



NEWSLETTER

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

JOHN 1:29-34

Sunday 18th January 2026

The hectic has given way to the ordinary. The whirlwind arrival of 2026 brought one celebration after another. January 1st Mary, The Holy Mother of God / World Day of Prayer for Peace. January 6th celebrated The Epiphany of the Lord / Nollaig na mBan. January 11th celebrated The Baptism of the Lord. So, it is a welcome we give to this weekend as we return to the ordinary. Yes, the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. Yet, we are given not one but two pointers to reflect on this week. The first is the invitation to enter the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity which begins today. This year the theme is:

‘There is one Body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling’ (Ephesians 4:4)

The second pointer for the coming week is Catholic Schools Week. The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2026:

“Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community.”

Both invitations are a call to evangelisation: to live out the gospel message of Good News in the ordinary humdrum of life. In our readings today we are asked to reflect on what living out the Good News asks of us. The Prophet Isaiah speaks the words: ‘I will make you the light of the nations’. Psalm 39 sings out: ‘Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will’. While St. Paul prays: ‘May God send you grace and peace’. All these readings find fulfilment in John’s gospel: ‘Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the chosen one of God’. As we struggle with what our response to the call to Evangelise may look like the words spoken by Pope Leo may well give us hope and encouragement:

‘....a presence that inspires goodness. This is the way of mission: a path toward others. In God, every word is an addressed word; it is an invitation to conversation, a word never closed in on itself.’



Mass Times

Cathedral:

Monday to Friday 7.40am, 11am & 7.30pm
Saturday 11 am & Vigil 6.30pm
Sunday 8am, 9.30am & 11.30am
www.ennisparish.com/webcam
Radio link:106.4fm

St. Joseph's:

Monday to Friday 10.30am
Saturday 10.30am & Vigil 7pm
Sunday 10am & 11.45am
www.ennisparish.com/our-parish/stjosephs-church-webcam

Friary:

Monday to Saturday 10am
Vigil Mass Saturday 7.30pm
Sunday 10.30am
www.ennisparish.com/our-parish/franciscan-friary-webcam/

Christ the King - Cloughleigh

Monday to Friday 9.30am
Sunday 11am

Anniversary Masses and Baptisms are booked through the Parish Office: 065 6824043 (office hours).

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

Monday to Friday in the Cathedral from 5pm until 7pm

Phone Numbers:

Cathedral:- 6824043;
Email: info@ennisparish.com
St. Joseph's:- 6829584
Cloughleigh:- 6797 489;
Friary:- 6828751

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

**There is One Body
and One Spirit**

Ephesians 4:4



‘One of the most important-and most neglected-elements in the beginning of the interior life is the ability to respond to reality, to see the value and the beauty in ordinary things, to come alive to the splendour that is all around us.’

-Thomas Merton



Cathedral

Sat:6.30pm: Ena Whelan, Fountain Cross.
Tom & Carmel Nestor, Golf Links Rd.
Paul Shannon, Clare Hill, Clarecastle.
Micheál Casey, Station Rd.
Kathleen Dinan, Gallows Hill.
Bodie & Bill Hanley, Parnell St.
Henry McMullen, Ennis.

Sun 18th 8am: No intention booked.

9.30am: Josephine Forte, Gallows Hill & Belfast.

11.30am: Ita McCarthy, New Rd. MM.

Tony Cheung, Fernhill, Gort Rd.
John Collins, Cahercalla.
Flan O'Reilly, Clare Rd.
Slattery Family, Sandfield, Liscannor.
Considine Family, Ardcra, Liscannor.

1pm: Mass for the Polish Community.

Mon 7.40am: Holy Souls.

11am: Celia Madigan McGuane, England & St. Michael's Villas.

7.30pm: Tony McEnery, Dalcassian Park.

Tues:7.40am Book of Intentions.

11am: No intention booked.

7.30pm: **Holy Family School**
Do this In Memory Mass.

Wed 7.40am: John Rodgers, Cottage Gardens.

11am: No intention booked.

7.30pm: Kathleen Sorce, Cappamore, Barefield.
Michael & Helen Coffey, Hermitage.
Angela, Thomas & Catherine Colgan, Castlebar.

Thurs 7.40am: Tom Mulry, Roscommon.

11am: Geraldine Kenny, Willow Park.

7.30pm: **Ennis National School**
Do this in Memory Mass.

Fri 7.40am: Mass for the People.

11am: No intention booked.

7.30pm: Patricia (Patsy) Cawley, Shanaway Rd. MM.
Michael Quinn, Ivy Hill. MM.

Philomena Power, Kilnamona.

Sat:11am: No intention booked.

6.30pm: Philomena Houlihan, Hermitage. MM.
Frank Coote, Cahercalla. 1st Anniv.

Kasek Tkaczky, Poland. 1st Anniv.

Mary Phil McMahon, Drumcauran, Loughville. 1st Anniv.
Anna & Paul Brassil, St. Michael's Villas.

James Cox, Dalcassian Avenue.

Kitty & Patrick Hogan, 'Maryville', Aylmer's Cross.

Raymond Molloy, McNamara Park.

Frances Ball, Connolly Villas.

Christy Cullinan, Meadow Court.

Thomas Hayes, Askeaton.

Sun 25th 8am: Donal & Anna Mae Maher, Clonaslee, Co. Laois.

9.30am: Kathleen Hassett, Toonagh.

Margaret Neylon, Gallows Hill.

Vera Wall, Inchbeg.

Tom Talty, Turnpike & Kilfenora.

11.30am: Frank Fitzpatrick, College Green.

Patricia O'Donnell, Cahercalla Drive. 1st Anniv.

John & Eileen Dinan, Cahercalla Heights &

St. Flannan's Tce.

John Fogarty, Fernhill.

Seán & Josie O'Shea, Ard na Gréine.

Mary & John Griffin, Kilmihil.

Paul Dilleen, Shanaway Rd.

Lorraine O'Gorman, Hermitage.

Mary Gallery, Rockmount.

Bridget O'Reilly, Rath, Corofin.

Moroney Family, Erinagh, Fountain & McNamara Park.

5pm: Mass for the Brazilian Community.

Cathedral Renovation Appeal

In the past week Fr. Tom wishes to acknowledge donation of €50. Your generosity to the Cathedral Renovation Appeal is much appreciated. Thank you.

Diocesan Needs' Appeal

Thanks to all who contributed €3,305 to this appeal last weekend.

Appeal for Eucharistic Ministers, Readers & Basket Collectors

Last weekend at all Masses in the Cathedral an appeal was made for Ministers of the Eucharist, Readers and Basket Collectors.

Thanks to all who volunteered for these ministries. If you would still like to volunteer for any of these three ministries, please leave your name and details in the Sacristy or Parish Office.

For those who have volunteered, we will be in contact shortly.

Eucharistic Ministers

Our thanks to the 150 Eucharistic Ministers from the Abbey Pastoral Area who attended the Inservice Training in St. Joseph's in the past week.

Readers are invited to a similar Inservice on Tuesday 27th January or Tuesday 3rd February at 7.30pm in St. Joseph's Church.

Cathedral Columbarium

St. Anthony's Section of the Columbarium is now complete and received its first inurnment this weekend.

If you are interested in reserving a niche in St. Anthony's Section, please text Joseph O'Neill on (085) 2148301 for an appointment.

Joseph will be available in the Columbarium as follows:

Wednesday 28th January 9am-6pm;
Thursday 29th January 9am-6pm;
Friday 30th January 9am-6pm.

Newly Baptised

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

Aria Lily Neylon;
Alex James Golub;
Sindy O'Loughlin.



Ennis Parish
Development Fund
for Sunday, 11th January

Fund €8,374
Online €268

St. Joseph's



Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat 7pm: Pat Madden, Kincora Park. MM.

John Downes, Marian Ave.

Ann O'Connor, Corrovorrin Grove.

Margaret & Michael Roche, Kincora Park.

Sun 18th 10am: Mary O'Keeffe, Drumcliffe Rd.

11.45am: Esme McMahon, Dublin.

Mon 10.30am: Margaret Holmes, Oak Park.

Tues 10.30am: Book of Intentions.

Wed 10.30am: Special Intention.

Thu 10.30am: No intention booked.

Fri 10.30am: No intention booked.

Sat: 10.30am: Bridget & George O'Neill,
Clareabbey, Clarecastle.

7pm: Thomas Gooney, Kincora Park.

Sun 25th 10am: Bernie Ruane, Woodhaven.

William & Mary Lynch, Corrovorrin.

Annie, Peter & Anna Barry & Barry Family,

Ard Mhuire, Shanaway Rd.

11.45am: Joan Kelly, Corrovorrin Drive.

Peter Burke, Lifford Rd.

Barry, Frankie & Fergus O'Connor, Pearse Avenue.

Cloughleigh

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 18th 11am: Special Intention.

Delia & James Armstrong, Cahercalla.

Mon: 9.30am: Mary & PJ Neylon, Lahinch.

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

Sun 25th 11am: Fergal Landy, Considine Rd.

Thomas Brooks, Drumcauran. 1st Anniv.

John Monahan & Joe Kelly.

Kathleen Hogan, Davitt Tce.

Special Intention.

Cathedral Online Auction

Online AUCTION in aid of the Cathedral Restoration Appeal. Donations can be left into the Sacristy or Parish Office for the auction.

The auction will begin on the week of January 26th and bidding will conclude on Wednesday 4th February. Collection dates will be Friday and Saturday 6th and 7th February. More details nearer the time.

Diocesan Priests' Retreat

This Sunday Evening Bishop Fintan and the priests of the Diocese will begin their Annual Retreat in Knock Shrine. This annual gathering is a very necessary part of a priest's life, when just like Jesus, he takes time out to pray and reflect. Please keep the Bishop and priests in your prayers this week.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This week each year is a call to make the prayer of Jesus for his disciples that they would be one, become a reality.

The theme for this year is, 'There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.'

Ephesians 4:45

St. Bridget Crosses

As we prepare for St. Bridget's Day we will have St. Bridget's Crosses available at all Masses next weekend.

€4 each or 3 for €10 with proceeds going to the Cathedral Renovation Appeal.

Primary School Enrolment for the School Year 2026-2027 Ennis Parish Schools' Agreed Application System

Parents/Guardians wishing to enrol their children into Junior Infants (2nd Class in the Holy Family Senior School) are advised that application forms are available from each school on their websites or by email request.

The closing date for receipt of completed Application Forms is
Thursday 29th January 2026

The agreed system operates for the following Ennis Parish Schools:

- CBS Primary School
- Gaelscoil Mhíchíl Cíosóg
- Ennis National School
- Holy Family Junior School
- Holy Family Senior School
- Scoil Chríost Rí

Complete application forms to be returned to the school online or by post

Catholic Schools' Week



This week our Catholic Schools in Ireland celebrate the gift of faith that is nourished in our schools. We thank our teachers, staff, Boards of Management of our schools for nurturing the faith in the next generation.

This is a week to celebrate all this is good in our schools.

Rest In Peace



Fergus McCarthy, Elm Park;
Brendan McNamara,
Woodview, Shanaway Rd.

Maximo Ferko,
Iniscarraigh, St. Flannan's Drive.

Mary Fitzgibbon, Cuan an Chláir, Cahercalla;
John Lynch, St. Michael's Villas;
Jean MacCarthy, Ardlea Road;
Frank Loughnane,
brother of Sr. Gertrude, Poor Clare Monastery;
Michael O'Connor, Glin, Co. Limerick,
brother of Bernie Morrissey.
Celia Madigan McGuane,
England & St. Michael's Villas.

Blood Donor Clinics



The Irish Blood Transfusion Service is asking for blood donors to attend Crusheen & Ennis Blood Donation Clinics.

Crusheen Community Centre:

Monday 19th January; 4:50 pm - 8:10 pm

Ennis West County Hotel:

Thursday 22nd January; 4:50 pm - 8:10 pm

Phone 1800 222 111 for appointment.

New Donors welcome at all clinics.

Night for Cillian; Danlann An Chláir, Saturday February 7th
Performers (to name but a few) includes members of the Kilferonia Ceili Band, Fiona Ryan, the wonderful Cantare, Soprano Helen Ball, Quin n Tonics, Vincent Di Placido and many more. Tickets available at Eventbrite www.eventbrite.com or scan the QR code;

Tickets €30 +
Booking Fee
Available via eventbrite.ie
or scan QR Code Below



Candlemas Day

On Monday 2nd February we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas Day. The blessing of candles for home and church use will take place at all Masses on that day. We welcome candles for use in our churches. Please contact our Sacristan for more details.

Christmas Tea Bags

This year during the Advent, the sale of Christmas Teabags raised €1,776 for the Cathedral Renovation Appeal. We thank all those who make the bags, donate materials and sell, with special thanks to Bro. Philip OFM and the staff of the Friary Office.

Shannon Airport to Medjugorje - May 20th 2026 - €845 per person sharing. Price increases to €895 after Jan 30th. Full religious programmes operated by Marian Pilgrimages Medjugorje Team. Bookings for this seven night pilgrimage can be made by contacting Kathleen and Jimmy Morris on: 061 362657 or 086 3271657

Now Enrolling—Free Adult Craft Course, commencing in January in College of Further Education & Training, Ennis Campus. All welcome

To book a place or for more information contact 065 6897654/086 0752014 or email antoinette.houlihan@lcetb.ie

Poor Clares Galway

Half-Day Retreat for women 18-35 with Beth Davis of Blessed is She Ministries. This is an opportunity to encounter God's love and deepen your life of prayer and communion with God. The event will take place from 2pm to 6pm on **Sunday the 1st of February**.

For more information and to register: <https://cherisheddaughters.eventbrite.ie>

Ennis Choral Festival

As part of the Ennis Choral Festival 2026, Rowe Street Church Choir will sing the beautiful "Missa Santa Cecilia" composed by Jacob De Haan in St Peter and Paul's Cathedral, Ennis on Saturday 31st at 6.30 pm.

Please come and join us for a feast of wonderful music, under the baton of Donagh Wylde, Choir Master (and native Ennisman!) Everybody is welcome.

Clare Youth Service Personal Social Development Programme, running 3 groups in 3 locations in Clare. These programmes start in January for 15-17yr olds focusing on building core communication skills. More info from Helena on 0858047580

Meditation and Gentle Movement: You are welcome to join us in Cloughleigh Community Centre, Davitt Terrace (V95 K31X) on Mondays from 10 to 11.45 am. No previous experience necessary. Everyone is welcome. Information: Mary at 087 9701130

Marriage Enrichment Weekend

Catholic Marriage Encounter on 20th—22nd March next at "St Marys" Knock, Co. Mayo www.marriageencounter.ie

Today's Scripture Readings

<p>Entrance Antiphon All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!</p>	<p>Responsorial Psalm Response: Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.</p>	<p>coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'</p>
<p>PENITENTIAL RITE</p> <p>P. Have mercy on us, O Lord C. For we have sinned against you.</p> <p>P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy. C. And grant us your salvation.</p> <p>P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.</p> <p>C. Amen.</p>	<p>I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. He put a new song into my mouth praise of our God. R.</p> <p>You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear. You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. R.</p>	<p>The Gospel of the Lord</p>
<p>GLORIA</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will. My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. R.</p> <p>Your justice I have proclaimed In the great assembly. My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. R.</p>	<p>PROFESSION OF FAITH</p> <p>I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.</p>	<p>1 Cor 1:1-3</p>
<p>A reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 49:3-5-6</p> <p>The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified'; I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength. And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him: 'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth'.</p> <p>The word of the Lord</p>	<p>I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.</p> <p>The word of the Lord</p> <p>Gospel Acclamation</p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven And glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!</p> <p>A reading from the holy Gospel according to John</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Amen.</p> <p>Communion Antiphon</p> <p>Your have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.</p>