

Further work is to be carried next year on the Ascension and the Last Judgement windows which will involve removing the windows and having them released.

We also hope to reslate the roof of the Cathedral in the Spring. This year the Restoration fund contributions amounted to €24,351. A full breakdown of the accounts will be available on the parish website [loughreacathedral.ie](http://loughreacathedral.ie) at the end of January.

### Information about the collections

1. The **weekly envelope** contributions returned to the Cathedral are for the day to day running costs of the parish. Weekly envelope contributions returned to the Carmelite Abbey church remain with the Abbey.
2. There are four main collections during the year – **Easter, Summer, Harvest and Christmas**. The money that you contribute to these collections provides the income for the parish clergy.
3. The **Lenten Collection** provides for the administration costs of the diocese.
4. The **Retirement Fund** collection is a diocesan collection for the sick or retired priests of the diocese.
5. The second basket collection is for the **Cathedral Restoration Fund** from which we pay for major works.

### Recommended contribution

We are grateful for whatever contribution people can afford. As a guideline for those who have asked, it is suggested that a basic contribution in the **weekly envelope might be €3 per earner in the household**. A suggested contribution to each of the four collections for the support of the clergy is 10% of the weekly income to each of the four collections. (Example: if a person earns €300 per week the suggested contribution to the priest's collection is €30 for each of the four collections) Your contributions are appreciated and without them we would not be able to fulfil the pastoral and practical needs of the parish.

**Remember if you wish to register your envelope please put your name and address on the first envelope you return.**

Yours faithfully,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monsignor Cathal Geraghty, P.P.

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### LOUGHREA CATHEDRAL & CARMELITE ABBEY

The Presbytery 091 – 841212    The Abbey 091 – 841209

Website – [loughreacathedral.ie](http://loughreacathedral.ie) [clonfertdiocese.ie](http://clonfertdiocese.ie)

Newsletter online: [loughreacathedral.ie](http://loughreacathedral.ie) [clonfertdiocese.ie](http://clonfertdiocese.ie)

Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Feast of the Holy Family

Thank you for the support you have given the parish during 2018. I hope we can count on your support for 2019.

**If you wish to register your collection envelope, please write your name and address on the first envelope you return.** Once you have done this on one envelope you need not repeat it on any other envelopes. We will compile the Parish Register from the names and addresses on the returned envelopes.

We are operating the **Tax Relief Scheme** for donations to eligible charities. The Parish qualifies under this scheme to claim back a percentage of income tax paid on donations of more than €250 in any tax year. This figure is reached by combining all your contributions to the weekly collections and to the four collections for the clergy. The scheme applies to all income tax payers and the parish can benefit by your participation in the scheme. **It will not have any implications for your income or your own tax.** If you are willing to participate in this scheme it is important that you register your envelope and sign a consent form allowing us to apply for a percentage tax rebate on your contributions. If you are willing to participate:-

- Please fill in the form on the reverse side of this letter with your name, PPS number, address and signature.
- **Return the form by including it with your donation in your collection envelope** and placing it in the basket at the collection time at Mass.
- We will keep a record of your contributions and make a claim to the revenue at the end of the year.

**ALL DETAILS WILL BE TREATED IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE.** Thanks to those who have signed up to the scheme.

### Income and Expenditure

The income to date (23/12/2018) for 2018 from the Offertory Collection was €60,942 with additional income from Shrine Candles of €9,025, Chapel of Adoration €7,876 and various contributions of €3,330. The expenditure from that account was €82,758. We have storm glazed some of the stained glass windows during the year. Abbey Stained Glass Studios of Dublin have agreed to a payment plan of €2000 per month which is a great help to us. This money comes from the second basket collection, the Restoration fund.

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CATHEDRAL THIS WEEK

**Mon. 11am** Thomas & Nan Scully

**8pm No Evening Mass**

**Tues. 11am** Carmel Holohan

**8pm No Evening Mass**

The Carmelite Abbey Office is closed from 23<sup>rd</sup> December – 2nd January except briefly after the 10am Mass in an emergency.

**January Prayer Meeting** with the Carmelite nuns. "Our first Prayer Meeting in 2019 will be next Wed. 2nd. Jan at 7.45pm in Mt. Carmel Chapel. Join us to pray in the New Year!"

**All Ireland Rosary Rally for Faith and Life**, Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 Feast of Mother of God. Venue: Dáil Eireann, Merrion Square, Dublin at 12 noon. All welcome. Contact 086-3207466 for details.

**Mass & Blessing of St. Dominic's Well** in Esker on the 5th & 6th January at 11am. This is a tradition for many years where people come to take home the blessed water to sprinkle on their homes and farms. Everyone welcome.

**John Paul II Award Scheme**, If there are any Transition, 5th or 6th Year students interested in this scheme, please contact your local priest or Ms Marie Burke at 083-8791745 for details.

**Annual Mummings Festival, New Inn Leisure Centre**, Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. A great night of traditional entertainment in a comfortable venue .

**Anam Cara Galway**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening Wed., 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan., at 7:20pm in the Clayton Hotel, Ballybrit, Galway. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not.

**Community Employment Scheme Vacancy** Youth Work Assistant with Loughrea Youth Project. Applicant must be eligible for DSP – contact local Intreo office to confirm. 19.5 hours p/w. DSP CE Rates of Pay. Contact Noreen Connolly, CE Supervisor: 087-2346943 or [ce.supervisor@youthworkgalway.ie](mailto:ce.supervisor@youthworkgalway.ie)

**Loughrea Parish Council CLG** Community Employment Scheme have the following vacancies: General Operative and Clerical position. If interested contact local Intreo office for eligibility. For more info., contact Parish Office: 091-841212. Closing date for receipt of applications: 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**Social Bridge** in the Loughrea Hotel & Spa, Mondays at 11am.

**Abbey Arts & Crafts Group** weekly craft classes in the Abbey Monastery, Monday evenings 8-10pm. New members are always welcome.

### Temperance Hall Events

**Loughrea Bingo** every Friday night @ 8.30pm, jackpot €10,000.

**Loughrea Activity Assoc.** Next meeting Monday, 14th January, 2019. Bowling Mon, 1.30-3.30pm, Tuesdays, 11am-1pm.

**Karate Classes** for beginners and members, Mon. & Wed, 7.30pm-9pm. All are welcome, ladies & gents and children over 8yrs of age. Call 087-6133297 for more details.

**Line Dancing Classes 2019** Line dancing classes starting in the tea room on Wed.16<sup>th</sup> Jan. at 8pm. All are welcome. Contact Sean @ 087-9761692.

**Whist** 8pm Thursday nights except 27<sup>th</sup> Dec., Whist at 7pm. New members welcome

**Social & Ballroom Dance Classes 2019** starting Tues., 15<sup>th</sup> Jan. at 8.30pm in the main hall. Learn to jive, waltz, quick step, foxtrot. All are welcome. Contact Sean @ 087-761692 for details.

### No Evening Mass in the cathedral on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019

<p><b>Ministers of the Eucharist:</b>  <b>Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> Jan. 8pm</b> D. Shaughnessy, M. Joyce  <b>Sun. 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. 10am</b> M. Doyle  <b>Sun. 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. 12 noon</b> E. McKiernan A. Gardiner</p>	<p><b>Mass Servers</b>  <b>Team A</b> Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> Jan. 8pm  <b>Team B</b> Sun. 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. 10am  <b>Team C</b> Sun. 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. 12 noon</p>
<p><b>Ministers of the Word</b>  <b>Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> Jan. 8pm</b> Frances Blake  <b>Sun. 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. 12noon</b> Mark Connolly</p>	<p><b>Cathedral Collections: Offertory:</b> €1,301  The <b>Second Basket Collection</b> next weekend is in aid of Loughrea Lions Club. All funds collected are distributed in the local community.</p>

**Baptisms:** We welcome into God's family, Switzerland and Niamh Catalina Mitchell, California, U.S.A.

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CARMELITE ABBEY THIS WEEK

<b>Mon. 8am</b> John & Bernie Mongan	<b>10am</b> Patrick Burke
<b>Tues. 8am</b> Rosemary Fahy	<b>10am</b> Michael & Agnes Donnelly
<b>Wed. 8am</b> Paddy Farrell	<b>10am</b> Nellie Casey
<b>Thurs. 8am</b> Maude Deeley	<b>10am</b> Michael & Dora Casey
<b>Fri. 8am</b> Mary & Brendan Madden	<b>10am</b> Francis Connolly
<b>Sat. 8am</b> Francis Connolly	<b>10am</b> Carmel O'Shea
<b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b>	<b>Holy Day of Obligation</b>
<b>Sun. 9am</b> Michael & Dora Casey	<b>11am</b> Owen Comer
	<b>6pm</b> Maisie & Vincie Fahy

**Bethany Bereavement Group**  
087-2109396

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**  
086 - 0551134

The Parish Office will reopen on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 at 9.30am.

