

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

YEAR A

John 1:1-18

Sunday 4th January 2026

Embracing the new year and what it might hold for us



I want to be there at dawn's arrival when the last stars of night yawn, and the morning's first radiant smile filters through the coming of daylight.

I want to be there at the sun's setting when birds chatter their evening prayers, and darkness falls like a gentle cloak over the planet's beloved residents.

I want to be there in human history when peace overtakes all violence, and each unsettled heart leaves behind whatever blocks the flow of kindness.

I want to be there when true kinship unites me to people here and everywhere, gathering the enduring thread of Spirit into a strong bond that nothing can separate

-The New year by Joyce Rupp



Taking those tentative steps into a new year .. taking a breath and with it breathing in what is learned from the wisdom of last year .. a wisdom that will encourage us **TO WANT** to experience the seasons nature will invite us to journey through the months ahead ... the fallow winter days that will hold the promise of springtime and the blossom of summer towards the harvest of the following autumn.

More importantly **TO WANT** to renew and create the kinship of relationships with those who we will share 2026 with ... refining our desire to be to them a balm for living just as we will hope them to be a balm for us.

May these days hold more hope filled anticipation than any mind created obstacles that so often don't materialize.

If a Blessing for these fledgling days is welcome then let's ask the one whose Christmas birthday heralded the dawning of the year to be our companion whose 'kinship unites us to people here and everywhere' a communion with people here and everywhere and to those whose life is now wrapped up in the eternal.

"So to all who did accept him, he gave power to become children of God" (John 1:1-18). It is in that kinship we share, the hope is surely that, **we want** to.

Mass Times

Cathedral:

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

St. Joseph's:

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

Friary:

Monday to Saturday 10am
Vigil Mass Saturday 7.30pm
Sunday 10.30am
www.ennisp Parish.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@ennisp Parish.com
St. Joseph's:- 6829584
Cloughleigh:- 6797 489;
Friary:- 6828751

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

Facebook :
<http://facebook.com/ennisp Parish>



Priest on Duty 4th January, 2026
Contact Fr. Tom Fitzpatrick 065 6869098



Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat: 6.30pm: P.J. Gilligan, Willow Park. 1st Anniv.
 Michael & Anne Tierney, Kilrush Rd.
 Paddy Loftus, Buttermarket.
 Patrick & Andrew Woods, McNamara Park.
 Martin Shannon, Kilnaboy.

Sun 4th 8am: Costeloe & O'Donoghue Families, Ennis & Cork.

Thomas & Kathleen Scanlon, Newcastle West & Ennis.
9.30am: No intention booked.

11.30am: Mark Quinn, Corofin. 1st Anniv
 Liam & Eoin Madigan, St. Michael's Villas.
 Mary Vaughan, Cahercalla.
 P.J. Malone, Beechpark.

Deceased members Red Cross, Clare
1pm: Mass for the Polish Community.

Mon 7.40am: No intention booked.

11am: Maureen O'Brien, St. Michael's Villas.
 Haulie Reidy & Family, Golf Links Rd.

7.30pm: Frank & Ann Fox, Cornmarket St.
 Lily Lawson, London & Glasgow.

Tues 7.40am: Book of Intentions.

11am: Jerry O'Callaghan, Willow Park.
 Special Intention.

7.30pm: Pat Henchy, Ennistymon. 1st Anniv.

Fionnuala Fitzpatrick & Fitzpatrick & Blake Families, Ennis.

Michael McMahon, Gallows Hill.

Wed 7.40am: No intention booked.

11am: Brian McSweeney, Lissycasey.

7.30pm: Noel Bolger, New Road.

Thurs 7.40am: Doohan Family, Lissycasey.

11am: Michael Moloney, McNamara Park.

7.30pm: Luke & Joan Coote, Considine Rd.

Fri 7.40am: Mass for the People.

11am: No intention booked.

7.30pm: Kevin Keane, Connolly Villas.

Gerry Fitzpatrick Toonagh, Fountain.

Sat: 11am: Kathleen & Brendan Sexton, Turnpike.
 Maureen Michna, O'Connell St. & Marian Avenue &

Deceased relatives and friends. 1st Anniv.

Maura Verling, Summerhill. MM.

John Cahir, St. Michael's Villas.

6.30pm: Carmel Cunningham, Aughanteerroe. MM.

Emma Murphy, Abbeylawn, Kilf dysart Rd.

Clarecastle & Cork. 1st Anniv.

Andrew Hynes, Drumcarranmore. 1st Anniv.

Hannah Kearney, St. Patrick's Tce. 1st Anniv.

Tom Carey, Drumcliffe & London. 1st Anniv.

Michael & Billy Shanahan, Clonroadmore.

Tony Shannon, Clancy Park.

Mary English, Clonroad.

Paddy Guthrie, Ard na Gréine.

Sunday 11th 8am: Bridie Rynne, Castlewood Park.

Mary Ann & Patrick Rynne, Lissycasey.

Joe, Norah, Joe Jr. & Tony McDonagh, Galway.

9.30am: Vincent Neylon, Parnell St.

Patrick Feeney, St. Michael's Villas.

Tom & Kitty Kelly, College Rd.

11.30am: Stephen Malone, Dalcassian Drive. MM.

Donny Martin, Morrissey Ave.

Casimir Bielasiewicz, Poland.

Austin Smith, Ballymacahill, Roslevan.

Peggy & Jim Casey, The White House, Shanaway.

George & Margaret McMahon, St. Michael's Villas.

Lily Cusack, Parnell St. & Mary Cleere, Tubber.

1pm: Mass for the Ukrainian Community.

5pm: Mass for the Brazilian Community.

Cathedral Renovation Appeal

In the past week Fr. Tom wishes to acknowledge donations of €5,000, €500 and €100. Your generosity to the Cathedral Renovation Appeal is much appreciated. Thank you.

Priests' Christmas Collection

The Bishop and Priests of the Pastoral Area are grateful to the many people who contributed to the Priests' Christmas Collection. If you were away or forgot, your contribution would still be appreciated.

Diocesan Needs Appeal

The Second Collection at all Masses next weekend is an annual appeal from Bishop Fintan for support in the running of the Diocese. This appeal helps finance Diocesan Structures like Safeguarding, Catechetics, Adult Faith Formation and ongoing formation of both priests and lay ministers.

Poor Clare Monastery

Mass this week at 8.30am. The Sisters thank all parishioners for their support and assure us of their daily prayers for all.

Friary News

The monthly Mass for SFO members will take place on Wednesday 7th January next at 10am in the Friary. We will pray the office after Mass. Also, there will be an evening meeting in the Friary Parlour at 7.30pm for those unable to attend the morning meeting.

Newly Baptised



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

Noah Clifford McInerney

Zara Rae Eyres,

St. Joseph's



Remembered in Masses this Week:

7pm: Pauline Gibbons, Kincora Park.

Sun 4th 10am: Margaret Griffin, Lees Rd., Drumcliffe.

11.45am: Jane McNamara, Corrovorrin. 1st Anniv

Mary Keane, Marian Ave. 1st Anniv

Paddy & Mary Darcy, Arbutus House, Glenoir.

Mon 10.30am: No intention booked.

Tues 10.30am: Book of Intentions.

Wed 10.30am: No intention booked.

Thurs 10.30am: No intention booked.

Fri 10.30am: No intention booked.

Sat 10.30am: Linda Lee Drennan, Cloureen.

7pm: No intention booked.

Sun 11th 10am: No intention booked.

11.45am: Toss O'Sullivan, New Road.

Cloughleigh



Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sun 4th 11am: Ellen Flynn nee Dilger, Honan's Tce.

Mai Molloy, Ennis & Dublin & Carol Harold.

Mon: 9.30am: Maureen O'Brien, St. Michael's Villas.

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

John & Mary Hunt & Family, Dublin & Kilkee.

Donations of Unwanted Christmas Gifts

Donations of Unwanted Christmas Gifts are very much appreciated and can be left into the Cathedral or Parish Office for the online Auction to support the Cathedral Renovation Fund.

Calling all Eucharistic Ministers & Readers of the Word



The Abbey Pastoral Area is organising a short refresher course for all who serve as Eucharistic Ministers and Readers of the Word in any of the churches in our Pastoral Area. The course will be offered on two nights each so as to give all involved an opportunity to attend ONE of the dates that suits them best.

The venue will be St. Joseph's Church on the following dates at 7.30pm:

Readers of the Word:

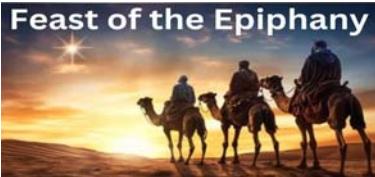
Tuesday 27th January or Tuesday 3rd February;

Eucharistic Ministers:

Tuesday 13th January or Wednesday 14th January
 Anyone involved in these ministries is to attend ONE of the relevant meetings. The meetings are also open to those interested in becoming a Reader or Eucharistic Minister.

We take this opportunity to thank all those who serve in these ministries for your dedication and commitment.

Feast of the Epiphany
Tuesday 6th January



The Feast of the Epiphany is a Holy Day.

Mass times as follows:

Monday 5th January

7.30pm Vigil Cathedral;

Tuesday 6th January

7.40am	Cathedral;
8.30pm	Poor Clare Monastery;
9.30am	Cloughleigh;
10am	Friary;
10.30am	St. Joseph's;
11am & 7.30pm	Cathedral.

Matt Talbot Prayer Society



The monthly mass praying for all suffering or sharing in the life of addictions will take place on Monday at 7.30pm Vigil Mass in the Cathedral.

Parish Calendar 2026

The Parish Calendar is available free of charge to share with family or friends from any of our churches or the Parish Office.

REST IN PEACE



Pat Burke, Oatfield, Knockanoura.
Tulla Rd.:

Michael Collins, Roslevan & former teacher in Rice College;

TJ Chambers, Ballyea & Student in St. Flannan's College;

Christine Murphy, Cork, sister of Denis Canty, Willow Park;

Patsy Coombes (nee O'Connell),
Salisbury, UK & late St. Michael's Villas.

Susie Moroney, Dalcassian Park. Funeral Mass in the Cathedral on Monday at 11am. Burial in Drumcliffe Cemetery;

Denise Cosgrove who died in Wales.
Funeral Mass in the Cathedral on Friday at 11am. Burial in Drumcliffe Cemetery.

Offertory Envelopes

The new box of envelopes begin this weekend. We thank all who use these envelopes each week. If you currently do not receive a box and would like to, please contact the Parish Office. We ask you to consider, if not already doing so, signing up for the Tax Rebate Scheme. This is of great support to the parish at no additional cost to you. Again please contact the Parish Office for details.

Our thanks to the many volunteers who each year faithfully deliver the boxes and calendars.

Scan with your phone. You can also scan this code with the camera of your phone and it will bring you to our parish website and makes it easier for you to donate to the parish.

Mile buiochas

St. Paul's Missal

A small number of copies of the 2026 Sunday Missal are still available for sale. The cost is €8. Contact the Parish Office.

Grow Mental Health

Friendly Community based groups for anyone experiencing mental health issues by empowering people to nurture their positive wellbeing by supporting personal growth through education, peer support and self-teaching.

Ennis Meeting- Maria Assumpta Hall.

Monday 7.30pm/Tuesday 2pm.

Contact Celia 086-1526966/grow.ie

New Year Prayer



May God make your year a happy one not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain but by strengthening you to bear it as it comes; Not by making your path easy but by making you sturdy to tread any path; Not by taking hardships from you but by taking fear from your heart; Not by granting you unbroken sunshine but by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows; Not by making your life always pleasant but by showing you when people and their causes need you more and by making you anxious to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.

Sr. Eileen's Cuinne



Sollúntacht Eipeafáine an Tiarna.

Cuirimis fáilte mhór roimh an bhliain úrnua 2026 agus sinn ag fágáil sláin le 2025. Iarraimid ar Dhia a bheith linn i rith na bliana lena ghrásta agus beannachtaí.

Ar an 6th Eanáir ceiliúrtar Sollúntacht Eipeafáine an Tiarna. Tugtar Lá Nollag Beag nó Nollaig na mBan ar an bhfeile seo chomh maith. Ar na fir a thiteann obair an tí ar an 6 Eanáir,

Tá traidisiún ann go bhfaigheann mná lá saoire ó dhualgas an tí ar an lá seo. Ciallaíonn an focal 'Eipeafáine' foilsíú nó fogairt. Fógraíodh gurb é fíosa Críost Slánaitheoir an domhain. Tháinig na Saoithe ón Oirthear chun ómós a thabhairt do Mhac Dé. Foilsiodh an Slánaitheoir do na Gintlití i bpearsana na Saoithe a fuair treoir ó réalta go Beithil. Bhí a fhios acu gur rugadh Rí a raibh urraim ar leith ag dul dó. Shléacht siad go talamh roimhe agus bhronn siad tabhartais an-luachmhar, ór, túis agus miorr, air. Ghabh na Saoithe bóthar eile abhaile ag tabhairt neamháird ar achainí Héaród. Má leanaimid fíosa Críost tiocfaimid chuig an bhFlaitheas.

Go dtuga Dia treorú dúinn bóthar ár leasa a leanúint. Áíméan.

Let us welcome the New Year 2026 as we say goodbye to 2025. We ask God to bless us with His graces and blessings during the year.

The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on 6th January. This feast is also called Little Christmas and Women's Christmas. Women get a break from housework on this day and it is done by the men.

The word "Epiphany" means proclamation. Jesus Christ was proclaimed Saviour of the world. The Three Kings arrived from the East to honour the Infant Jesus. They represented the Gentiles and were directed by a star to Bethlehem. They knew that a King was born who deserved homage and respect. They knelt to worship Him and offered Him precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. They returned home a different way disregarding Herod's request. If we follow Jesus Christ, we will reach Heaven. *May God guide us and set us on the right course. Amen.*

Prayer for Peace



Gracious God,

In a world filled with conflicts and unrest,

I lift my voice in prayer for peace.

May Your divine presence bring an end to violence, conflicts, and injustice in our world.

Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

When a profound silence covered all things
And night was in the middle of its course,
Your all-powerful Word, O Lord,
Bounded from heaven's royal throne.

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 book of Ecclesiastics (Si 24:1-2.8-12)

Wisdom speaks her own praises,
in the midst of her people she glories in herself.
She opens her mouth in the assembly of the
Most High, she glories in herself in the presence
of the Mighty One.
'Then the creator of all things instructed me,
and he who created me fixed a place for my
tent.
He said, Pitch your tent in Jacob,
make Israel your inheritance.
From eternity, in the beginning, he created me,
and for eternity I shall remain.
I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle,
and thus was I established on Zion.
In the beloved city he has given me rest,
and in Jerusalem I wield my authority.
I have taken root in a privileged people,
in the Lord's property, in his inheritance.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response:

*The Word was made flesh, and lived
among us.*

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!

Zion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates,

He has blessed the children within you.

R.

He established peace on your borders,

He feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth

And swiftly runs his command.

R.

*He makes his word known to Jacob,
To Israel his laws and decrees.*

He has not dealt thus with other nations;

He has not taught them his decrees R.

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians Eph: 1:3-6. 15-18

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ, for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved. That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to you, O Christ,

proclaimed to the pagans;

Glory be to you, O Christ,

believed in by the world.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John John 1: 1-18

In the beginning was the Word:

the Word was with God

and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things came to be,

All that came to be had life in him
and that life was the light of men,
a light that shines in the dark,
a light that darkness could not overpower.

The Word was the true light
that enlightens all men;
and he was coming into the world.
He was in the world
that had its being through him,
and the world did not know him.

He came to his own domain
and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God,
to all who believe in the name of him
who was born not out of human stock
or urge of the flesh
or will of man
but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh,
he lived among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory that is his as the only Son of the
Father, full of grace and truth.

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

To all who would accept him
He gave the power
to become children of God.