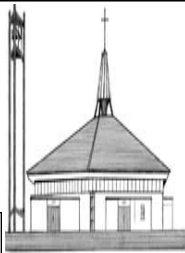




# Aughavas & Cloone Parishes

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10th Dec. 2023

## 2nd Sunday of Advent

**Pray for** the happy repose of the soul of Michael Moran, Lakeview, Cloone Village and formerly of Cattan, Annaghmore whose funeral took place in Cloone on Wednesday last.

### Masses:

**Cloone: Sat. 9th Dec.** 8.00 pm. John Flood, Camber.

Phil Fitzpatrick, Drumgowla.

John Kelly and his parents John Patrick & Brigid Kelly, Cornagher & John Kane, Cornulla.

**Cloone: Sun. 10th Dec.** 10.00 am. Pat Gallogly & D.F.M., Tooma.

### ***Enrolment Ceremony for First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.***

**Aughavas: Sun. 10th Dec.** 11.30 am. Eddie & Mary Heslin and their son Michael,  
Druminbawn.

**Cloone: Mon. 11th Dec.** 10.00 am. Pro. Populo.

**Rossan: Tues. 12th Dec.** 7.00 pm.

**Aughavas: Wed. 13th Dec.** 10.00 am.

**Cloone: Thurs. 14th Dec.** 10.00 am.

**Cloone: Fri. 15th Dec.** 8.00 pm. Bernie & Bridgie Canning, Cornagher and Margaret Mitchell & D.M. of the Canning, McGovern and Mitchell families.  
Mel Tiernan, Drumgowla.

**Cloone: Sat. 16th Dec.** 8.00 pm. Pdraig Kelly & D.F.M., Annamaconway.  
John McCabe & D.F.M., Drumbore.

Seán & Maureen Tiernan, Cloone Village and George Crawford, Annamaconway.

**Cloone: Sun. 17th Dec.** 10.00 am.

**Aughavas: Sun. 17th Dec.** 11.30 am. Packie & Annie Quinn & D.M. of the Quinn & Connell families.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** **Aughavas** - Monday's from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.  
**Cloone** - Tuesday's from 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm.

### Christmas Confessions

Monday 18th December—Confessions in Cloone at 7.30 pm.

Tuesday 19th December—Confessions in Aughavas at 8.00 pm.

Wednesday 20th December—Confessions in Fenagh at 7.00 pm and in Mohill at 8.00 pm.

Thursday 21st December—Confessions in Gortletteragh at 7.00 pm.

**Vetting Forms for parents of new altar servers in Cloone:** Please return these forms which you received at the meeting in St. Mary's Church on 29th November to Fr. Peter Tiernan by Wednesday 13th December 2023.

**TeamHope Christmas Shoebox Appeal:** For every €20 donated our overseas partners will be able to make a Christmas Shoebox for a child affected by poverty in their community up until Christmas Day. Link: <https://www.teamhope.ie/christmas-shoebox-appeal/take-part-online/>

**A Christmas Tractor Run** takes place today Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023. All interested in taking part, please assemble at Keeldra Lake at 10.30 am weather permitting and then drive for approximately 1 hour heading back to Cloone Community Centre where a Christmas lunch will be served for all participants at about 1 pm. There is no registration fee, but if anyone wishes to donate on the day, you are welcome to do so. Donations will go towards the DBS Service in Beaumont Hospital. The GoFundMe page will close on that day. Michael McCabe, Drumlegga, a DBS recipient of this pioneering surgery will be in attendance.

**Santa is coming to Aughavas Community Centre** today Sunday December 10th at 3pm. There will be a special visit with Santa and a present for each child.

**Aughavas Men's Shed** are holding a coffee morning at Aughavas GAA park on Sunday December 17th from 12 noon to 2pm. We will be selling kindlers with all proceeds going to North West Hospice. Please drop in and enjoy a coffee and support a worthy cause.

### Advent

Robert Louis Stevenson spent his childhood and youth in Edinburgh. The story is told of how one night his nurse found him with his nose pressed against the frosty pane of his bedroom window. She tried to get him away from the window, afraid he'd catch his death of cold, but young Robert wouldn't budge. He sat, as he watched an old lamplighter slowly working his way through the black night, lighting each gas street lamp along his route. Robert said to his nurse "see; look there; there's a man poking holes in the darkness". This is an image we can claim and adapt for ourselves as we make our journey through Advent. We come to Advent in the darkest time of the year. Nature itself is at its lowest ebb, resting and preparing itself for the promise of spring.

And yet, think back to that image of a man poking holes in the darkness. As Christians, this Advent we get to face the darkness of winter assured of the promise of light. Advent is our enduring proclamation that, in Christ and through Christ, light overcomes the deepest darkness. As Christians, as followers of Christ, we are people who believe that Jesus is the Light of the World. And we are called again and again to welcome the Light of the World, Christ into the centre of our being and to share His light with a world yearning to receive it.

Advent, as the start of a new Church year, can also be for us the start of a new relationship with Christ. Over the four Sundays of this season we edge closer and closer to the joy of Christmas and the Feast of the Nativity when we commemorate the birth of Christ, when God took flesh amongst us. But our Advent work is not just about getting ready to remember and commemorate. It is about preparing ourselves once more to welcome the person of Christ into the centre of our lives, with all the messiness that our lives may entail! And the Christ we welcome into our lives is Christ who was, who is, and who is to come.

But we would give a great Advent gift to ourselves if we also recognised that God is all the time coming to us, speaking to us, wanting to be in relationship with us - now. Advent is yet another moment in our lives when we get to do what Mary did, say yes to God's invitation to us. And in saying yes to God we are letting in the light of Christ, the light that endures for ever and that can reach every corner of our lives, no matter what is going on for us.

**Offertory Collection:** (3rd Dec.) **Aughavas** € 630.00; (3rd Dec.) **Cloone** € 340.00.