



Ss. Peter & Paul Cathedral | St. Joseph's Church | Cloughleigh | Friary | Poor Clares

Email: info@ennisparish.com

ENNIS PARISH

NEWSLETTER

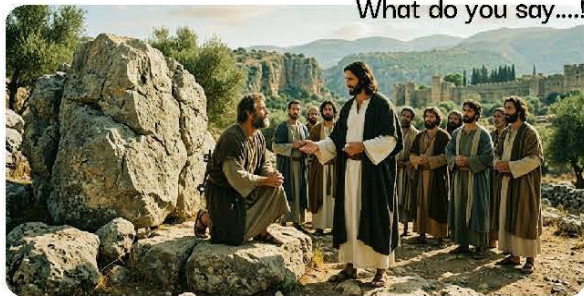
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

MATTHEW 16:13-20

Sunday 23rd August 2026

What do the people say
What do you say....!



So much easier to relay what is generally perceived to be the case ... but ... when asked to put your own statement out there, it can be a different matter entirely.

St Matthew's account of a conversation between Jesus and his Disciples where Jesus makes an attempt to make himself truly known to them begins with the question ... "**Who do THE PEOPLE say the Son of Man is**"??? As the conversation continued it might appear Jesus was setting up his Disciples .. Because, the answers came freely it seems from a number of them and they quoted a number of sources.

Once they had confidently poured out their responses ... the teacher in Jesus, turns the question in on themselves ... "**But you .. Who do YOU say I am**"?? It seems only one had the temerity to attempt a response, and did he Peter, steps outside his comfort zone. "**You are THE CHRIST, the Son of the Living God.**"

We live in an age when the phrase .. What defines you ... trips off our tongues ... well, it appears Peter defined himself as he defined Jesus ... the promised Messiah who would save his people. Jesus' definition of self would not turn out to be what even his close Disciples expected it might be. The moment of the Last Supper when he washed the Disciples' feet ... saying ... "What I have done for you, you must do for each other" ... and that only a very short few hours before some would deny him, run away from him as he is set upon and crucified.

He was and indeed remains the consummate teacher, who shows the way to unravel the puzzle as to who **HE** is and who **WE** might see Jesus to be. When we find a way towards the answer for ourselves, that's when we will begin to define ourselves by way of our relationship with him. Just as Peter did ... "**You are Peter, and on THIS ROCK I will build my church**" ... Peter was to deny him and yet, Peter remains **THE ROCK**. That's why we have to continue to find OUR WAY towards our answer ... "**WHO DO YOU SAY I AM**"???? Peter may have answered but he would soon discover how difficult it would be to maintain that conviction. ... once Peter began to find a way towards an answer to Jesus' question .. "**WHO DO YOU SAY I AM**" .. It was then Jesus saw Peter and defined him in a new way ... John O'Donohue imagines in his poem "The Eyes of Jesus" how Jesus might see us too as we journey towards our answer

Mass Times

Cathedral:

Monday to Friday 7.40am, 11am & 7.30pm

Saturday 11am & 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, Friday & Saturday 11-12 noon & 4-5 pm

Baptisms

Can be booked through the Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Presbyteries

Cathedral:- 6824043;

Email: info@ennisparish.com

Kincora Park:- 6829584

Cloughleigh:- 6797489;

Friary:- 6828751

Ennis Parish Web Site:

<http://www.ennisparish.com>

Facebook:

<http://facebook.com/ennisparish>



Priest on Duty 23rd August, 2026

Contact Fr. Michael Collins Tel. 065 6869098



Cathedral

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat 6.30pm: John Joe Keane, College Park.
Theresa (Teddy) & Deceased Ryan Family, Connolly Villas.
Melinda Moloney, Hermitage.
Myra & Sean Kenny, Dalcassian Ave.
Peggy Kenny, Clohanmore, Cree.
Maureen & Lawrence Curtin, Miltown Malbay & Carlow.
Sun 23rd 8am: Margita Belis, Slovakia. 1st Anniv
9.30am: Paddy Forde, "St Martins", Ardlea Rd.
Pauline Clune, Quin.
11.30am: Antoinette Curran, Westfields. MM
Marie 1st Anniv & Vincent Griffin, Ard Aoibhin & Kilkenny.
William & Patricia Casey, "La Verna", Cappahard.
Pat & Mary Neylon &
P.J. & Michael Palmer, Connolly Villas.
Tom Pilkington, Loughville.
Monica & Fergus Gallagher, Cappahard, Tulla Rd.
Paul Whelan, Kilrush Rd.
Breda, Joe & Jim O'Halloran, Doorra & Ennis.
Mon: 7.40am: Holy Souls.
11am: John Looney, Kilmihil.
7.30pm: Michael Griffin, Parnell Street.
Tom Cosgrove, McNamara Park.
Tom Dillon, Ard na Greine.
Patricia McManus, Dublin.
Tues: 7.40am Book of Intentions.
11am: No intention booked.
7.30pm: Jerry Murphy, Clarecastle.
Special Intention.
Wed 7.40am: No intention booked.
11am: No intention booked.
7.30pm: Michael Considine, Hermitage;
Christopher & Daniel Considine, Barnsley, Yorkshire.
Thurs 7.40am: No intention booked.
11am: Eileen Tuohy, Kincora Park & Parnell St.
7.30pm: No intention booked.
Fri 7.40am: Mass for the People.
11am: Pat Sherlock, Clancy Park.
7.30pm: Mary Reidy, Claireen, Lahinch Road.
James Hanley, Turnpike Road.
Brendan Mulkere, London, UK.
Patrick, Joan, Brian & Pat Barry, St. Senan's Rd.
Sat: 11am: Pakie Coote, Marian Ave.
Fr. Tony Coote, Dublin.
6.30pm: Frank Conway, Station Road.
Sun 30th 8am: Paul Hanley, Brockley, London.
9.30am: No intention booked.
11.30am: John & Mary O'Dwyer, Castlewood Park.
Seamus Higgins, Drumbiggle Road.
Mary Browne, Fergus Park.
Patrick Shannon, Dalcassian Park.

Cathedral Renovation Appeal

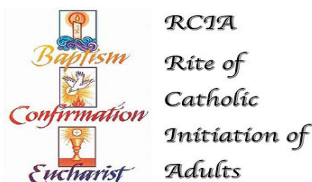
In the past week Fr. Tom wishes to acknowledge donation of €5,000. We thank the many people who have made once off contributions to this appeal.

Back to School

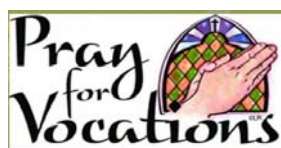


Those dreaded three words are here again. Our school doors will open once again this week for the start of a new school year. We pray God's blessing on all involved in Education in our Parish. Bless those who are beginning and those moving to new beginnings.

RCIA



Do you or someone you know want to become a Catholic? Please contact the Parish Office for more information.



In the coming weeks, forty men will be studying for the priesthood in our National Seminary in Maynooth. Please continue to pray for our students who are discerning the call to priesthood for service in our Diocese of Killaloe.

Newly Baptised



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

Heather Emma Shanahan.

St. Joseph's



Remembered in Masses this Week:

Sat 7pm: Ann O'Donoghue, Fergus View, Cloughleigh Rd. 1st Anniv.
Sun 23rd 10am: No intention booked.
11.45am: Frank Doris, Roslevan.
Tommy McGann, Drumcliffe Road.
Gerry Sheridan, Marian Ave.
Theresa Hurley, Cork.
Mon 10.30am: No intention booked
Tues 10.30am: Book of Intentions.
Wed 10.30am: No intention booked
Thu 10.30am: No intention booked.
Fri 10.30am: Paudie Cosgrove, Gort Road.
Eugene Leonard, Ennis.
Sat: 10.30am: No intention booked
7pm: Maurice Greehy, St. Senan's Road.
Sun 30th 10am: Paddy Greene, Corrovorrin Ave.
Vincent Green, Corrovorrin Ave & Bedfordshire UK
Helen & John McCabe, Newpark, Roslevan.
Mary Manning, Dromahane, Cork.
11.45am: Pauline & Denis Horgan, Tobartaoscairn.

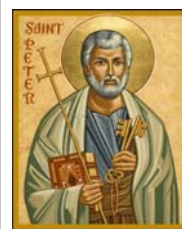
Franciscan Missionaries of Mary



Franciscan Missionaries of Mary

This weekend we welcome the Sisters of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary who will make a Mission Appeal at all masses in the Cathedral. The sisters will hold a retiring collection at the door at the end of mass.

Reflection on Peter



Peter has been called a stumbling saint. He is a great consolation to us because courage fails us all.

All of us are mere mortals, who are inconstant in our beliefs. We must learn to forgive ourselves momentary weaknesses and failures. We need to surmount these things and see the world in less rigid terms. We must not judge ourselves or others by momentary inconsistencies, but rather by commitment given over a long time. Jesus was well aware of Peter's faults, but He saw that in spite of everything, his heart was sound, which meant he had the ability to love, and in the long run love is what counts.

Cherished Daughters

A half day retreat for women 18-40 on Sunday 6th September from 2pm to 6pm at the Poor Clare Monastery, Nuns' Island, Galway.

Louise McGuinness, Co-Director of Star of the Sea Retreat Centre, Mullaghmore, Co. Sligo will lead the afternoon of prayer and reflection.



Cloughleigh

Remembered in Masses this Week:

Tue 9.30am: Book of Intentions.

Ennis Parish Development Fund

for Sunday, 16th August

Fund €5279.00
Online €971.00

Prayer for Those who Received Results
 Father God,
 may your presence be felt
 on our young people
 who received their exam results
 on Friday.

As they plan ahead,
 may they know their worth
 and value is not based
 on academic achievement
 but on your great love for us.
 Help them to trust
 in your goodness,
 fix their eyes firmly on you
 and guide their steps
 along the path before them. Amen

Diabetes Documentary Screening
 Thriveabetes presents Imperfect Days, an Irish documentary about living with diabetes and advances in diabetes research and care. The event includes a diabetes technology exhibition, film screening, and panel discussion with some of the film's participants. Event Details: Saturday, 19 September, 10.30am-2pm; Treacy's West County Hotel, Ennis; Tickets €20; under-16s free; Advance booking required.

Find out more or book tickets at: <https://thriveabetes.ie/diabetes-documentary-screening>

Study Theology Online, is this for you? The Priory Institute provides online Theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lectures in Tal-laght or from the comfort of your own home. Register now to begin on 19 September. Find out more on our website: prioryinstitute.com

Please support Soroptimists Ireland Ennis and District fundraising Coffee Morning in Le Chéile Café, Barefield Sat. 5th September from 11am -1pm. This event is to raise funds to transport children from Ennis Special schools to enjoy Riding for the Disabled Association provided sessions.

All donations welcome. For more info contact 086 6011971.

Organist Required for Barefield Church.
 Please contact Doora Barefield Parish Office during office hours. Tel. 065 6822225.

Anam Cara Galway, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Support Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 2nd September at 7.30pm in the Maldron Hotel, Headford Point, Sandy Road, Galway.

Rest in Peace



Derry Dinan, Florida
 & late St. Flannan's Tce;

Brigid Pyne, Clarecastle, sister of Mary O'Keeffe, Cuan an Chláir.

Saint Monica,
 Patron of Domestic Violence Victims
 Thursday 27th August



The circumstances of St. Monica's life could have made her a nagging wife, a bitter daughter-in-law and a despairing parent, yet she did not give way to any of these temptations.

Although she was a Christian, her parents gave her in marriage to a pagan, Patricius, who lived in her home town of Tagaske in North Africa. Patricius had some redeeming features, but he had a violent temper. Monica also had to bear with a cantankerous mother-in-law who lived in her home. Patricius criticised his wife because of her charity and piety, but always respected her.

Monica's prayers and example finally won her husband and mother-in-law to Christianity. Her husband died in 371, one year after his baptism.

Monica's prayers also supported her son, Augustine and enabled him to follow the Christian way of life. Monica's request of her son was 'All I ask of you is that you remember me at Mass and at the foot of the altar'.

St. Monica whose feast we celebrate on Thursday is the patron of domestic violence victims. We pray for the needs of those who have suffered domestic violence, whether it be men, women or children.

On Friday, we will celebrate the feast of her son, St. Augustine.

HSE Mid-West Community Healthcare are running the 'Living Well' programme which is a free of charge group self-management programme for people with long term health conditions or their carers.

The programme, which is run in a friendly and non-intrusive manner, addresses topics such as fatigue, sleep, pain, stress, physical activity, healthy eating, difficult emotions, low mood, depression and general wellbeing. It takes place over 6 weeks, 2.5 hours per week with up to 15 people on the programme.

A programme will commence on Tuesday September 15th at Ennis Primary Care Centre at 10.30am and continues for 6 weeks, finishing on Tuesday October 20th.

Prior registration is necessary, numbers are limited. Call Frances at 086 2105721 or Philip at 087 1799396 to register or for more info.

Dementia Cafe opening in Shannon Family Resource Centre on the 14th of September from 11am-1pm.

All welcome.



Dementia Friendly

UPDATE

Cathedral Works Update

Work is continuing on the heating conversion from oil to Natural Gas.

- ⇒ New heating boiler delivered to site;
- ⇒ Heating-services trench excavated and pipework installation underway;
- ⇒ Plant-room upgrades for the new heating system in progress;
- ⇒ Preliminary enabling works for the new front steps due to commence in early September.

There is no parking in the Cathedral Grounds while this work is in progress.

We thank the many people who have made contributions to the Cathedral Renovation Appeal to allow this work to happen.

We all look forward to a warm and comfortable Cathedral this winter.

Creative Brainwaves will take place at the Temple Gate Hotel, Ennis, on 11 September bringing together leading researchers, artists, advocates and people with lived experience to explore brain health, dementia and wellbeing. Co-hosted by Clare Age Friendly Ambassador Mike Hanrahan and Karen Meenan, the free event will feature expert talks, interactive workshops, live music and immersive VR experiences.

Attendees will discover how creativity and emerging technologies are supporting healthier minds and improving dementia care.

Admission is free, but advance booking through Eventbrite is essential. For information contact Shanellie Waring Clare Age Friendly Programme Manager on 087 4777658 or

swaring@clarecoco.ie

RNLI LIFEBOATS TO THE RESCUE

The RNLI Lifeboats 'Flaggy Shore Burren Ramble' will take place on Sunday 6 September.

Parking in Mairtin Fahy's meadow field Eir Code H91 DWR3 on the shore from 11am. Walk will start at 12 noon.

Meeting point for people who don't know the area is New Quay Church where a steward will guide you the short distance to Parking.

Summer Cruise to the Aran Islands and the Cliffs of Moher takes place on Friday evening 28 August from Doolin pier. Enquiries for the fundraisers to 0876260301.

Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your ear, O Lord and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you,
my God.

Have mercy on me, O Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.

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 prophet Isaiah.

Is 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the
master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiah.
I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.
I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;
should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.
I drive him like a peg

into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his fathers house.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response:

Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
Discard not the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple.

R.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love
Which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
You increased the strength of my soul.

R.

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
And the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
Discard not the work of your hands.

R.

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

Rm11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God - how deep
his wisdom and knowledge - and how im-
possible to penetrate his motives or under-
stand his methods! Who could ever know
the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be
his counsellor? Who could ever give him
anything or lend him anything? All that
exists comes from him; all is by him and for
him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter and on this rock I will
build my Church.

And the gates of the underworld can
never hold out against it.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel ac- cording to Matthew

Mt16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of
Caesarea Philippi he put this question to
his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son
of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is
John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others
Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,'
he said 'who do you say I am?' Then

Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,'
he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus
replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a
happy man! Because it was not flesh and
blood that revealed this to you but my
Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You
are Peter and on this rock I will build my
Church. And the gates of the underworld
can never hold out against it. I will give you
the keys of the kingdom of heaven:
whatever you bind on earth shall be
considered bound in heaven; whatever you
loose on earth shall be considered loosed
in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples
strict orders not to tell anyone that he was
the Christ.

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 suf-
fered 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 spo-
ken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic
Church. I confess one Baptism for the for-
giveness of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead and the life of the
world to come.

Amen.

Communion Antiphon

The earth is replete with the fruits of
your work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.