

# CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

## MARCH 24<sup>th</sup> 2019

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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: Betty Rogers (month's memory) / Tim Rafter / Rory McKnight.**

**10.30am: Jim McDonnell.**

### ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND

**Vigil: Annie & Bertie Allen. 10.30am: No special intention.**

**Last weekend Collection: €1415. Thank you.**

### Next Weekend

**Readers—Vigil: Colleen McHale      10.30am: Angela Reynolds**

**E.Ms.      Vigil: Garry Hughes      10.30am. Michelle Ghee**

### Feast Days

**Mar.25<sup>th</sup>      The Annunciation of the Lord**

*The angel Gabriel tells Mary that she is to be the mother of Jesus and Mary gives her consent. This feast day goes back to the fourth or fifth century.*

### Station Masses

*If any home in the parish would like to host a **Station Mass** for their area between now and the **1<sup>st</sup> of June** please contact Fr McGovern.*

### Lenten Lunch

*A Lenten Lunch in aid of St Christopher's and Longford Hospice will be held in the **Longford Arms Hotel** on Friday March 29<sup>th</sup> from 12.30 until 2.30pm. The cost of the lunch is €8 with all the proceeds going to both charities.*

### NW STOP

*Formerly known as **STOP Suicide** is a free counselling service. If you or someone you know needs help please call **086 7772009** or **1850211877***

## The Fig Tree

The gospel this weekend suggests that nurturing the good in others can be hard work; it can take a lot of time and patience. Hopefully we can all identify in our lives people who helped us to flourish, people who encouraged us when we found ourselves wilting, who challenged us when we were stepping out of line, who went on believing in us even when we were losing faith in ourselves.

We might also have very different memories of people who in various ways, cut us down, who tended to focus on some weakness in us while ignoring our strengths, who gave up on us while we were still learning, who withheld the support we needed at some vulnerable time in our lives. We can identify those who gave us life and those who took life from us.

Both sets of memories can be an incentive to look at our lives and ask ourselves, '**Am I in the business of cutting down whatever good is to be found in others or am I in the business of nurturing it?**'

There is a lot of food for thought in the **Parable of the Fig Tree**.

From Martin Hogan's book **Christ our Saviour**.

### Parish Hall – Open Meeting

For some time, the **Parish Hall**, in the centre of the village, has been closed because it was in poor repair and unsafe for gatherings. The **Parish Finance Committee** has decided to refurbish the building to modern standards. Plans have been drawn up. The people of the parish are invited to a public meeting in the **Ralph Room** in the **Paddy Joe Murphy Sports Hall** on **Monday March 25 at 8.00pm**.

The proposed plans for the hall will be on display and **Sweeney architects** will be present. All are welcome, especially organisations and groups who have used the hall in the past or hope to do so in the future.

### Alzheimer Society- AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Alzheimer Society, Longford branch, will be held in the **Longford Arms Hotel** on **March 26<sup>th</sup> at 8.00pm**. The guest speaker will be **Jennifer Edgeworth**, senior clinical psychologist.

**Alzheimer Café:** Next meeting is on **Wed. next Mar.27<sup>th</sup>** in the **Credit Union** building at 7.00pm. Speaker is Marie McGivney.

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