

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CATHEDRAL THIS WEEK

Mon. 11am Dougie Quinn 8pm Anne Tully
Tues. 11am Ann & John Scully 8pm The Ward family
Wed. 11am Eileen Ryan 8pm Maurice & Elizabeth Barrett

Thurs. 11am Bridget Ann (Ciss) Sweeney

Christmas Eve Masses

4pm Colm O' Reilly
6pm The McGauran family

Thursday 24th December

8pm Declan Duffy
10pm Eamon & Bridget Wade
Midnight People of the Parish

Friday 25th December

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

Fri. 8am Patrick & Mary Holland
10am Martin Fahy
Sat. 11am Agatha & Gerard Manton
Sun. 10am Fr. John Higgins

12noon Vincent & Maura Hutchinson
8pm Personal Intention
12noon Herb Stanley

Masses are available on live stream at www.loughreacathedral.ie and www.churchservices.tv

Ministers of the Word

Thurs. 24th Christmas Eve

4pm: Emma Harte 6pm: Ted McDonnell 8pm: Declan Joyce
10pm: Michael Martin Midnight Mass: John Hayes

Fri. 25th Christmas Day

8am: Mary Nix 10am: Anne Flynn 12noon: Anna Cronin
Sat. 26th: 8pm: Frances Blake Sun. 27th: 12noon: Tommy Flynn

Baptism: We welcome into God's family Christopher Donohue, Carraig Mór, Loughrea and Henry Robert Dyar, Barrack St., Loughrea.

R.I.P: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rita (Fairy) Daly, Moore St, Loughrea and Josephine Monahan (néé Larkin), Donnellan Drive, Loughrea who died recently.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CARMELITE ABBEY THIS WEEK

Mon. 8am Pat Joe Dillon 10am Ciss & Dermot Sweeney
Tues. 8am Eileen Ryan 10am Frank & Mary Connaire
Wed. 8am Tim & Nelly Fergus and decd. 10am Kathleen & Michael Flaherty
members of the Fergus & Broderick families

Thurs. 8am Ned & Teresa Murray

Christmas Eve Masses

4pm People of the Parish
6pm People of the Parish

Thursday 24th December

8pm People of the Parish
10pm People of the Parish

Friday 25th December

Fri. 7.30am Mr & Mrs Paddy Loughnane and family 11am James, Nora, Seamus Brady, Breda Howard & Herb Stanley
9am Decd. members of the Elwood & Kelly families 12.30 People of the Parish
Sat. 8am Anna, Albert & Hanorah Grant and decd. family members 10am Brian Regan
Sun. 9am Lily Burke & Lizzie Moran 11am John & Kate Barnicle and decd. family members
6pm Billy Reynolds & decd. members of the Casey and Reynolds families

8am Masses are offered up privately and 10am daily Masses and 9am Sunday Mass is broadcast on 106.9FM



LOUGHREA CATHEDRAL & CARMELITE ABBEY

The Presbytery 091 – 841212 The Abbey 091 – 841209

Website – loughreacathedral.ie clonfertdiocese.ie

Newsletter online: loughreacathedral.ie clonfertdiocese.ie

Email: cathedral@clonfertdiocese.ie

Sunday 20th December 2020 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Message from the Parish Priest

The Cathedral and the Abbey have scheduled **extra Masses for Christmas**. Between the two churches there will be 16 Masses in the parish to accommodate adherence to the Covid-19 restrictions on numbers and social distancing. We will accommodate people on a 'first come' basis. **There will not be a ticket or booking system.** I suggest that the early Masses on Christmas Eve 4p.m. 6p.m. and 8p.m. might suit families with young children. If families attend Mass together they can all sit together. If people attend as individuals they must sit in the designated space for 2 metre social distancing. **It is essential that people cooperate with the stewards.** When the church has reached its capacity based on Covid-19 social distancing restrictions the door will be closed and nobody else can be admitted. There will be an outside loudspeaker for those who remain outside. All are asked to wear face covering, use the hand sanitisers provided at the doors and adhere to social distancing inside and outside the church. When receiving Holy Communion, we ask you to remain in your place and receive Holy Communion on the hand. If you cannot receive Holy Communion on the hand the priest will accommodate you after Mass. If you are bringing Holy Communion to the sick you will be accommodated after Mass. Please do not present a pyx for taking Holy Communion to the housebound until after Mass. **Thank you for your cooperation and sincere thanks to our stewards and cleaners without whom we would not be able to provide this number of Masses for Christmas.**

Monsignor Cathal Geraghty, P.P.

Carol Service

Instead of the traditional Carol Service which we cannot have this year, because of Covid-19 restrictions, Loughrea Lions Club are holding a free virtual 'Christmas Concert of Hope' on Sunday 20th December at 7pm performed by individual musicians and singers. It can be viewed through www.loughreacathedral.ie or www.churchservices.tv/loughrea. Facebook live from Loughrea Lions Club page and Loughrea Community Radio.

Confessions at the Cathedral

After 11am and 8pm Masses or available on request

Confessions at the Carmelite Abbey

Mon. 21st: 10.30 am to 11am

Tues. 22nd: 10.30 – 11am, 12 – 1pm and 3.30 – 4.30pm

Wed. 23rd: 10.30am – 6.30pm

Thurs. 24th Christmas Eve: 10.30am – 1pm

**Happy Christmas from Bishop Duignan,
Monsignor Cathal, Fr Augustine, Fr Charles, Fr Aidan
and the Priests of the Carmelite Abbey.**

The Parish Office will be closed from Thursday, 24th December 2020 and will reopen on Thursday, 7th January 2021 at 9.30am.
The Carmelite Abbey Office is closed from 3pm Thursday, 24th December 2020 and will reopen on 4th January 2021 at 11am.

Donations Sincere thanks to all who have continued to make financial contributions to the Parish. There is an online facility for contributions on www.loughreacathedral.ie. It provides a secure payment option through PayPal. Another option is to make a payment through your bank using the details below.

ACCOUNT NAME: Cathedral Account, Bank of Ireland, Main St., Loughrea.
A/c no.: 76373954 - S/C 90-38-91. IBAN: IE36 BOFI 9038 9176 3739 54 - BIC: BOFIE2D



In Hopeful Expectation: Prayers at Home for Advent in a Time of Pandemic

Each Advent, we are invited to set aside some extra time and space for prayer, reflection and good works. The restrictions in place because of the coronavirus mean that we may not be in a position to gather as usual for our religious services. This situation challenges us to find new ways of reflecting on our faith and praying in our homes. A guide to assist you in doing just that is now available. Download it from www.clonfertdiocese.ie Clonfert Diocese Facebook Page or Twitter Account.

Televised Mass or Mass via Webcam

Weekday Mass: Broadcast by webcam every day from St Brendan's Cathedral Loughrea at 11am and 8pm and on RTÉ News at 10.30am

Sunday Mass: Mass is available every Saturday evening at 8pm and Sunday at 10am and 12 noon from Loughrea Cathedral via webcam at www.loughreacathedral.ie or www.churchservices.tv/loughrea

Radio Maria Ireland – Listen via TV on Saorview – Channel 210

Keeping Connected - Why not visit Clonfert Diocese Facebook Page or follow Clonfert Diocese on Twitter or visit www.loughreacathedral.ie for the latest information and updates.

Renewing Our Commitment to Promoting the Dignity of Human Life

Loving Father!

You are the source of all that is:

our beginning and our end.

Pour out your Spirit upon us.

Form in us the mind of Christ.

Give us a greater appreciation for the precious gift of life.

Renew in us a commitment to building a community where every human life is welcomed and valued from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death.

Draw near to those who are sick or dying.

Help those who love them and care for them.

Bless us now and at the hour of our death. Amen

Pope's Intention for December

Intention for evangelisation – For a life of prayer. We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am – 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Cope Galway Our Domestic Abuse Service & Refuge remains open during the COVID-19 crisis. We are available to women who are experiencing domestic abuse. If you or someone you know needs our help, please call our 24-hour confidential helpline – 091 565985. We have COVID-19 prevention and social distancing measures in place to protect our clients and staff, ensuring all stay safe whilst accessing the service.

Loughrea Parish Council CLG Community Employment Scheme has the following vacancies for general operatives. If interested, contact your local Intreo/Social Welfare Office 091 576870 (Reference Number #CES-2166851) for eligibility. For more info., contact Parish Office: 091 841212 or email: loughreaparishcouncil@yahoo.ie. Closing date for receipt of applications: 15th January 2021.

Courses St Brendan's Education Centre, Abbey St., Loughrea: We have places available on the following courses commencing in the New Year 2021:

QQI Level 5 Communications commencing on Wed. 20th January, 6.30 to 9.30pm.

QQI Level 5 Safety and Health commencing on Wed. 13th January, 9.30am to 1pm.

QQI Level 5 Nutrition commencing on Thur. 14th January, 1.30 to 4pm and Infection, Prevention and Control on Thurs 25th February 1.30 to 4pm.

QQI Level 5 Spreadsheets Fri. 15th January 9.30am – 1pm (a few places left)

QQI Level 5 Care Skill 9.30am - 1pm and Care Support 1.30 – 4.30pm on Mon. 18th January (a few places left)

QQI Level 4 Culinary Skills & Level 5 Hospitality Operations in February: days, date and times to be confirmed.

Please email John Melville john.melville@gretb.ie, phone 087 9332033

or freda.murphy@gretb.ie or call 091 841387.

Bethany Bereavement Group
087 9660309

Society St. Vincent de Paul
086 0551134

NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

Dignity Funeral Care

Loughrea - Ph: 091-870 030 / 087-142 7271

HSE Coronavirus Guidelines

Do's: Wash your hands properly and often. Wear a face covering. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough and sneeze. Put tissue into a bin and wash hands. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. Try to avoid close contact with people who are not well.

Do not: Touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean

For further details visit: www.hse.ie, www.clonfertdiocese.ie