

# CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

11<sup>th</sup> December, 2016

Fr. Ciaran McGovern. Tel: 043-3346805

Website: www.clonguishparish.ie / eMail: clonguishparish@gmail.com

## MASSES THIS WEEK

**Tues:** 9.00am **Wed:** 9.00am **Thurs:** 9.00am **Fri:** 9.00am

## ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEKEND

**Vigil:** Thomas Rock (Months Memory) / George White & George White Jnr, John & Lena Scanlon. **10.30am.** Patricia & Peter Mimmagh.

## ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND

**Vigil:** Nan Faichney / Pat and Margaret McCormack.  
**10.30am** Paddy Farrell and deceased family members.

Last weekend Collection's €1,167. Thank you.

## Next Weekend

<b>Readers—Vigil:</b> Clarice Barry	<b>10.30am.</b> Cathal Sorohan
<b>E.Ms. Vigil:</b> James Quinn	<b>10.30am.</b> Joann Quinn

## **Feast Day**

**Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

The Feast Day recalls the Apparition in December 1531 of Our Lady in Mexico City.

**Dec 13<sup>th</sup>**

**St Lucy**

She was martyred in Sicily in 304.

**Dec 14<sup>th</sup> St John of then Cross (1541—1591)**

A Carmelite priest, a poet and mystic, John wrote the 'Spiritual Canticle' while imprisoned in a dark cell.

## **Do This in Memory**

We welcome the girls and boys and their families to the 'Do this in Memory' Mass this evening.

## **Christmas Mass**

Masses for Christmas are as follows: **Vigil (Saturday) 9.00pm.**

**Christmas Day (Sunday) 9.00am and 11.00am.**

## **Keep the Faith**

People who are important to us can take paths that surprise and even disappoint us. Plans that we might have cherished do not materialise as we would have liked. Hopes we had entertained for some situation or other come to nothing. At such times we can easily identify with John the Baptist's puzzled question at the beginning of today's gospel reading. From his prison cell he sends one of his followers to ask Jesus "Are you the one who is to come, or have to wait for someone else?" John was really asking himself, 'Have I got it wrong'

As part of his response to John's puzzled question, Jesus pronounces a beatitude, '**Happy is the one who does not lose faith in me.**' Jesus was calling on John not to lose faith, not to lose heart, in the midst of his confusion and disappointment. In our own dark times when we struggle to let go of some of our most cherished hopes and dreams, the Lord makes the same call on us not to lose faith in him. This is also the message of today's first reading. '**Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees, and say to all faint hearts, "Courage! 'Do not be afraid Look your God is coming.'**'

No matter how bitter disappointment, how great our loss, it is always the case that the Lord is coming. This is the great message of Advent. In the words of today's responsorial psalm. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever. Because the Lord keeps faith forever, because he is always faithful to us, we need not lose faith in him, even when so much else fails us.

(Martin Hogan—Jesus Our Teacher)

## **Longford County Choir—Christmas Celebration Concert**

**Venue:** St Mel's Cathedral. **Date:** Sunday Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. **Time** 7.30pm.

Tickets: €10. Donations to local charities and St Christophers

## **Parish Calendar 2017**

The calendar is now on sale in the local shops and the sacristy for €3.

## **County Longford Social Services**

The County Longford Social Services (Meals on Wheels) Church Gate Collection is on this weekend, Please support.

## **Church Rota's**

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Collectors Rotas are available for collection in the Sacristy.

**Bingo:** Today in Paddy Joe Murphy Sports Hall @ 3.00pm.

