

# 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-[www.ennisparish.com/our-parish/franciscan-friary-webcam/](http://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](mailto: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>

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year B) 10th December, 2023.

### To reflect the image of the messenger!

To know where we are going we so often have to go back to the beginning .....

This Sunday we are treated to that very focus. Where the news of Jesus Christ finds it's source with the Old Testament Prophet Isaiah .. "Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness: make his paths straight."

With Isaiah as the prequel to where John the Baptist takes up the story, he, the Baptist, sets about making a path straight for Jesus' arrival.

Rather than thinking that the story of the 'messenger' ends with John the Baptist, let's imagine this Sunday is an invitation to us .. An invitation ... to be a part of a new episode in this tale .. The tale of preparing for Jesus' arrival in the NOW! What might be our equivalent of John the Baptist's attire of camel skin and diet of locusts and wild honey. So often I think of John setting the scene for Jesus as one who rocked the boat as he prepared the

way for the one who would turn the boat on it's head.

In this new episode, to see ourselves, cast in the role of the messenger preparing a way for Jesus in the world we live in , the community we live in, the family we live in, we may need to rock the boat and become a reflection of the messenger. A messenger that is God sent, as John Was, so are we .... We might be even surprised at the manner in which, family, community, the world we live in might take notice of the one who is ever present, in our midst, waiting to be greeted and seen. Jesus.!



# Priest on Duty: 10th December 2023

Fr. Ger Jones 065 6869098



## Cathedral

### Remembered in Masses this Week:

**6.30pm:** Frank & Florrie Burns, Clare Road. Christy Burns, Kilkee.  
 Claire & Flan Donohue & Deceased Donohue Family, Parnell Street.  
 Paddy & Ciss Hanrahan, St. Michael's Villas.  
 Michael Hanrahan, Corrovorrin Grove.  
 William Bloomfield, Glensheen.  
 Peggy Corry, Loughville.  
 Fintan Lynch, Friar's Close & Ballyhaunis. **1st Anniv**  
 Nicola Davis, Ballyalla.  
**Sun 10th 8am:** Leyden Family, Carmody St. & Cloughleigh.  
**9.30am:** No intention booked.  
**11.30am:** Anne **1st Anniv.** & Jack Wall, Ballymaley.  
 Mary & Joe Nevin, Loughville.  
 Mary O'Neill, Dysart.  
 Liam Slattery & Torpey Family, St. Michael's Villas.  
 Mary Ellen Quinn, Kincora Park.  
 John & Patrick Quinn, Edenvale & London.  
 Jim Whymys, Cusack Rd.  
 Ignatius McCarthy, Tulla Rd.  
 Seamus Guinnane, Fountain.  
 Eileen & Jack O'Donovan, Turnpike Rd. & Nellie Ryan nee O'Donovan.  
**Mon: 7.40am:** Eileen Queally, Surrey, England.  
**11am:** No intention booked.  
**7.30pm:** Noreen & Alan Seery, Davitt Tce.  
 Bridget, Michael & P.J. Quinn, Hermitage.  
**Tues: 7.40am** Book of Intentions.  
**11am:** Peter, Kathleen & Joe Fallon, Roscommon.  
**7.30pm:** Eileen & Patrick Morrissey & Family, Cornmarket St.  
 Patrick Molloy, Dalcassian Park.  
 Thomas & Elizabeth Nugent, Scariff.  
**Wed 7.40am:** No intention booked.  
**11am:** Don Farrell, Cahercalla Estate.  
**7.30pm:** Loreto Ryan, Shallee Drive.  
 Ella Burke, Phoenix Court & Mill Rd.  
 Vera Bamford nee Coghlan & family, Claireen. **1st Anniv**  
**Thurs 7.40am:** John & Bridget Stokes, Limerick.  
**11am:** Deceased Teachers of Co. Clare.  
**7.30pm:** Patrick & Lily Greene, Clonroad.  
 Marie Ryan (nee Browne), Clonroad.  
 Deceased Gilligan Family, Cloughleigh Rd.  
**Fri 7.40am:** Michael Stokes, Limerick.  
**11am:** Special Intention.  
**7.30pm:** Kitty Baker, Barrack St. **MM.**  
**Sat 11am:** Pat Fitzgerald, Ballyduff, Barefield. **1st Anniv.**  
 Colin Barton, Cahercalla Heights, Kilrush Rd.  
 Paddy, Maura & Peter Keane, Kilrush Rd.  
 Maeve, Seán & Deirdre Casey, Cusack Rd.  
**6.30pm:** Tom Meaney, Limerick Rd. **MM.**  
 Mary McVeigh, Shanaway Rd. **MM.**  
 Frank & Tess White, Clare Rd.  
 Dr. Donogh Moylan, Bindon St.  
 Annie O'Brien, Dysart, Corofin.  
 O'Connell & Murphy Family.  
 P.J. Daly, Cahercalla.  
**Sun 17th 8am:** No intention booked.  
**9.30am:** Michael Bugler, Ballygireen.  
 Donal O'Brien, Turnpike Rd.  
 Peggy Kearney, Summerhill.  
**11.30am:** Donal Cahill, Hazelgrove.  
 Frances & Michael McInerney, Parnell St. & Park Ave.  
 Michael & Treasa McMahon, Clounlaheen, Mullagh.

## Tile for the Aisles Appeal

Fr. Tom wishes to acknowledge €1,000, €100 x2, received in the past week.

### Fridge Magnets & Tea Bags

Our Christmas appeal this year to support the Cathedral Floor Restoration Appeal is the sale of fridge magnets (Fresco of the Ascension in the Cathedral and the sale of the Christmas Tea Bags. €3 each or 2 for €5). We very much appreciate your support and they are ideal for posting with your Christmas Cards or as a stocking filler. We are also very grateful to those who are making once off contributions to the tiles for the aisles appeal.

### Progress Report on the Restoration of the Floor.

We are looking forward to returning to the Sanctuary of the Cathedral from Wednesday 13th December. Work on the completion of the restoration and repair of the floor will pause for Christmas and will resume in the New Year. The first three days of the coming week will be spent cleaning the Cathedral in preparation for Christmas. We thank you for your patience over the past 20 weeks, especially with the dust and inconvenience caused by the work. We are very grateful to Martins Construction and their team who have carried out this very difficult and painstaking project on our behalf.

### SVP Annual Appeal

Many Families will face impossible choices this Christmas. You can help. Please support the SVP Annual Appeal by giving locally.

#### Ways to donate:

**Online:** <https://www.svp.ie/fundraiser/clare-christmas-appeal-2023/>

**By phone:** 0818 176 176 and nominate your local area

**By post:** to SVP, Vincent's Shop, 86 Parnell Street, Ennis. Cheques made payable to 'Society of St. Vincent de Paul' and nominate your local area. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.



## St. Joseph's

### Remembered in Masses this Week:

**7pm:** Agnes Knox (nee Quinn), Castlerock, Tulla Rd. **MM.**  
 Martin & Maureen Whyte & Joan Connolly, Kincora Park.  
**Sun 10th 10am:** Lorraine Sherlock, Considine Rd. **MM**  
**11.45m:** Seán & Clare McGrath, Lifford Rd.  
 Seán Curtin, Willow Park.  
**Mon 10.30am:** No intention booked.  
**Tues 10.30am:** Book of Intentions.  
 Bridget Orchard & John McMahon, Ennis & Dysart.  
**Wed 10.30am:** Eileen Leydon, London.  
 James O'Keeffe, Lifford Rd.  
**Thu 10.30am:** Donor's intention.  
**Fri 10.30am:** John Leydon, Sligo.  
 Paddy Haugh, Doonbeg.  
**Sat: 10.30am:** No intention booked.  
**7pm:** Shannon family, Cornmarket St.  
 Gerard Gammell McCarthy, Limerick & Ennis. **MM.**  
**Sun 17th 10am:** Catherine & Michael Griffin, Maurice's Mills.  
**11.45:** Margaret (Girlye) Young, Sixmilebridge.  
 Paddy Kearney & Kearney Family, Kincora Park.

### St Paul's Sunday Missal 2024

The Sunday Missal for 2024 containing all the readings and prayers for the coming year is for sale for €8 in the parish office. An ideal Christmas Gift for housebound parishioners who watch or listen to mass. **New Readers' Rota and Sunday Missals available in Sacristy of the Cathedral and St. Joseph's Churches for collection.**



## Cloughleigh



### Remembered in Masses this Week:

**Sun 10th 11am:** Mary & Jimmy Neylon, 'Lourda', Cloughleigh Rd.  
 Mary Rutherford, Claireen Drive.  
**Tue 9.30am:** Book of Intentions.  
**Wed 9.30am:** Ella Burke, Phoenix Court & Mill Rd.  
**Sun 17th 11am:** Paddy & Kathleen Shannon, Cloughleigh Rd.

## Blood Donation Clinic

West County Hotel, Mon 11th, Tues 12th, Wed 13th, Thurs 14th December, 4.50pm to 8.10pm.

New Donors welcome at all clinics.

Please call 1800 222 111 for appointment



## Newly Baptised

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

**Veronika Vivien Gaborova**



Mass will be offered for all deceased teachers on Thursday 14th December at 11am in the Cathedral.

### Friary and Poor Clare Heating Appeal

Both the Franciscan Friars and Poor Clare Sisters appreciate the generosity of so many who have contributed to their appeal. If you wish to contribute, please leave your contribution in the Friary Office or Parish Office, marked "Friary and Poor Clare's Heating Appeal"

The sisters and Friars pray each day for their benefactors and appreciate the goodness of so many people.

### The Crib at Christmas

This year we celebrate 800 years of the Crib. Greccio located in Central Italy is the location where St. Francis of Assisi created the first Christmas Crib in the year 1223. Since then, nativity scenes began to emerge in homes and churches in celebration of the birth of Jesus. This wonderful Franciscan Tradition continues to this day as we once again build and create the scenes of the first Christmas Night. The crib that you see in the Church and the Crib that you too will have in your home, is all because a young man in Assisi, 800 years ago decided that Christmas should be real, simple, down to earth. This is exactly what the Crib does, it brings God down to earth, to us. This Christmas as we celebrate 800 years of the first Crib, may the Crib in your home not be an ornament but as an opportunity to bring Christ back into Christmas.

### Bambinelli Sunday

We invite you to bring your figure of Baby Jesus to Mass next weekend for a blessing of the Baby Jesus figure. This tradition known as Bambinelli Sunday is celebrated on the third Sunday of Advent known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word for rejoice because Jesus came and died so that we may live forever with him.



### Festival of Cribs

Next weekend on Saturday and Sunday St. Brigid's Church Liscannor will hold their annual Advent Festival of Cribs with over 500 cribs from all over the world on display. Admission is free and it is very well worth visiting.

### Ecumenical Carol Service



The highlight of our Advent Preparation each year is the Annual Carol Service that brings together the choirs of the different churches in the town. This year's Carol Service takes place next Sunday Evening 17th December at 7pm in the Cathedral.

All are Welcome.

### Invitation to Abbey Cluster Advent Reconciliation Service

Monday December 18th

7:30pm to 8:30pm

Cathedral SS Peter & Paul

Priests and Friars will be available for individual confession on the night.



A Welcome To All

### Abbey Franciscan Church Galway

If you are in Galway, why not visit the Abbey Church, near the Cathedral in Galway for the Festival of Cribs which takes place from December 8th to January 8th, 2024?

### Parish Calendars 2024

Our Parish Calendars for 2024 will be published and distributed this week with the distribution of the boxes and envelopes for 2024.

## Sr. Eileen's Cuinne Machnamh.

Leagann an Eaglais an-bhéim ar, go bhfuil Críost i láthair ina bhriathar, mar is é Críost a labhraíonn gach uair a léitear an scríoptúr sa liotúirge. Tugann léacht an Bhíobla an sean agus an nua le chéile dúinn, an bhrí ba chiall leis céadúair agus faoi mar is féidir sin a chur in oiriúint do thoscaí an lae inniu, nó fiú do cheisteanna fós le teacht. Ní theagmháil aigne, inleachtach lom amháin atá anseo, mar tá Críost i láthair lena Spiorad, lena ghrásta.

Agus, ar ndóigh, tá sé i láthair i modh faoi leith san Eocairist, i mbriseadh an aráin, gníomh a thugann chun cuimhne dúinn na bríonna iomadúla a bhí le briseadh an aráin do fosa féin lena bheatha agus tar éis aiséirí dó.

The Church places great emphasis on the presence of Christ in his word, as it is Christ who speaks every time scripture is read in the liturgy. The Bible reading brings together the old and the new, the meaning it meant for the first time and how this can be adapted to today's circumstances, or even your questions are still to come. This is not just a touch of mind, a bare intellectual, because Christ is present with his Spirit, with his grace.

And, of course, He present in a particular method in the Eucharist, in the breaking of the bread, an act that reminds us of the many meanings of break the bread for Jesus himself with his life and after His resurrection.

### REST IN PEACE

Glenise Downes nee Potts,  
Drumbiggle Road;

Barbara Smith (nee Daffy), York,  
England . formerly of Hermitage;

James O'Sullivan, Westfields;

John Moloney, Limerick, brother of  
Willie, Cahercalla Rd;

Mary Connery, Dalcassian Park.

## BOOK LAUNCH

Book Launch - 'A Weekend in July, Photo Story of St. Michael's Villas 70th Anniversary Celebrations' at Maria Assumpta Hall on

Wednesday 13th

December at 7pm.

€20 per book. Limited

edition. Over 620

photos in book.

Carol Service by SMV70

Community Choir.

Refreshments.

All welcome.



### Christmas Mass Schedule 2023 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

Please note: No Confessions on Christmas Eve

### Confessions for Christmas Week

Tuesday to Friday		Saturday 23rd December	
Friary	11.00am to 12.00pm	Friary	11-12noon
	4.00pm to 5.00pm		4-5pm
Cathedral	7.00pm to 7.25pm	Cathedral	10am-6pm and after Vigil Mass

Ennis Parish Development Fund for Sunday 3rd December 2023

Fund €4,946.00  
Online €138.50



# 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,  
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.