

# ENNIS PARISH NEWSLETTER

## Mass Times

Cathedral-[www.ennisparish.com/webcam](http://www.ennisparish.com/webcam)

Radio link: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/our-parish/st-josephs-church-webcam](http://www.ennisparish.com/our-parish/st-josephs-church-webcam)

Monday to Friday 10.30am

Saturday 10.30am & Vigil 7pm

Sunday 10am & 11.45am

## Friary

Masses are currently suspended

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Cathedral & Friary

Currently suspended

## Baptisms

Currently suspended

**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](mailto:info@ennisparish.com)

St. Joseph's:- 6822166;

Cloughleigh:- 6797489;

Friary:- 6828751

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

<http://www.facebook.com/ennis.parish>

## The Good Shepherd Sunday or Vocation Sunday (Year B) 25th April, 2021

### “The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep” (Jn 10:11)

Today is the fourth Sunday of Easter, known as, Vocation Sunday or Good Shepherd Sunday.

This is an important day in which we are invited to reflect on the meaning of God's call and our obligation to pray for Vocations. In the Gospel of Luke 10: 2 Jesus says, “The harvest is rich but the labours are few, so ask the lord of the harvest to send labours to do the harvesting”. To help us reflect on the meaning of vocation, the church, in today's gospel, presents us with the figure of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

In biblical times there were two kinds of shepherds. There was the **hired hand** for whom minding the sheep was just a job. He would move from one flock to another depending on the conditions of service, but would never dream of risking his life for the sheep. If he saw wolves or thieves approaching, he would flee for his life and leave flock to the mercy of the marauders.

Then there was the **Shepherd owner** of the flock who stayed with the same flock all his life. He knew every sheep in his flock individually. He could call each one by name and relate the life story of each one; when and where it is born, the difficulties it had gone through, its characteristics or 'personality' so to speak. The shepherd owner was devoted to his sheep. He knew which one was likely to lag behind the others on a long trek, and he would lift it up and carry it in his arms. He knew the one that was likely to stray from the flock and kept his eyes out for it when passing through dangerous terrain. When attacked by wolves or

thieves, he would fight to protect his sheep and even lay down his life for them.

*The expression “laying down one's life” comes from the practice in Israel of keeping the sheep in an enclosed space with just a narrow opening for the sheep to go in and out.*

At night the shepherd would lie down and stretch his body across the opening so that the sheep would not wander out and wolves would not enter in. If one of the flocks went missing, he would

climb mountains and hills looking for it, calling out its name. And whether the missing sheep had fallen into a pit or was trapped in a bush of thorns, as soon as it heard the voice of its master, it would bleat and the shepherd would go and rescue it



Jesus is the Good Shepherd par excellence. He is also proposing this image as a model for leadership among his disciples, a leadership where each person is known by name. Jesus invites us to become selfless shepherds and contribute to building a loving and lovable community even at the cost of our life.

Today, being the world day of prayer for vocations, let us pray that we may have generous and genuine leaders both spiritual and political. May more young people come forward for the enterprise of building the human community. May the Lord of the harvest send many genuine and dedicated workers to work in the kingdom of God.



## Friary News

Of all the aspects of acceptance, none is as important to young people as the feeling that *they are loved*, in spite of all their inner and outer turmoil. Being loved is the most effective force for repairing psychological damage. Back in the 1970s a survey was held among the students in Yale University. They were given the question: "*What is the most important thing in life?*" When all of the replies came back and were collated, they could all be reduced to this one answer viz. "*when I have failed and done my worst, nothing is more important to me than the fact that I am still important to and loved by those whom I still care about.*" Isn't this true for us all? Nor is acceptance something purely passive. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said that "*life is not about being successful but about being faithful.*" She also advised, "*Listen to your children more.*"

Indeed, we all live with the terrible fear of being rejected. "*Why am I afraid to tell you who I am?*" was a best-seller by John Powell SJ that came out some fifty years ago. It was saying that while each of us has a need to be known, we are not sure that honest personal self-revelation will automatically bring acceptance. So, while we all want to be known and accepted, we are also deeply afraid of being rejected.

Central to the Easter Message is the rejection of Jesus. Peter says that "*the stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.*" Some believed that Golgotha was a stone quarry. If they did not quarry correctly, a large gash would appear in the stone. So, it would split and they would just leave it there. It was also believed that they would then jam the crosses into these rejected stones to steady and hold them up. Interestingly enough, Jesus is described as "*the stone that was rejected by the builders*" but has become the corner stone. In a way, the rejected stone holds up the cross and the one rejected on the cross holds up the world. If, like Jesus, at times we feel rejected, maybe our relationship with him is the very thing that we need to hold us up.

On an informational note, we hope to have a webcam installed in the friary church this week. Our first "*broadcast*" Mass will be the 10am Mass on May 1st, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. Over time, we obviously hope to add other expressions of worship. We also ask your prayers for Bro. Damian Casey who will be ordained to the priesthood this Saturday, April 24th in Merchant's Quay Dublin. For nine months now, you will have seen Damian working as Deacon in the cathedral. He also worked as a chaplain in Barrington hospital, Limerick.

*Ad multos annos.*  
Fr. Paschal, OFM Guardian,  
Sr. Bernardine, Abbess of the Poor Clares.

## Rest in Peace

**Yanka Angelova**, Bulgaria & Bruach na hAbhann, mother of Ekaterina, Bruach na hAbhann & Nickozat, Corrovorrin Green.

**Linda Rynne**, Rushanes, Glandore, Cork & Ennis, daughter of Maura, Cusack Rd. and sister of Kevin & Shirley.

**Alicia Krystianowicz**, Poland, mother of Adriana, Bruach na hAbhann;

**Paddy McDonagh**, John Paul Ave

*Those we love don't go away,  
they walk beside us every day.  
Unseen, unheard, but always near;  
still loved, still missed and very dear.*



## Giving Thanks for your Vaccination

As more of our family, friends and neighbours receive their Covid Vaccinations, we rejoice and are glad that our loved ones are protected. We give thanks for all the frontline workers and key workers who continue to save our lives in our country and in the world.

For the poorest and most vulnerable communities across the world, there is little hope of a vaccine rollout. These people already face a lack of water, food and healthcare. Our aid agencies are already on the ground keeping people safe from Coronavirus with practical support, but with your kind gifts they can do more. Thank you for your donation to Trócaire. **The total amount collected to date from our parish is € 15,379.00 Thank you .**

Please return all remaining Trócaire Boxes to the Parish Office this week.

## Matt Talbot Prayer Society



The M.T.P.S. has been created to pray for people who are suffering from any form of addiction; to pray for all those affected by addiction, gambling, pornography to less acknowledged addictions.

To join Matt Talbot Prayer Society, you are invited to enrol the name of the person to be prayed for, and for freedom from addiction.

Those enrolled will be prayed for specifically every day by members of the Matt Talbot Prayer Society. Every Cathedral in Ireland is asked to offer mass on the first Monday of every month and here in Ennis Cathedral our next Mass will be Monday May 3rd at the 7.30pm Mass.

You will also receive an enrolment card to enable you to join in the prayer.

**To enrol in the Matt Talbot Prayer Society please contact:**

**Email:**  
vita@matttalbotprayersociety.com

**Phone:** 04871365712  
(St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry)

**Facebook:**  
Matt Talbot Prayer Society  
(private message)

**Post:** Matt Talbot Prayer Society, St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry BT489AP  
Northern Ireland.

Here in Ennis we have a shrine to venerable Matt Talbot at the back of the Cathedral.

## *Sr. Eileen's Cúinne*

Lá na nGairmeacha/ An tAoire Fóna.

Lá faoi leith san Eaglais is ea an Ceathrú Domhnach den Cháisc ina n-iarrtar orainn machnamh a dhéanamh ar an ngairm a thugann Dia do gach duine. Ag ár mBaisteadh glaonn íosa ar gach duine againn é a leanúint. Is cuma an duine a bheith óg nó aosta, saibhir nó daibhir, tuath nó cléir, tá gairm tugtha ag Dia do gach uile dhuine nach féidir le haon duine eile a chomhlíonadh. Déanaimis gach iarracht bheith dílis dár ngairm go laethúil.

Iarrtar orainn freisin guí go dtiocfaidh méadú ar ghairmeacha chun na Sagartachta agus an Bheatha Reiligiúnach. Is é íosa féin a dúirt linn: "Tá an fómhar fairsing ach níl ann ach meitheal bheag. Dá bhrí sin guígí Máistir an fhómhair go gcuirfeadh sé meitheal uaidh isteach ina fhómhair" (Matha 9:37-38). Tá páirt lárnach ag saol na clainne chun gairmeacha a spreagadh agus a chothú. Is ann a chuirtear síol le haghaidh gairme saoil.

Is féidir an phaidir seo a rá go rialta ar son gairmeacha chuig an saol sagartúil agus chuig an bheatha reiligiúnach. ***A Thiarna íosa Críost, Slánaitheoir an domhain, go n-éirí linn ár mbeatha a chaitheamh de réir do dhílse. Go dtreoraí an Spiorad Naomh sagairt agus lucht craobhscaoilte an dea-scéil agus go gcuire íosa meitheal uaidh isteach ina fhómhair. Áiméan.***

On the fourth Sunday of Easter we are invited to reflect on the vocation given to each of us. In our Baptism each is called personally to follow Jesus whether we are young or old, a parent or individual, rich or poor, or in Religious Life, God has called each to fulfil a special role in life which cannot be done by any other. Let us make every effort to be faithful always to this calling.

We are asked to pray for an increase of vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life today. Jesus said, "The harvest is great but the labourers are few. Pray that the Lord of the harvest will send labourers into His harvest". (Matthew 9: 37-38) Family life plays a key role in motivating and nurturing careers It is where vocations and career choices are nurtured. We can say this prayer: ***Lord Jesus Christ, Saviour of the world, may we spend our lives faithful to You. May the Holy Spirit guide priests and all who preach the gospel and may the Lord of the harvest send labourers to work on His behalf Amen.***

# Today's Scripture Readings

## Entrance Antiphon

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;  
by the word of the Lord the heavens  
were made, alleluia.

### 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.**

### GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth  
peace to people of good will. We praise you,  
we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord  
God, heavenly King, God, almighty Father,  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the  
Father. **Amen.**

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles Acts 4:8-12

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers  
of the people, and elders! If you are  
questioning us today about an act of kindness  
to a cripple, and asking us how he was  
healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and  
would indeed be glad to tell the whole people  
of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus  
Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified,  
whom God raised from the dead, by this name  
and by no other that this man is able to stand  
up perfectly healthy, here in your presence  
today. This is the stone rejected by you the  
builders, but which has proved to be the  
keystone. For of all the names in the world  
given to men, this is the only one by which we  
can be saved.'

### The word of the Lord

#### Responsorial Psalm

*The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.*

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in men:  
it is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in princes. **R**

I will thank you for you have given answer  
and you are my saviour.  
The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. **R**

Blessed in the name of the Lord  
is he who comes.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord;  
I will thank you for you have given answer  
and you are my saviour.  
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;  
for his love has no end. **R**

### A reading from the first letter of St. John 1 Jn 3:1-2

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 him  
because we shall see him as he really is.

### The word of the Lord

#### Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my own sheep and my own know me.  
Alleluia!*

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

**Jn 10:11-18**

Jesus said:  
'I am the good shepherd: the good  
shepherd is one who lays down his  
life for his sheep.  
The hired man, since he is not the  
shepherd  
and the sheep do not belong to him,  
abandons the sheep and runs away  
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,  
and then the wolf attacks and scatters  
the sheep;  
this is because he is only a hired man  
and has no concern for the sheep.'

I am the good shepherd;  
I know my own and my own know me,  
just as the Father knows me and I know  
the Father;  
and I lay down my life for my sheep.  
And there are other sheep I have that  
are not of this fold,  
and these I have to lead as well.  
They too will listen to my voice,  
and there will be only one flock, and  
one shepherd.  
The Father loves me, because I lay  
down my life  
in order to take it up again.  
No one takes it from me; I lay it down of  
my own free will,  
and as it is in my power to lay it down,  
so it is in my power to take it up again;  
and this is the command I have been  
given by my Father.'

### 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

**The Good Shepherd has risen,  
who laid down his life for his sheep  
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.**