

CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 17th 2017

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Mon. 9.00am. Tues. 9.00am. Wed. 9.00am. Thurs. 9.00am. Fri. 9.00am.

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEKEND

Vigil: *Nan Faichney / Pat & Margaret McCormack*

10.30am: Marie Heavey

ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND

No special intensions

Last weekend Collection: €1,490. (including holyday) **Thank you.**

Next Weekend

Readers—Vigil: <i>Sonia Flynn</i>	10.30am: <i>Angela Reynolds</i>
E.Ms. Vigil: <i>Garry Hughes</i>	10.30am: <i>Elizabeth Moore</i>

Feast Days

Dec. 18th **St Flannan**

He lived in the 7th century. He was son of the king of Thomand. He is the patron saint of the diocese of Killaloe.

Dec. 21th **St Peter Canisius (1521-1597)**

Peter was a Dutch man. Having qualified as a lawyer he later became a Jesuit priest.

Do This in Memory

The Vigil Mass next 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.

Penance Service

Our parish Penance Service for Christmas will be on Thursday next at 7.00pm.

Light and Darkness

Light and darkness are a key theme in **St John's Gospel** which we read today. **St John** proclaims that this light has always shone in the dark; the darkness cannot overpower it. **St John** goes on to tell us that John the Baptist's mission is that he has been sent by God **'to speak for the light'** He is a witness to the **light of God** in the world, a light that cannot be put out.

We celebrate this light today on **Gaudete Sunday**. Gaudete means **'rejoice'**; we light the **pink candle** and we celebrate with joy. It might be a good opportunity to ask today: **"who have been the light bearers on your own faith journey?"** Who passed the torch on to you? We thank God for them today.

Bishop Francis' Advent Safeguarding Message

"I wish to thank our Parish Safeguarding Representatives and our Priests for their valuable work in ensuring the safety of children and adults at risk in our church related activities.

I encourage anyone with concerns regarding the safety of children or anyone who suffered in the past to contact our Designated Liaison Person, **Sean Layden** (087 7431649) or our Deputy Designated Liaison Person, **Roisin O'Doherty** (087 3327587)"

Longford County Choir

A Christmas Concert will be held in **St Mel's Cathedral** this Sunday at 7.30pm. The choir will be backed by a **Chamber Ensemble**. The soloist is **Marie Matthews** and special guests are **The Mulligan Sisters**. Tickets can be bought at the door for €10.

Longford Social Services

The Longford Social Services church gate collection is on this weekend. Longford Social Services provide **transport** for the elderly to hospitals and also provide **Meals on Wheels**. Please support.

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.

Parish Calendar

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