

CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

MARCH 20TH 2022

Fr. Ciaran McGovern. Tel: 043-3346805

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

Web Cam: churchtv.ie/newtownforbes

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEKEND

Vigil: Joe, Agnes & Kate O'Brien, Joe & Kathleen Hannon.

10.30am: No special intention.

ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND

Vigil: Tim Rafter. 10.30am: Jody Concannon.

Last weekend Collection: €875. 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

Readers – Vigil: Liam Madden. 10.30 am. Anne O'Brien.
E.Ms. - Vigil: Geraldine Halpin. 10.30 am. Elizabeth Moore.

Feast Days

March 21st St Enda

St Enda died around 520. He is considered as one of the early models of ascetic monasticism in Ireland. He is associated with the Boyne valley.

March 25th The Annunciation of the Lord

The feast of the Annunciation goes back to the fourth or fifth century. Its central focus is the Incarnation; God has become one of us. From all eternity God has decided that the second person of the Blessed Trinity should become human. Now, as Luke 1:26-38 tells us the decision is being realized.

Baptism

We welcomed into the Christian community on Saturday last, Bobby Brendan Connolly, Briskil. We pray God's blessing on the newly baptized and on her parents.

The Lord has hope for us

We can probably think of times in our lives when we were not at our best, when we were a little bit like the fig tree in today's gospel. There may have been times when we were tempted to give up on ourselves, knowing that we were a long way from the person we were called to be.

Today's gospel assures us that God is slow to give up on us, even when others may be tempted to do so. **The Lord is patient.** It is, of course, true that the Lord's patience should not make us complacent. As Paul says in today's second reading, "*the one who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.*" Rather the Lord's patience makes us hopeful. The gardener in today's parable had hope for an apparently hopeless tree. **The Lord has hope for us;** he is always hopeful in our regard, which is reason enough for each of us to be hopeful in our regard.

We also need to be hopeful in each other's regard, knowing that the Lord who began this good work in us is always working to bring it to completion.

Fr Martin Hogan

Special Collection for Ukraine

The Catholic bishops have asked that a special collection be taken up at **all Masses next weekend** for the suffering people of **Ukraine**. The proceeds of the **Special Collection** will be directed to **Caritas International** which is the helping hand of the Church on the ground in Ukraine and the surrounding region.

Lough Derg

The **Lough Derg** pilgrimage season re-opens on **Sunday May 1st** with the one - day retreats. The three - day pilgrimage commences on **Wednesday June 1st** and continue through all of **June July and August**. Booking is essential. Ph. + 353 (0) 71 9861518. See church notice board for further details.

Pilgrimage, in the words of Pope Francis, is "*the most eloquent expression of the faith of God's people.*"

