

Ennis Parish Newsletter

Mass Times

Cathedral-www.ennisparish.com/webcam

106.4fm

Monday to Friday 7.40am, 11am & 7.30pm

Saturday 11am & Vigil 6.30pm

Sunday 8am, 9.30am & 11.30am

St. Joseph's-www.ennisparish.com/webcam

Monday to Friday 10.30am

Saturday 10.30am & Vigil 7pm

Sunday 10am & 11.45am

Cloughleigh-Monday to Friday 9.30am

Sunday 11am

Friary 1.05pm –Monday to Friday

10am Saturday

7.30pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 12noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Cathedral

Monday to Friday 7pm. Saturday after Vigil Mass

Friary

Tuesday to Saturday 11am to 12noon.

Baptisms

The sacrament can now be celebrated with limited numbers. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a date and time.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place Monday to Friday in the Cathedral from 5pm until 7pm

Phone Numbers:

Cathedral:- 6824043; Email: info@ennisparish.com

St. Joseph's:- 6822166; Cloughleigh:- 6797489; Friary:- 6828751

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

Second Sunday of Advent

(Year B)

6th December, 2020.

The Man Behind the Story of Father Christmas/Santa Claus



St. Nicholas was a Bishop who lived in the fourth century, in a place called Myra in Asia Minor (now called Turkey). He was a very rich man because his parents died when he was young and left him a lot of money. He was also a very kind man and had a reputation for helping the poor and giving secret gifts

to people who needed it.

There are several legends about St. Nicholas, although we don't know if any of them are true!

The most famous story about St. Nicholas tells how the custom of hanging up stockings to put presents in first started! It goes like this:

There was a poor man who had three daughters. The man was so poor that he did not have enough money for a dowry, so his daughters couldn't get married. One night, Nicholas secretly dropped a bag of gold down the chimney and into the house (this meant that the oldest daughter was then able to be married). The bag fell into a stocking that had been hung by the fire to dry!

This was repeated later with the second daughter. Finally, determined to discover the person who had given him the money, the father secretly hid by the

fire every evening until he caught Nicholas dropping in a bag of gold. Nicholas begged the man to not tell anyone what he had done, because he did not want to bring attention to himself.

But soon the news got out and when anyone received a secret gift, it was thought that maybe it was from Nicholas. Because of his kindness Nicholas was made a Saint.

St. Nicholas is not only the saint of children but also of sailors! One story tells of him helping some sailors that were caught in a bad storm off the coast of Turkey. The storm was raging around them and all the men were terrified that their ship would sink beneath the giant waves. They prayed to St. Nicholas to help them. Suddenly, he was standing on the deck before them. He ordered the sea to be calm, the storm died away, and they were able to sail their ship safely to port.

St. Nicholas was exiled from Myra and later put in prison during the persecution of Christians by the Emperor Diocletian. No one is really knows when he died, but it was on 6th December in either 345 or 352. In 1087, his bones were stolen from Turkey by some Italian merchant sailors. The bones are now kept in the Church named after him in the Italian port of Bari.

On St. Nicholas feast day (6th December), the sailors of Bari still carry his statue from the Cathedral out to sea, so that he can bless the waters and so give them safe voyages throughout the year.



Priest on Duty 6th December: Priest on Duty: Fr.Pat Malone
Contact: 065 6869098



Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat: 6.30pm: Gerry Kenny, Old Gort Rd. MM.
 Margaret Counihan, Fergus Lawn.
 Patricia, Christy & Robert Gormley, Ennis & Anne Kelly, Kilcock, Co. Kildare.

Sun 6th: 8am: Leyden family, Carmody Street & Cloughleigh Rd.

9.30am: Martin Browne, Gallows Hill.
 Paddy & Mary Cullinan, Shanaglish, Tubber.

11.30am; Dermot Molloy, Cahercalla Estate & Paschal Molloy, Old Cloughleigh Rd.
 Kitty Hanrahan & Dan Herbert, Dalcassian Drive.
 Peggy Malone, Dalcassian Drive.

White family, Hermitage Rd.
 John & Darragh O'Halloran, Ard na Gréine.
 John & Bridget Guerin, St. Flannan's Tce.

Mon: 7.40am: No intention booked.

11am: Mary & John O'Looney, Kilfenora.

7.30pm: Eileen & Patrick Morrissey, Cornmarket St.
 Noreen & Alan Seery, Davitt Tce.
 Ursula & John O'Sullivan, Cork.

Tues: 7.40am: Book of Intentions.

11am: Michael Moloney, McNamara Park.

7.30pm: Margaret Maughan, Childer's Rd. MM.
 Mary O'Loughlin, St. Michael's Villas.
 George & Kathleen Dinan, Hermitage.
 Deceased members & friends of St. Vincent dePaul

Wed: 7.40am: Ellen Meaney, Park Row.

11am: Denis, Mary & Pat Joe Kelly, Kinturk, Connolly.
 Michael McGuane, Corrovarrin Drive.

7.30pm: Kitty & Mick Quinlan, Cork.

Thurs: 7.40am: Special Intention.

11am: Annual Mass National Council Blind Ireland.

7.30pm: Bridget, Michael & PJ Quinn, Hermitage.
 PJ Daly, Cahercalla Rd.
 Anthony Shannon, Dalcassian Park & Cooper's Place. **1st Anniv.**

Fri: 7.40am: Mass for the People.

11am: Mary, Joe & Mary Nevin, Loughville.
 Joe Ensko, Connolly Villas.

7.30pm: Joan Browne, Considine Rd. **1st Anniv.**

Sat: 11am: Maeve, Seán & Deirdre Casey, Cusack Rd.

6.30pm: Loreto Ryan, Shallee Drive.
 Michael Hanrahan, Corrovarrin Grove. **1st Anniv.**
 Paddy & Ciss Hanrahan, St. Michael's Villas.
 Liam Slattery, St. Michael's Villas.
 Vincent McHugh, Clonroad.
 Dr. Donough Moylan, Bindon St.

Sun 13th: 8am: No intention booked.

9.30am: No intention booked.

11.30am: Peggy Corry, Loughville.
 Ignatius McCarthy, Tulla Rd.
 Jim Whymys, Cusack Rd.
 Patrick Molloy, Dalcassian Park
 Don Farrell, Cahercalla Estate.

4.30pm: Bridget Keenan, Roslea, Claureen.

Friary News

Daily Mass During Advent

Monday –Friday 1.05pm
 Saturday 10am & Vigil 7.30pm
 Sunday 12noon

Confessions

Tuesday-Saturday 11am-12noon

Friary Mass Office

Monday –Friday 10am –5pm
 The office will close on Christmas Eve at 12.30pm and reopen on Monday 4th January 10am

Christmas Arrangements

Confessions and Mass times for Christmas will be announced on the third week of Advent.

Assuming everyone of a remembrance in the daily prayers of both the Poor Clare Sisters and the Franciscan Fraternity.

Fr.Guardian, the Franciscan Fraternity and the Poor Clare Sisters

St. Anthony's Magazine

We ask your support for the Franciscan Friary in their missionary work by purchasing a copy of the latest edition of St. Anthony's Magazine. €2.00, available in the Friary and at the back of the Cathedral.

Found: sum of money in John O'Sullivan Park in Lees Rd.
 Contact the Parish Office.

Cathedral Renovation

In the past week Fr. Tom wishes to acknowledge donations of €200, €100, €50. We thank the many people who have made once off contributions to this appeal.

All contributions for this work are very much appreciated

Ennis Parish Office

now has available a large selection of Religious, Christmas, Baptismal Gifts, Candles, Cribs, Advent Calendars and much more. All proceeds to Ennis Parish Restoration Fund

Ennis Parish Development Fund

for
 Sunday 29th November
 2020 €2,678.00
 Envelope Collection:
 €1,892.00
 Online Donations: €786.00

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:

Sat 7pm: Martin Fitzpatrick, The Green. **1st Anniv.**

Sun 6th 10am: Martin Fawl, Pairc na Coille.

11.45am: Anne McNamara, Turnpike.
 Maura Beakey, Cahercalla Estate.

Mon 10.30am: Micheál O'Loughlin, Corrovarrin Grv.

Tues 10.30am: Noel Moloney, Marian Ave.

7pm: Mary Ellen Quinn, Kincora Park.

Wed 10.30am: Peter Cosgrove, Kincora Park.

Thu 10.30am: Eileen Queally, UK.

Fri 10.30am: Agnes & Ben Reidy, Coolmeen.

Sat 10.30am: Ciss & Sean McInerney, Shannon Pk.

7pm: Maureen Whyte, Kincora Park. **1st Anniv.**
 Martin Whyte & Joan Connolly Whyte,
 Kincora Park & Portlaoise.

Sun 13th 10am: Eileen Leyden, London.

Cloughleigh Oratory opening hours

Cloughleigh Oratory is open every Tuesday and Thursday Evening between 6:30-7:00 for private prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. On Tuesday Evening we end with the weekly prayer to St. Anthony. Social distancing ensured and masks essential. For the Wednesdays of Advent in Cloughleigh Oratory, Fr. Ger will give a short 45 minute presentation on the Gospel passage for the following Sunday. Talks begin at 7:00 and will be filled with interesting insights and tips for praying and reading the Gospel of Mark at a deeper level. Talks are broadcast live on Facebook and you are welcome to attend as well. Social distancing ensured and masks essential.

Support for the Parish

Thank you to all who support our parish, particularly at this difficult time. Many have been very generous. Nevertheless since lockdown in March our income has been severely curtailed in comparison to the previous year.

Some ways to support us at this time:

- 1.) Weekly envelopes can be left into any of the churches.
- 2.) Online at www.ennisparish.com via the donate button.
- 3.) Standing order forms available at the parish office.
- 4.) Remembering Ennis Parish in your will.

From a Distance Concert Series for Cultural Companions—Ennis Cathedral

This Sunday, local traditional group
 Socks in the Frying Pan
 From 3pm—4pm

The Cathedral will be closed for the duration of the concert
 Watch on Ennis Parish Webcam
 Ennis Parish Facebook Live.

Listen on the Parish Radio Link 106.4fm
 MC for the concerts: Nigel Bridge

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

This Tuesday 8th December. This year due to the pandemic it is not a holyday of obligation.



Cloughleigh



Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 6th 11am: Jimmy & Mary Neylon, 'Lourda', Cloughleigh Rd.

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

Sun 13th 11am: Kathleen Shannon, Cloughleigh Rd.

Season of Advent
6th December—24th December
Advent Programme SS Peter & Paul Cathedral

**Simplify
Christmas**



**Celebrate
Christ**

- ◆ Morning Prayer of the Church will be prayed at 7.30am Monday to Friday.
- ◆ The Rosary will be prayed daily after 11am & 7.30pm masses Monday to Friday and after 11am Mass on Saturday.
- ◆ Eucharistic Adoration: Monday to Friday 5pm to 7pm
- ◆ Confessions: The Sacrament will be available each evening Monday to Friday at 7pm and after the Vigil Mass on Saturday, when restrictions are lifted and public worship recommences.



**Christmas Food
Appeal 2020**



Christmas Time is the busiest time for both St. Vincent dePaul and Clarecare who co-ordinate and share food parcels donated by the public. However this Christmas is going to be different with Covid 19 and restrictions. The safety of the public and their volunteer members is paramount. Therefore both of these groups are asking the public that instead of buying a physical toy or items of food that they buy a voucher or make a cash donation. Please **do not** leave food parcels or toys at the Jesse Trees in our Churches this year.

Bambinelli Sunday

A beautiful Advent tradition. On Sunday next we invite you to bring



Baby Jesus from your crib at home to any mass in Ennis Parish and the figure will be blessed for you to place in your crib for Christmas

Face Coverings

We ask all attending our churches in line with government advice to wear face coverings while attending mass or other liturgical celebrations. Medical advice is that wearing face coverings is first and foremost about protecting others. Please continue to observe social distancing to use hand sanitisers on entering and leaving any of our churches.

Reaching Out This Christmas

If you have a family away from home this Christmas and would like them to receive a Christmas card from the parish, please put their names and full postal address in the box at the back of the Cathedral before 8th December.

Share a cup of warm wishes on Christmas Day. Tea bags available at Parish & Friary Offices & selected local outlets. €3 for one or two for €5. All proceeds to Cathedral Restoration Appeal

Parking Restrictions in Cathedral grounds
With return to public masses, please be aware that due to works on Parish House and the Scout Hall parking is restricted at present. We thank you for your understanding.

St. Vincent de Paul

In 1846 the first conference of St. Vincent de Paul in Co. Clare was established in Kilrush; two years later 1849 the Ennis Conference opened.

For the past 171 years St. Vincent de Paul members have reached out and offered assistance in a very sensitive and confidential manner in this town. St. Vincent de Paul is local, members, clients and donors all come from the local community.

Members offer support, friendship, a listening ear, empathy and an approach that looks towards offering a solution. Such an approach gives hope. This hope comes in many different ways, food or fuel, vouchers, help with payment of electricity, gas, homework clubs. Last year alone SVP in Clare assisted 65 people access third level education. Sometimes it is just a visit or chat a person needs, other times it may be some practical support, once off or over a period of time. Due to the pandemic, it is not possible to share hampers this year, so vouchers for food and fuel will be used. In this Covid Year 2,300 requests have so far been received. Many people have been genuinely psychologically battered! Covid has created a higher than usual level of anxiety and pressure for people. St. Vincent de Paul's annual appeal takes place at this time of year. The month of December is the time when 70% of annual donations are received and it is also the busiest time for volunteers.

If you are in a crisis this year and need support or practical assistance please call the Ennis Office of St. Vincent de Paul 065 6824188. Please leave your name and number and your call will be returned.
Donations can be made by:

Calling to the Vincent shop, 86 Parnell St. your donations will be recorded and a till receipt issued.

Call to Ennis Parish Office
Donate on line through www.svp.ie and look for County Clare and you can specify a town or locality whom you wish to support.

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

An Dara Domhnach den Aidhbhínt.

Tá áthas croí orainn go léir bheith in ann freastal ar sheirbhísí Eaglaise arís. Ní foláir dúinn bheith cúramach agus na treoracha a thugtar dúinn a chomhlíonadh. Is féidir linn freisin guí go dtiocfaidh deireadh leis an víreas go luath.

Ní fada uainn féasta Bhreith Ár dTiarna. Is léir agus is cinnte gur tréimhse dhian ullmhúcháin saolta í dúinn go léir. Caithfidimid ullmhúcháin spioradálta a dhéanamh freisin. Sna heaglaisí feicfidh tú Crann leise, crann ginealaigh Iosa Chríost, agus samhail chomhartha na ndaoine a chuaigh roimhe ó Ádhamh agus Eabha go dtí Muire Máthair Iosa.

Ar an 8 Nollaig ceiliúrtar Giniúint gan Smál na Maighdine Muire. Solúntas lán d'áthas is ea an Fhéile seo. Nuair a tháinig an tAingeal Gabriel le teachtaireacht chuig Muire, d'inis sé di go raibh sí lán de ghrásta agus go raibh sí tofa mar mháthair ár Slánaitheora. D'fhreagair Muire "Déantar liom de réir d'fhocal". Is é seo croí lár an tslánaithe. Ghlac Muire go huile is go hiomlán lena gairm. D'fhógair an Pápa Pius X An Ghiniúint gan Smál sa bhliain 1858.

Bhí ardmheas ag ár sinsir ar Mhuire toisc gur Máthair Iosa í. Déarfáidís an paidrín páirteach gach oíche roimh dhul a chodladh dóibh. Go dtugaimid ómós di sa phaidir Cheilteach seo agus sinn ag iarraidh uirthi teacht i gcabhair orainn in am an ghéatair: **A Mháthair glórmhair a chíos ár ndochar agus díobháil, go scara tú do bhrat beannaithe tharainn Aimeán.**

We are all very happy to be able to attend religious services again. Let us be careful and follow the directions laid down for us. Let us pray also for an end to the virus.

Christmas is near. It is a time of feverish preparation and buying. We ought to make spiritual preparation also. In the churches you will see the Jesse Tree, the genealogy of Jesus and the symbols of persons from Adam and Eve to Mary the mother of Jesus.

On the 8 December the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary is celebrated. It is a feast full of joy. The angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she was full of grace and chosen to be the mother of our Saviour "Let it be done unto me according to thy word". Mary accepted her calling willingly. Pope Pius X declared the Immaculate Conception of Mary in 1858.

Our ancestors had great devotion to Our Lady and the rosary was said before retiring. May we honour Our Lady as we say the following Celtic prayer, asking her to be with us always.

Glorious Mother who sees our distress and deprivation; may you wrap us in your holy mantle. Amen.

Rest in Peace

Josephine McGrath nee Cowan,
Dysart, Corofin and French Court;

Sean Nugent, Cusack Rd.;

Paddy Clohessy, Loughville, Ennis and late of Knocknahila, Mullagh;

Caroline Walsh nee Byrne, Clare Ville, Clonroad;

Cyril Lynch, Circular Rd.;

Mae O'Donnell, Chicago, sister of Sr. Catherine Pender, Poor Clare Monastery;

Kathleen Kimber nee Reidy, Canada & late 28 O'Connell St.



Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

O People of Sion, behold,
The Lord will come to save the nations,
And the Lord will make the glory of his
voice heard
In the joy of your heart.

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.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Is 40:1-5.9-11

"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 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 a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind 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

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

R.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

R.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

R.

A reading from the second letter of St. Peter

2 Pt 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you
must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a
day' can mean a thousand years, and a
thousand years is like a day. The Lord is
not being slow to carry out his promises, as
anybody else might be called slow; but he
is being patient with you all, wanting
nobody to be lost and everybody to be
brought to change his ways. The Day of the
Lord will come like a thief, and then with a
roar the sky will vanish, the elements will
catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all
that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like
this, you should be living holy and saintly
lives while you wait and long for the Day
of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in
flames and the elements melt in the heat.
What we are waiting for is what he
promised: the new heavens and new earth,
the place where righteousness will be at
home. So then, my friends, while you are
waiting, do your best to live lives without
spot or stain so that he will find you at
peace.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Prepare a way for the Lord,
Make his paths straight,
And all humankind shall see
the salvation of God.*

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel

according to Mark. Mk 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about
Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in
the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my

messenger before you;
he will prepare your way.
A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist
appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a
baptism of repentance for the forgiveness
of sins. All Judaea and all the people of
Jerusalem made their way to him, and as
they were baptised by him in the river
Jordan they confessed their sins. John
wore a garment of camel-skin, and he
lived on locusts and wild honey. In the
course of his preaching he said,
'Someone is following me, someone who
is more powerful than I am, and I am not
fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his
sandals. I have baptised you with water,
but he will baptise you with the Holy
Spirit.'

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

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the
heights, and behold the joy which
comes to you from God.