

CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 24th 2017

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Tues. 9.00am. Wed. 9.00am. Thurs. 9.00am Fri. 7.00pm.

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEKEND

No special intention

Fri. 7.00pm, Peter and Patricia Mimmagh

ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND

No special intentions

Last weekend Collection: €1,525. Thank you.

Next Weekend

Readers—Vigil: <i>Margaret Kilbane</i>	10.30am: <i>Fionuala Carthy</i>
E.Ms. Vigil: <i>Al Yorke</i>	10.30am: <i>Joanne Quinn</i>

Feast Days

Dec. 25th **The Nativity**

*The Feast of the birth of **Our Lord Jesus Christ***

Dec. 26th **St Stephen**

St Stephen was the first Christian martyr.

Dec. 27th **St John**

*Today we honour **St John**, the Apostle and Evangelist.*

Dec. 28th **The Holy Innocents**

*Having been misled by the **The Three Wise Men**, Herod ordered the massacre of all the boys in **Bethlehem** and its vicinity two years old and under, perhaps twenty to twenty-five in total.*

Do This in Memory

*The **Vigil Mass** this weekend is a **Do This in Memory Mass** for the children preparing for **First Holy Communion**.*

Christmas Mass Times

*Christmas Eve: Mass: **9.00pm** – Christmas Day: **9.00am** and **11.00 am**.*

Adoration: *There will be no adoration this Wednesday.*

Christmas Message 2017

At Christmas we recall the birth of a baby in Bethlehem. A birth that would dramatically change the relationship between God and the human race. We remember that Jesus was born into a family; he was a son. He was brought up by Mary and Joseph and by his wider family and the local community.

We think of our own family and we miss those who are not with us. At this time, we are mindful of families that are vulnerable because of poverty, homelessness and exile.

Next **August the World Meeting of Families** will take place in **Dublin**. **Dublin** was chosen by Pope Francis as the venue to host this important event. It will be a conversation about the value of family life; all are welcome to prepare and participate. **We hope that Pope Francis will be there** and I hope you will be able to come and to celebrate family.

I wish you and your family and friends a **Christmas** that is **joyful** and **peaceful** and full of **hope**, because of the birth of **Jesus, God** among us.

Francis Duffy: Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnois.

Shane Brennan 5K

The Shane Brennan **5K Race and Walk** is on as usual on St Stephen's Day. The proceeds this year go to **Multiple Sclerosis**, Longford branch. The **run is at 1.00pm: walk at 12.45pm**. Please come early to get your number and avoid the last-minute rush.

Registration starts at **11.00am**, in the **Paddy Joe Murphy Hall**. Please come out and support this worthwhile cause.

Parish Calendar

Clonguish Parish Calendar for 2018 is now available in the local shops, and in the sacristy. It only costs **€3**.

Happy Christmas