

ENNIS PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mass Times

Cathedral-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

Monday to Friday 10.30am

Saturday 10.30am & Vigil 7pm

Sunday 10am & 11.45am

Friary-www.ennisparish.com/our-parish/franciscan-friary-webcam/

Monday to Saturday 10am

Vigil Mass Saturday 7.30pm

Sunday 10.30am

Christ the King Oratory Cloughleigh

Monday to Friday 9.30am

Sunday 11am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Cathedral & Friary

Cathedral: Monday to Friday 7pm to 7.25pm

Saturday after the Vigil Mass

Friary: Tuesday to Saturday 11-12 noon & 4-5pm

Baptisms

Can be booked through the Parish Office..

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:- 6829584

Cloughleigh:- 6797489;

Friary:- 6828751

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

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A) 18th December, 2022

Christmas draws near. Today we light the fourth candle on our advent wreath. All that remains now is the final white one which we will light on Christmas night. Light overcomes the darkness.

The Gospel passage read at Mass this morning focuses on St Joseph. The words quoted from the prophet Isaiah summarise the whole Christmas message

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel a name which means God is with us.

Christmas is totally unlike every other historical event. Some people see little that is remarkable about the birth of a baby to a poor family in winter. It is an event that has been repeated over and over again. But Christmas is not a single event trapped in time. It is the coming of Christ which continues forever. The miracle of new life is made even wonderful by God becoming human. The birth of the baby Jesus changed the relationship between God and humanity forever. No more can we envisage God as being distant from us. He became flesh and blood like us. God is

with us. He is one of us. He delights in the joys of human companionship and suffered the pain that living brings. He became human and so that we might share in his divinity. The glory of God is humanity fully alive.

The words addressed by the angel to Mary in today's Gospel reading are spoken to all of us. We all rejoice for we are all highly favoured. The Lord is with each and everyone of us.





Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

6.30pm: Vincent McHugh, Clonroad.
Frank & Tess White, Clare Rd.
Mary & Paddy Gilligan, Cloughleigh Rd.
Gertrude Vaughan, The Market.
Patrick & Amy Molloy, Dalcassian Pk.
Annie O'Brien, Dysart.
Eileen, Frank & Barbara O'Dea, Cappa, Kilrush.
Sun 18th 8am: No intention booked.
9.30am: Michael Bugler, Ballygreen.
Donal O'Brien, Turnpike.
Peggy Kearney, Summerhill.
11.30am: John Costin, Gallows Hill.
Frances & Michael McInerney, Parnell St. & Park Ave.
Peggy Corry, Loughville.
Donal Cahill, Roslevan.
Maureen Martin, Woodstock View, Shanaway Rd.
Martina O'Dea nee Wilson, John & Teresa Wilson,
Patrick Linnane, Kilkerin, Labasheeda.
Jim Harnett, Rockmount.
Mon: 7.40am: No intention booked.
11am: Tommy Lorrigan, College Park.
Nicholas & Catherine McMahon & Family,
Fountain House, Fountain.
Michael Hogan, England & St. Flannan's Terrace.
7.30pm: Jane & Felix O'Dwyer, Carrigaholt.
Tues: 7.40am Book of Intentions.
11am: Christine O'Sullivan, Shragh & London.
7.30pm: Patrick & Lily Greene, Clonroad.
Lily & James Rooney, Leitrim & New York.
Wed 7.40am: William & Agnes Reidy, Brian & Kieran
Reidy, Coolmeen & Dublin.
11am: Special Intention.
7.30pm: Jackie, Patricia, Declan, Ann Hayes & Phyllis
O'Grady, McNamara Pk.
Michael O'Brien, Ballybeg.
Thurs 7.40am: Mass for the People.
11am: Stephen & Ellen O'Sullivan, Cork;
Stephen O'Sullivan, Ruan
Frankie Hogan, St. Flannan's Tce.
7.30pm: Joe Callinan, Gallows Hill.
Fri 7.40am: Kathleen Scanlon, Fergus Manor. 1st Anniv
11am: Elizabeth Holmes, Wexford
& Bernard Kennedy, Limerick .
7.30pm: Con & Mary O'Halloran, Roslevan & Tulla &
Decd members of O'Halloran family, Maghera, Tulla.
Helen Coffey, Clonroad & Wolverhampton. MM
Sat: 11am: Patrick Stephens, Summerhill.
Thomas & Margaret Collins, Honan's Terrace.
Sun 25th Christmas Day

Cloughleigh

Remembered in Masses this Week:
Sun 18th 11am: Paddy & Kathleen Shannon,
Cloughleigh Rd.
Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.
Wed 9.30am: Patrick Crowe, Knockerra.
Thu 9.30am: Donor's Intention.
Sun 25th 11am: Christmas Day

Ennis Parish
Development Fund
for Sunday, 11th December
Fund **€1,363.33**
Online **€425**

Priests' Christmas Collection

The Christmas Collection for the Bishop and Priests of the parish will take place at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Envelopes are now available and your generosity is very much appreciated.

Parish Representatives

This week our Parish Representatives are delivering our Parish Calendar for 2023 and the new box of envelopes for the coming year. We thank our Representatives who do this valuable work for the parish and we thank the many people who use the weekly envelopes for the support of the parish and these boxes enable us to make a claim to Revenue each year for tax rebate. Last year we received €46,000.

Parish Office



The office will close on Friday 23rd December at 5pm and re-open Tuesday 3rd January at 9am.

St. Anthony's Magazine



The latest edition of St. Anthony's Magazine supporting the work of the Franciscan Friars is available for sale in both the Friary and the Cathedral. €2 per copy supports the Franciscan Missionaries.

Newly Baptised

We welcome into the Christian Community through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Tadhg James Crotty
Maysie Joan Jansen



St. Joseph's

Remembered in Masses this Week:

7pm: Dan Baker, Barrack St.
Marie Walsh (nee Sheehy), Feenagh, Quin & Gort Rd.
Sun 18th 10am: Michael & Catherine Griffin,
Drumduff, Maurice's Mills.
11.45am: Seán & Clare McGrath, Lifford Rd.
Mon 10.30am: No intention booked.
Tues 10.30am: No intention booked.
Wed 10.30am: No intention booked.
Thu 10.30am: Michael Kearns, Galway.
Fri 10.30am: Maura Nevin, Corrovorrin Crescent.
7pm: Christmas Eve
Sun 26th: Christmas Day

Annual Carol Service



On this Sunday the choirs of Ennis Parish will gather at 7pm in the Friary to sing and pray together in preparation for Christmas. All welcome.

Christmas Tea Bags

One of the most important fundraisers for the Cathedral Renovation Appeal is the sale of our tea bags for Christmas. The tea bags are available both in the Parish Office and Friary Office and selected shops throughout the town. Buy one for €3 or two for €5. All proceeds to the Cathedral Renovation Appeal.

Clarecastle Day Care Centre. Closing for Christmas on Wednesday 21st December and re-opening Tuesday 3rd January 2023. Wishing all a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

Bereaved by Suicide. The Christmas Season can be a difficult time for people bereaved by suicide. Clare Suicide Bereavement Support volunteers are available to help you. Support and help is only a phone call away. You could phone us at one of our numbers given below and we will take it from there. We promise complete confidentiality. 086 0565373. 087 3698315. www.claresuicidebereavementsupport.com

Rest in Peace



Joe McMahon, Labasheeda,
brother of Helen McMahon, Ardlea Rd.

Denny Vaughan, Knockanean.

Christmas Mass Schedule 2022 Abbey Pastoral Area

Christmas Eve		Christmas Day	
4.30pm	Cathedral	8.00am	Cathedral
5.00pm	St. Joseph's	8.45am	Ennis Hospital
5.00pm	Clarecastle		
5.30pm	Cloughleigh	9.00am	Roslevan
6.00pm	Roslevan	9.00am	Clarecastle
6.30pm	Cathedral	9.30am	Cathedral
7.00pm	Clooney	9.30am	Maghera
7.00pm	St. Joseph's	10.00am	Doora
7.30pm	Barefield	10.00am	St. Joseph's
7.30pm	Quin	10.30am	Friary
8.00pm	Ballyea	10.30am	Ballyea
8.00pm	Clarecastle	11.00am	Barefield
8.00pm	Friary	11.00am	Cloughleigh
8.30pm	Cloughleigh	11.00am	Quin
9.00pm	Cathedral	11.30am	Cathedral
9.00pm	Doora	11.45am	St. Joseph's
Midnight	Cathedral (Polish)	12 noon	Clarecastle
Confessions for Christmas Week			
Monday to Friday		Christmas Eve	
Friary	11.00am to 12.00pm	Friary	11-12noon
	4.00pm to 5.00pm		4-5pm
Cathedral	7.00pm to 7.25pm	Cathedral	10am-4pm

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Wreath Prayer



Heavenly Father, the whole meaning of Christmas can be explained in one little four-letter word...LOVE. You sent your gift of pure love to us that first Christmas.

Love descended from heaven to be born of a virgin. Love lay in the scratchy hay of a manger in a meagre barn in Bethlehem.

All of your love, God, was robed in the delicate skin of a baby and wrapped in swaddling clothes. This final week of Advent helps us to reflect on the magnitude of love that was made manifest in Jesus.

The greatest gift of all came that first Christmas. It wasn't wrapped in a beautiful package and set under a decorated tree. The greatest gift came wrapped in the flesh of baby Jesus and laid in the rough wood of a manger.

Our perfect gift would later be rewrapped in the scars of our sin and nailed to the rugged wood of a cross on Calvary, all because of love.

Father, this final week of Advent, fill our hearts and minds with the significance of that truth. Thank you, Lord, for loving us enough to send Jesus. In Jesus' precious name we pray. Amen

Storytime as Gaeilge with MacDara & Christmas Craft at De Valera Library Ennis at 3pm to 3.30pm suitable for 3 to 9 year olds. Contact De Valera Library on (065) 6824207 or (065) 6891317 for booking and more information. This is a free Family Time at Your Library event and all are welcome.

St Michael's Football Club Annual Mass

The Annual St. Stephen's Day Mass will take place in the Cathedral at 4pm Monday 26th Dec. All welcome.

Sunday Missals for 2023 are available for sale in the parish office @ €8 each. An ideal Christmas Gift.

The FCJ Spirituality House (Teach Spioradálta, Spanish Point)

As we enter the final days of Advent, a heartfelt thanks to all who have visited, supported or encouraged us this year. Every good wish is much appreciated - in person, in prayer or in your heart.

We have lots of events coming up in the new Year, but for now we pause and give thanks. May you find yourself refreshed by the simple love of Christmas this year, and recognise God-with-us in all of creation, in every moment of life. Noirin

<https://fcjspiritualityhouse.ie/>

Tel. 087 447 9115.

GO RAIBH MAITH AGAT

Sr. Eileen's Cúinne

An Ceathrú Domhnach den Aidbhint

Inniu an ceathrú Domhnach den Aidbhint agus ceiliúrfar Breith Íosa ar fud an domhain gan mhoill. Gheall Dia ag tús ama go seolfaidh sé Slánaitheoir chugainn. Faoi dheireadh tháinig an t-am. Dúirt Isáia, "Is é an Tiarna féin mar sin a thabharfaidh comhartha daoibh. Seo, tá ógbhean ag iompar agus saolóidh sí mac agus tabharfaidh sí mar ainm air Emmanúél, is é sin 'tá Dia linn.'" (Isáia 7:12-14) Ba cheart dúinn díriú anois ar ullmhúcháin spioradálta a dhéanamh. Is féidir linn teachtaireacht na Nollag a mheabhú dúinn féin agus machnamh a dhéanamh ar an gcéad Nollaig. Tá gealltanais Dé comhlíonta. Rugadh Íosa. Is é Íosa Solas an Domhain, ár ndóchas, ár lúcháir.

A Dhia, tá radharc agat ar do phobal agus iad ag trúth go dílis le féile bhreith ár dTiarna. Deonaigh, impimid ort, go mbainfidimid amach aoibhneas ár slánaithe agus go gceiliúrfaimid é i gcónaí le barr áthais agus le dúthracht croí. Áiméan

Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent and the celebration of the Birth of Jesus is near. From the beginning of time God promised he would send us a Saviour. In time the promise was fulfilled. Isaiah said "The Lord himself therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means "God is with us". (Isaiah 7:12-14) We take time to focus on what Christmas means. Let us reflect and meditate on the Birth of Jesus. God's promise is fulfilled. Christ is born. He is the Light of the World, our hope, our joy.

Grant Lord, that looking forward in faith to the feast of our Lord's birth, we may feel all the happiness our Saviour brings and celebrate his coming with unflinching joy. Amen

CHIME Ennis Outreach

Chime will be in attendance at the Parish Office on Wednesday 21st December from 10am-1pm and 2pm- 4pm (Appointment required) If you would like any information or to make an appointment please contact: 086-2229638 or e-mail: kathleen.daffy@chime.ie

The Crafty Crew Club at Ennis NS



The Crafty Crew at Ennis NS aims to give all children from 3rd to 6th classes the opportunity to learn a craft. We are looking for donations of wool and knitting needles

to ensure that these classes are accessible to all children. Donations may be left in the reception at Ennis NS.

We currently have our Christmas Display in Insomnia Cafe's Window. Thanks for your support.

Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

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 7:10-14

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above'. 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test'.

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too?

The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us" '.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: Let the Lord enter!
He is the king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm.

R

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things.

R

He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob.

R

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

Rm 1:1-7

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name.

You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. Alleluia!

A reading from holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Mt 1:18-24

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.

Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally.

He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph

son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit.

She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

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

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.