

CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 15th 2023

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MASSES THIS WEEK

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

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Vigil: Deceased members of the Hannify family/ Brendan & Carmel Forkan. **10.30am:** Michael & Bernadette O'Reilly / Bernie Crossan / James & Prudence Flynn. **Thurs. 7.00pm:** Patrick Costello.

ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND

Vigil: Karen Curran. / John Quinn (Month's memory).

Sun. 10.30am: Michael & Eilis Killeen.

Last weekend Collection: €1700. *Thank you.*

On Line contributions

IBAN: IE34 AIBK 9321 4026 9364 22 (BIC: AIBKIE2D). *The Parish of Clonguish A/C is with the A I B bank, Longford.*

Next Weekend (Christmas)

Readers – Vigil: Anne Marie Williams. **10.30 am.** Fionuala Carty.

E.Ms. – Vigil: Carmel O'Shea. **10.30 am.** Bernie Reilly.

Feast Days

Jan. 17th

St Anthony

St Anthony died in 356. He is often referred to as the 'Father of monasticism' He lived a life of solitude but also attracted many others to form communities of hermits. He is the one you turn to when you can't find your keys!!

Jan. 21st

St Agnes (martyr)

Mass Reader's Rota

Mass readers please call to the sacristy to collect their St Paul Sunday Missal and the new rota.

Eucharistic Ministers

Please call to the sacristy for the new rota.

Good Guides

Most of us can probably think of people who, in the course of our lives, pointed us in the right direction. These were people who could see a little bit more clearly than we could at the time. We all need good guides from time to time; we need people who in the words of **St Paul's** letter to the **Philippians**, can direct us towards , *'whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable'* It is true we can react negatively to people who come across as knowing what is best for us and take it upon themselves to tell us what to do.

However, the art of pointing others in the right direction is more subtle than that. **John the Baptist** did not say to his disciples, *'Become disciples of Jesus'*; he simply said , *'Look there is the Lamb of God.'* Those who point us in the right direction are sharing something of their own experience and insight. Their sharing serves as an invitation rather than a command. Such sharing will not always be responded to. Not everyone that **John** pointed in the direction of **Jesus** went on to become a disciple of **Jesus**. The art of pointing others in the right direction needs to be joined to a profound respect for human freedom.

Today, we thank **God** for the **John the Baptist** figures we have encountered in the course of our lives. We thank **God** for all those who were concerned enough about us to share something of their vision with us and who remained loyal to us even when we failed to take the path they pointed out to us.

Martin Hogan

Altar Server's Training

Part two is on **Monday at 7.30pm**. We haven't had altar servers since **March 2020**, almost 3 years.

