

"CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER
2nd April 2017

Fr. Ciaran McGovern. Tel: 043-3346805

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

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEKEND

Vigil: Rosemary Barden (Months memory) **10.30am:** Kathleen Stenson

ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND

Vigil: Michael Mahon. **10.30am:** Frank & Angela Beirne / Peg & John Houlihan

Last weekend Collection: €1,258. Thank you

Next Weekend

Readers—Vigil: Clarice Barry **10.30am.** Fionnuala Carthy

E.Ms. Vigil: Deidre Houlihan **10.30am.** Patricia Donegan

Feast Days

April 4th St Isidore of Seville (560-636)

He was bishop of Seville. In art, he is depicted holding a shovel, a farmer.

April 5th St Vincent Ferrer (1350-1419)

Baptism

We welcomed into the Christian community Rhys John McGoey, Caislean Breac on Saturday. We pray God's blessing on the newly baptized and on his family.

Confirmation

Congratulations to the 36 young people from Scoil Mhuire who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday.

First Friday

Friday next is the First Friday. The usual house calls will be done at the usual times.

Come forth Lazarus

In today's gospel Jesus is surrounded by a culture of death. The disciples are afraid to go back to **Bethany**, the Jews want to stone Jesus to death, **Mary** and **Martha** are distraught over the death of their brother **Lazarus** and **Lazarus** himself lies bound in the darkness of the tomb. It appears as if there is no hope. **Jesus** weeps for his friend and for those around him.

Yet, surrounded by a culture of violence and despair, Jesus gives hope, compassion, and resurrection to those in turmoil. It is easy to say that nothing can be done when we are faced with difficult situation in our own lives.

Yet, **Jesus** says "**Lazarus** come out" and to the people he says "unbind him let him go free". It is a message to all of us to come away from a culture of death; to help to unbind one another and to also allow ourselves to emerge from the tomb. We are called to take away the stone. Today's gospel is a **story of liberation**. **Jesus** gives a new insight into the power of faith over death.

"Hope means to keep living amid desperation. To keep humming in the darkness Hope is knowing there is love, it is trust in tomorrow it is falling asleep and waking to work when the sun rises. In the midst of a gale at sea, it is to discover land. In the eyes of another, it is to see understanding. As long as there is hope, there will also be prayer. And God will be holding you in his loving hands."

Henri Nouwen

Parish Pastoral Council

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be on May 2nd in the Parochial House at 8.00pm.

Lenten Lunch

It's on Thursday April 6th in Longford Arm's Hotel, & it's in aid of St Christopher's and Longford Hospice. Please support.

Sleep Out for Simon

The Midlands Annual Sleep out for Simon, fund raiser is on in **Connolly Barracks** is on, on **Good Friday night**. Can you help a good cause?

Eddie Stone: Newtownforbes, Saturday next April 8th @ 2.00pm.