

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CATHEDRAL THIS WEEK**

<b>Mon. 11am</b> Sheila Molloy	<b>8pm</b> Paul Reilly
<b>Tues. 11am</b> Ann Benson	<b>8pm</b> Corbett family deceased
<b>Wed. 11am</b> Martin & Bridget Keane	<b>8pm</b> Peg & James Fitzpatrick
<b>Thurs. 11am</b> James O'Dowd	<b>8pm</b> Kathleen & John Ward
<b>Fri. 11am</b> Personal Intention	<b>8pm</b> Kenny Greally MM
<b>Sat. 11am</b> Michael Joyce	<b>8pm</b> Anna Glynn
<b>Sun. 10am</b> Teresa Moran	<b>12noon</b> Mary McPartland



**LOUGHREA CATHEDRAL & CARMELITE ABBEY**  
**The Presbytery 091 – 841212    The Abbey 091 – 841209**  
*Website – loughreacathedral.ie    clonfertdiocese.ie*  
*Newsletter online: loughreacathedral.ie    clonfertdiocese.ie*  
**Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2019**  
**Epiphany of the Lord**

<b><u>Ministers of the Eucharist:</u></b>		<b><u>Mass Servers</u></b>	
<b>Sat. 12<sup>th</sup> Jan. 8pm</b> Ann McTigue, M. O'Brien		<b>Team D</b> Sat. 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 8pm	
<b>Sun. 13<sup>th</sup> Jan. 10am</b> P. O'Sullivan		<b>Team E</b> Sun. 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 10am	
<b>Sun. 13<sup>th</sup> Jan. 12noon</b> M. Connolly, J. Fitzgerald		<b>Team F</b> Sun. 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 12 noon	
<b><u>Ministers of the Word</u></b>			
<b>Sat. 12<sup>th</sup> Jan. 8pm</b> Ann Flynn		<b>Sun. 13<sup>th</sup> Jan. 12 noon</b> Anna Cronin	
The <b>Second Basket Collection</b> this weekend is in aid of Loughrea Lions Club. All funds collected are distributed in the local community.			

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

**THE DEEP END: 'We observed his star at his rising'**

The Wise Men were probably astronomers and philosophers, but most importantly they were 'seekers', looking to the skies for something that would bring them closer to God. They would have been familiar with the prophecy about a new King who would be a very powerful leader, and they may have been watching the skies for years, waiting for the right astronomical sign which would foretell His birth. Many astronomers have since tracked the skies from that period, to try to identify what 'star' the Wise Men could have seen. Some have identified Jupiter, not a star, which in 6bc was following that correct trajectory across the sky over many months. One must admire the faithful and determined journey that these Wise Men set out on, a journey which involved many risks. The Wise Men represent all peoples of all cultures and faiths who make such journeys in search of God.

We often look for signs in our own lives, especially when we are looking for answers. Let us have the courage to move out of our comfort zones in search of Jesus, just as the Wise Men did. They had no idea of what awaited them, but the Gospel speaks of their delight and joy when they arrived to that place.

'We often make do with looking at the ground ... I wonder if we still know how to look up at the sky? Do we know how to dream, to long for God, to expect the newness he brings, or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind?' Pope Francis  
 Jane Mellett (Intercom Magazine)

**R.I.P.** Please pray for the repose of the soul John Brennan, Castlegar, Galway, (brother of Freda Carty, Ashlawn, Loughrea), Sr De Sales Keane, Mercy Convent, Loughrea and Bridie Conroy, Caherlavine, Loughrea who died recently

**Baptism:** We welcome into God's family Luca Joe Collins, The Waterfront, Gort Road Loughrea.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CARMELITE ABBEY THIS WEEK**

<b>Mon. 8am</b> Mary, John & Olive Neylon	<b>10am</b> Michael Loughnane
<b>Tues. 8am</b> Ann Benson	<b>10am</b> Michael & Kathleen Flaherty
<b>Wed. 8am</b> Keane, Keavney & Dolphin families & all deceased members	<b>10am</b> Patrick & Peter Quinn and deceased members
<b>Thurs. 8am</b> Monica Murphy	<b>10am</b> Delia & Patrick Kelly
<b>Fri. 8am</b> Patrick & Mary Lynch	<b>10am</b> Nonie Kenny
<b>Sat. 8am</b> Eugene & Ann Rabbitte	<b>10am</b> James, Patricia Monahan and John & Mary Leslie
<b>Sun. 9am</b> Kitty Daniels	<b>11am</b> Dymrna, Mary-Kate & Patrick Sylver
	<b>6pm</b> Michael, Mary & Paddy Warde

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## Seeing Your Life Through The Lens Of The Gospel

### Matthew 2:1-12

1. The magi came from the east, hoping to meet Jesus and guided by a star. On your life's journey what are the hopes that inspire you, and what stars guide your steps? Name them for yourself.

2. The magi travelled together. Who have been your companions on life's journey? What has it been like when you have realized that you had companionship along the road? What made you conscious of that companionship? How was it demonstrated?

3. The magi lost sight of the star for a while. What clouds obscure the star that guides your life? Think of those to whom you have turned to get a renewed sense of direction. Perhaps some, like Herod, gave bad advice, but others were wise guides. Remember with particular gratitude those who warned you about dangers on the road and helped you set off with confidence on the right road again.

4. Eventually the magi had the joy of meeting Jesus. In the Epiphany we celebrate God made visible to all humanity. What encounters have you had in life that left you with the sense that God was in what had happened? How did these meetings help you as you, like the magi, 'returned to your own country'?

John Byrne osa (Intercom Magazine)

**The Legion of Mary** meet each Monday at 8.30pm in the Presbytery. New members most welcome. For further information, contact 091-870327.

**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.

**Irish Conversation Hour** every Wednesday at 11am at Loughrea Gaeilge office, Old Galway Road. 'Cúpla focail'. Contact Maurice Sweeney @ 086-2031323.

**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.

**St Brendan's Education Centre**, Places available in QQI courses in Healthcare level 5, Childcare level 5 & 6, Hairdressing level 5, Fashion Media & Make up level 5, Horticulture level 4 & 5, Info., Technology Level 4 & 5, Tourism Level 5 and Train the Trainer. Family History non accredited course. Ph: 841387 or [john.melville@gretb.ie](mailto:john.melville@gretb.ie)

**Reflexology** at Lakeshore Medical Centre, L'rea, safe/natural therapy for all ages, suitable to use alongside conventional medical care. Contact Sandra: 083-8498311 or [sandradunhamtherapy@gmail.com](mailto:sandradunhamtherapy@gmail.com)

**Annual Mummers Festival, New Inn Leisure Centre**, Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. A great night of traditional entertainment in a comfortable venue. **Homeopathy Clinic** with Gráinne Hammond, Homeopath, second Fri. of every month, Loughrea Family & Community Resource Centre. More info., 091-871149.

**Sean Nós Dancing** Family Resource Centre. Call Bernie @ 086-3731547.

**Set-Dancing Classes** Family Resource Centre, Thurs. 6.30pm-8pm for children, 8.30pm-11pm for adults. Call Bridie @ 087-6202451 before 5pm.

**Dance Classes** with Gerry Tynan in the Loughrea Hotel & Spa will resume again in mid-February. Gerry would like to wish all a very Happy Christmas.

**Hurling Club Lotto**: Winning numbers: 14, 15, 24, 28. One match 3 winner. Next week's jackpot €10,300.

**Vinyasa Yoga Classes** in the Family Resource Centre, Loughrea. Wednesday 6.30-8pm (Continuation) & 8.05-9.05 (Beginners) Please contact Liz Kirby on [0876314581](tel:0876314581) to book a place. (Vinyasa yoga is energetic yoga).

## Temperance Hall Events

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

**Loughrea Activity Assoc.** Next meeting 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. For details, call 087-6133297.

**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. 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.

**Bethany Bereavement Group**  
087-2109396

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

