

# CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

16<sup>th</sup> April 2017

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## MASSES THIS WEEK

Fri. 9.00am.

## ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEKEND

*No anniversary Masses this weekend*

## ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND

**Vigil:** *Sinead Clarke & grandparents, James & Margaret / John & Brigid Campbell, Pat & Kathleen Reilly & deceased family members / Fr P J Lee. 10.30am: Mary Duke.*

**Last weekend Collection:** €1,502. Thank you.

## Next Weekend

<b>Readers—Vigil:</b> <i>Eugene O'Brien</i>	<b>10.30am.</b> <i>Laura Hussey</i>
<b>E.Ms. Vigil:</b> <i>Anne Duke</i>	<b>10.30am.</b> <i>Liam Belton</i>

## **Feast Days**

**April 21<sup>st</sup>**      **St Anselm (1033-1109)**

*Indifferent towards religion as a young man, **Anselm** became one of the churches great theologians and leaders.*

## **Easter Thanks**

*A special word of thanks to all who helped in our celebration of Holy Week and Easter last week. The highlight of the week was the Passion Play on Good Friday. The play brought the account of the Passion alive and was very moving. Thanks to the cast under the direction of **Evelyn Kelly**. The hard work in preparing paid off.*

*Thanks to the members of **Parish Pastoral Council** who played a leading role in insuring the play was a success.*

*Thanks too to **Kim** and the **choir**, **Anne** and **Tommy (Dawn Mass)** Liturgy Group, Sacristan, Altar Servers, **Michael McGuinness (Dawn Mass)** **Patrick Flanagan (Palm)** and everyone who helped.*

## Resurrection: Darkness to Light

Each year on the first Saturday in May thousands make the **Darkness to Light** charity walk. They gather before dawn at venues all over the country to show solidarity with those who are in mental distress. Many have lost loved ones to suicide, the worst darkness of all.

The symbolism of light and darkness are central to the story of **Easter**. The gospel tells us that it was still dark when **Mary Magdalen**, **Peter** and **John** went to the tomb of Jesus. The darkness represents their mood. When Jesus was crucified the hopes of his followers were shattered. The gospel presents no simple solution to their grief. Jesus had not simply returned to his old life, but risen to a new one. They believed in the resurrection even though all they had to go on was an empty tomb and some burial clothes.

The disciples experience of loss led them into a search for God. Eventually their confusion gave way to renewed belief. Emptiness is a painful part of life, but it has positive aspects. Our first reaction is to fill the vacuum, just as we reach for our smartphone when ever there is an idle moment. But emptiness can be good. It reminds us that there is more to life than what we can touch and see.

Even the humble **Easter egg** is built around an empty space: it too is a reminder of the empty tomb of **Jesus**. On this Easter day, as we stand before the empty tomb of Jesus, we remember that, through the eyes of faith, all tombs are empty.

## **Trocaire**

A very important part of our Lenten journey is the Trocaire collection. One of the 3 pillars of Lent is alms giving. The Trocaire is a good opportunity for us to contribute to the support of those who are suffering in The Third World.

There has been a good response so far. The collection has not been counted yet. If you have not made an offering please do so before the first of May. Every little helps.

## **Dates to Remember**

**First Holy Communion** is celebrated on Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 12.00 noon.

**Cemetery Sunday:** June 24<sup>th</sup> at 12.00 noon.

ALLELUIA

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