for charity! **Thank You. Fr. John @ 086 8152828.**

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

YOUR HOSPITAL NEEDS YOU as much as you need your hospital: Ennis County Hospital Development Committee are holding a rally to oppose the closure of services at Ennis Hospital. This may be the last chance for people to support our hospital by assembling @ **11 am Saturday morning the 28th of March at the hospital**

Newsletter items to Parish Office ☎ 065-6824043 Fax 065-6842541. or mail: cathedralennis@eircom.net Deadline is 12.00 noon on Tuesday.



Acies Ceremony

(Consecration to our Lady) for active and auxiliary members of the Legion of Mary, takes place in the Cathedral on Wednesday, 1st April after 7.30pm Mass.

All are welcome.



Ennis Flower & garden Club will meet in The West

County Hotel on Tues 24th March @ 8.15pm. Demonstration by Diane Gallagher, Dublin. Sales table this month. Flower arrangements/bric-a-brac/cakes/plants. Proceeds to local charities.

BURREN WALK in aid of Missionvale Care Centre; 12.5k, 10k or 6k sponsored walk on Sat, 4th April, at 11a.m. Meet at O'Donoghue's pub. Walk takes the Green Road spectacular scenic route. Cost €20 per person, children free. Sponsored cards available from Maura if required at: mariedempsey@gmail.com.

Money raised will go directly to Sr. Ethel Normoyle's Care Centre, who for the past 21 years, has been working among the poorest of the poor in South Africa. Your support is greatly appreciated. If you wish to make a donation you can contact www.missionvlaeireland.org. Tel: 087 6697949 (Maura).

Last Chess Tournament for this season On Sun 29th March in Knockerra Hall (near Kiltrush) from 2 - 6pm. To book your place phone or text Connie 087 9777011 or just turn up on the day at 1.30pm.

Clooney Quin ICA Guild celebrate 30 years with a Fashion Show in Quin Community Centre on Thursday 2nd April at 8pm. Part proceeds to SVP. With Martina Costelloe & models. Compere: Ciana Campbell; Wine & Cheese; Tickets €25; all major shops participating.

Grand Final of the 2009 Table Quiz series in aid of Kilmaley Voluntary housing scheme & Day Care Centre on Fri 27th March in the Kilmaley Inn @ 9pm. Teams of 3; fee €20.

Working Abroad Expo, jobs, visas, relocation services. Global opportunities in Dublin's RDS March 21st & 22nd; Cork's Silver Springs Hotel March 26th & 27th.

www.workingabroad.ie



Mulkerrin Bros, winners of the All Ireland talent final thank all in Ennis & Clare for their support.

Cuan an Chláir fundraising Committee meeting on Tuesday 24th at 8.15pm

Mass with a Difference

Come & celebrate the arrival of Spring & the many wonders that greet us each day. With the lively, joyful music of the Ennis Gospel Choir & Fr. Jerry Carey, this is a Mass with a difference!

- ◆ **St. Joseph's Church**
- ◆ **Sunday March 29th @ 6.30pm**
- ◆ **All welcome, why not bring a friend?**



Pilgrimage to Medjugorje will leave Shannon on May 23 for 1 week. Cost: €699. Booking forms from Francis Sexton at 065 7087200 after 7pm. Spiritual Director: Canon Brendan O'Donoghue.

Fatima 2009: Depart 28th May from Shannon/7 nights; €795. Spiritual Director Fr John Walsh. Kathleen Hayes at 061 368549.

Quiz on Tue March 31st @ 8.30pm in Library Bar; teams of 4 @ €30 per team. Proceeds to Clare Crusaders & Suaimhneas ASD unit @ St. Flannan's National School, Inagh.

For your Diary

- ◆ **Parish Pastoral Council** on Tuesday 24th March in Chapter Room @ 8.00pm.
- ◆ **Property & Finance Committee** meeting on Wednesday 25th March in Cathedral House.



Fleadh Nua 2009

Presents The Chieftains in Concert

Wednesday 20th May at 8pm in Cathedral. Tickets available through Glór Box Office exclusively. Limited capacity. Book your ticket to ensure your seat. Proceeds to Cuan an Chláir (Ennis Daycare Centre).



Ennis Parish Development Fund for

Sunday, 15th March, 2009

€10,431.00



St. Joseph's

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat 7pm Eric Connellan, 12 Fergus Lawn
 Sun 10am Agnes & Jack Ratcliffe, Marian Avenue
 Sun 11.30am Bridget Walsh, Drumbiggie
 Mon 11am Pappy Hayes, 22 Shannon Park
 Tues 11am Martin O Dea, Lissycasey
 Wed 11am Deceased members of Harte family, Crusheen
 Fri 11am Patrick Duggan, 21 Connolly Villas
 Sat 11am Brid McMahon, Kevin Barry Avenue
 Sat 7pm Michael Devitt, 11 St Senans Road, 1st Anniversary
 Sun 29th 10am Gerry Lane, 9 The Crescent
 Sun 29th 11.30am Harry Ballinger, Gort Rd



Taize Prayer through Lent

Each Thursday during lent think about joining us in St Joseph's Church for prayer using the songs of Taize, Reading from Scripture and quiet time for reflection. All welcome. 8pm each Thursday.



Cloughleigh

Remembered in Masses this Week:

22nd March @ 11am Mary & Patrick Quigley, Ballacarra, Kilfenora
 29th March @ 9.30am Mary Ann & Patrick & Patrick Jr. Fitzpatrick, 50 Circular Rd., Ennistymon.
 11am Rachel Walsh, 2 John Paul Ave.

Clare Branch of Irish Kidney Association invites you to their Annual Mass of Remembrance & Thanksgiving on Sun 29th March at 11am in Ennis Cathedral. Mass will be in honour of the special people whose organs were donated, so that others may live. We invite Donor families, transplant recipients & the general public.



Reflection:

As the gentle breeze of springtime warms our Winter world,
A new year begins.
 As the golden sun of morning scatters the shadows of night,
A new day begins.
 As our lord Jesus Christ reaches out to take our hand at the gate of death,
So a new life begins.

Year of Vocation



The aim of The Year of Vocation is to raise awareness of the common vocation that we all share, through baptism, as expressed through witness, love and service.

Our interview this week is with Gerry Sexton a Secondary Teacher

What is good about being a Teacher? I recently asked one of my students what was the meaning of this new word 'cool' and he answered me in all sincerity that 'cool' was everything I was not! I congratulated him on a great answer. Everybody is an expert on school and teachers. Not everybody has flown a plane or driven a train but practically everybody has been to school and has come in contact with a teacher, be that for better or worse. I hope that in my case it has been for the better.

I know that I can never change the world but if I managed to help my students to feel better about themselves and to achieve their aims in life, my life as a teacher will have been worthwhile. Long after they have forgotten what I taught them, hopefully they will remember that I made them feel good about themselves.

What's difficult on being a teacher? Teaching certainly is a challenging career these days. You have to be really patient and some days that can be difficult. Teachers are scrutinized and expected to perform better than ever before and have more administrative work and a very busy curriculum. In my school, Ennistymon CBS, I currently teach six different subjects and three of those are at Honours Leaving Certificate Level. As well as my class time I try to bring my students on retreats and outdoor activities which leaves me with very little spare time. I am also very involved with St. Joseph's Church & I am Secretary of the Banner Minor GAA Club in Ennis. Teaching should not be confined to the classroom.

Would you see teaching as a vocation? Yes, I would feel that teaching is to a certain extent a vocation. As well as imparting knowledge, teachers are now expected to take on the ills of society. How many times have we heard the catch cry 'the schools should be doing more'? Teachers are now expected to cover topics like drugs, divorce, immigration, alcohol abuse, etc, the list is endless.

Would you recommend teaching as a way of life? After 26 years in classroom, I know no other way and despite getting constantly slagged about all the free time I have off, which if you take corrections, preparation time and Extra Curricular activities into account leaves little free time, teaching is a commendable vocation.

Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat: 6.30 Joe Carmody, Meadow Court.
 Sun.: 9am James & Mary Teresa Quinlivan, Lissycasey
 10am Mass in Irish— Féile na hInse
 Ian Muir, Ennis & Kilfenora
 Peter Boland, Mullagh
 Mai Gallagher, Donegal
 Pat & Mary McGarry, Ard na Greine
 Michael Kenneally, Fergus Park
 John McMullin, 11 McNamara Park
 Paddy Armstrong, Ballyroughan.

11am Mass for the People
 12 .15pm Mass for the People
 Mon.: 7.45am Margaret Killeen, Broadford
 10am Paddy Coffey, 14 McNamara Park
 7.30pm William & Martha Costin, Hospital, Co Limerick & members McAuliffe Family.
 Tues.: 7.45am Sr. Senanus Murrhly, Mullagh
 10am Mary & Peter White & dec'd members of White & Callinan Families, Half Way House, Limerick Rd.
 7.30pm Josephine O'Grady, 39 Marian Ave. (1st Anniv)
 Wed.: 7.45am Donors Intention
 10am Patrick & Catherine Duggan, Inagh
 7.30pm Michael & Mary Kate Griffin, 60 Parnell St.
 Thurs.: 7.45am Br Niall McCarthy, OFS, Killarney
 10am Martin & Annie O'Grady, Quin
 7.30pm Nora Lynch & dec'd members Lynch Family, Dalcassian Drive, Old Drumbiggie
 Fri.: 7.45am Mass for the People
 10am Paul & Brian Hogan, Ardlea Rd.
 7.30pm Mary Murphy, 51 Childer's Rd., (1st Anniv)
 Sat.: 10am Eileen, Patrick & Kevin McNamara, Ard na Greine.
 11am Confirmation (Holy Family)
 6.30pm Beenie Fitzpatrick, Clonroadmore. (1st Anniv)
 Sun.: 9am Mary Hogan & baby Harry, Tobartaoscain
 10am Thomas & Mgt Coughlan, Clonroadbeg
 Jim Kitson, Claureen Drive
 Nancy O'Sullivan, College Road
 Elizabeth Maher, Clonroadbeg
 Tom Anderson, 10 Kilrush Rd.
 Agnes & John (Sonny) Hehir, Gortmore.
 11am Remembrance & Thanksgiving Mass for Clare Kidney Association
 12 .15pm Patrick Keane, Kilrush Rd. (1st Anniv)

Rest in Peace

Teresa Mc Namara, Larchill, mother of Patrick, Abbeyville; Patricia Casey, Woodhaven & Mary Moloney, Cahercalla Est; Jimmy McDonagh, Clonkerry, Barefield, father of Niall, Rosanore & Gearoid, Elm Park; Jackie Moylan, Ballycorruck, Ennis & Cork; Tom MacInerney, 30 The Crescent, Ennis; Cathal O'Dwyer, Lahinch & England, brother-in-law of Mary O'Dwyer, Castlewood Pk & Margaret O'Dwyer, Clonroadbeg; Margaret Scorer, Coventry, sister of James Cox, 19 Dalcassian Ave & Patrick Cox, Marian Ave.; Jane Killalea, Loughrea, mother of Vera Flynn, Beechpark; Betty McHugh, Carrigaline, Cork, sister of Denis Horgan, Tobartaoscain.



Roster for Cathedral:

Sunday, 29th March, 2009
 Readers: Group 4
 Eucharistic Ministers Weekday: Group 1
 Eucharistic Ministers Sunday: Group 3





Today's Scripture Readings



With inclusive text

First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16.19-23

A reading from the second Book of Chronicles

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his people until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke: through Jeremiah, Until this land has enjoyed its Sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep Sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all God's people, may your God be with you!

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

*O let my tongue cleave to my mouth
If I remember you not!*

By the rivers of Babylon
There we sat and wept
Remembering Zion
on the poplars that grew there
We hung our harps. **R.**

For it was there that they asked us,
Our captors, for songs.
Our oppressors for joy
Sing to us they said
One of Zions songs **R.**

O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
On alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
Let my right hand wither. **R.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10

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

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, God brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ,
God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son;

Gospel: John 3:14-21

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

They who believe in him will be condemned; But they who refuse to believe are condemned already, because they have refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world people have shown they prefer darkness to the light

because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it,

for fear his actions should be exposed; but the person who lives by the truth comes out into the light,

so that it may be plainly seen that what one does is done in God.'

The Gospel of our Lord..