

# CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

## DECEMBER 3RD 2017

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### MASSES THIS WEEK

*Mon. 9.00am Tues. 9.00am. Wed. 9.00am Thurs. 7.00pm Fri. 10.30am.*

### ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEKEND

**Vigil:** *Sean, Sarah & Anne Marie Ryan & deceased family members.*

**10.30am:** *Dr. Gerald & Maureen Donnelly / Maud Fleming.*

**Thursday 7.00pm:** *Noel & Bridget Pigott.*

### ANNIVERSARIES NEXT WEEKEND

**Vigil:** *George White & George White Jnr, John & Lena Scanlon.*

**10.30am:** *James Killian (Months Memory)*

Last weekend Collection: €1360. Thank you.

### Next Weekend

**Readers—Vigil:** *Geraldine McVeigh. 10.30am: Patricia Keenan*

**E.Ms. Vigil:** *James Quinn. 10.30am: Patricia Donegan*

### Feast Days

**Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**St Francis Xavier (1506-1552)**

*Francis was a Jesuit missionary in India and later in Japan. He is a patron of the missions.*

**Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>**

**St Nicholas**

*Nicholas was a fourth century bishop of Myra (Turkey). In the English - speaking countries, St Nicholas became, by a twist of the tongue, Santa Clause. He is the original Santa Clause.*

**Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>**

**St Ambrose (340-397)**

**Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>**

**The Immaculate Conception**

*This feast day celebrates the fact that Mary, mother of Jesus was preserved free from all stain of original sin. In 1854 Pope Pius IX made this declaration.*

**Masses for the Holyday:** Vigil: Thurs. 7.00pm. Friday 10.30am

## Be watchful! Be alert!

In this weekend's gospel, at the beginning of advent, Jesus tells us, "Be watchful! Be alert!" For what? For the hour of our death, when we must make a final accounting of our life before God? Yes, but also for the Lord's coming, which can happen at any time. Soon it will be Christmas, when we celebrate the coming of Jesus in a special way. But he also comes in different ways into our everyday lives. Are we ready for him?

We can look back on times in our lives when we were not ready—to heed a warning, to respond to a crisis, to accept a challenge. We regret these lost opportunities; some of them were from God. **Maybe he wanted us to do something- or stop doing something; to make a change in our lives; to strike out on a different path.** But we weren't alert; we missed the opportunity; God found us sleeping.

God is always trying to get through to us. **Advent, when we prepare for the coming of Christ, is a good time to sit up and take a fresh look at our lives. Is something missing? Is there something that doesn't belong?** Maybe God is calling me to put something on my shopping list that's really important, and time is running out. Let's start getting ready for the coming of Christ by being alert and attentive to his call.

### Parish Pastoral Council

The December meeting of the **Parish Pastoral Council** will be held in the Parochial House on Tuesday next at 8.00pm.

### New crib and Christmas Lights

The **Tidy Town's Committee** have organized a beautiful celebration for this Sunday at 5.30pm. The celebration will include the unveiling and blessing of the new outdoor crib, the switching on of the Christmas lights, carol singing and the arrival of 'you know who' with goodies for the children. Festivities begin at **5.30pm** in the church.

### Reader's Rota

The new rota for Mass readers is now available and in the sacristy.

### Shane Brennan 5K

The Shane Brennan **5K Race and Walk** is on as usual on St Stephen's Day. The proceeds this go to **Multiple Sclerosis**, Longford branch.