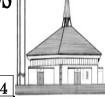


Aughavas & Cloone Parishes

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4th Sunday of Advent

Pray for the happy repose of the soul of John Lucas, brother-in-law of the late John Kelly who died in England; Kaye Jones, mother of Ceri Gooheen, St. Joseph's School, Aughavas who died recently and Fr. Eamonn Corkery, Aughnacliffe, Co. Longford, Parish Priest Emeritus of Dromard and former Curate in Mohill and Ferbane whose funeral Mass took place in St. Mary's Church, Legga on Friday last.

Masses:

Cloone: Sat. 21st Dec. 8.00 pm. Anne Ball, Drumkeeran. M.M.

Cloone: Sun. 22nd Dec. 10.00 am. Pro. Populo.

Aughavas: Sun. 22nd Dec. 11.30 am. Gerry & Aidan Keegan & D.F.M., Coroneary.

Cloone: *Mon.* 23rd Dec. 10.00 am.

Aughavas: Tues. 24th Dec. 8.00 pm. Christmas Eve. Cloone: Tues. 24th Dec. 10.00 pm. Christmas Eve. Cloone: Wed. 25th Dec. 10.00 am. Christmas Day. Cloone: Wed. 25th Dec. 12.00 noon. Christmas Day. Cloone: Thurs. 26th Dec. 11.00 am. Feast of St. Stephen.

Cloone: Fri. 27th Dec. 10.00 am. Feast of St. John the Evangelist. Cloone: Sat. 28th Dec. 8.00 pm. Charlie Mitchell, Streamstown.

John & Bridie McGovern, The Grange and Michael Brady, Keeldra.

Cloone: *Sun.* 29th Dec. 10.00 am.

Aughavas: Sun. 29th Dec. 11.30 am. Michael Whelan, Drumgunny. 1st Anniv.

Eucharistic Adoration: Aughavas - Monday's from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

Cloone - Tuesday's from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm.

Christmas Confessions

Monday 23rd December - Confessions in Mohill at 7.30 pm.

Eucharistic Adoration Cloone: Eucharistic Adoration takes place in St Mary's church Cloone from 7pm to 9 pm every Tuesday. The prayer intention for the month of January is *For those suffering the effects of injustice, war and persecution.* We would like to invite and encourage you to come along and spend a short time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament for this or any other special intention you may have, at this time. More volunteers are also very welcome to join our rota for weekly Eucharistic Adoration in our parish.

Please note that there will be no Eucharistic Adoration on Christmas Eve December 24th.

Parish Calendar for 2025: Copies of the Calendar are available in the Church porches.

You are welcome to take extra for people who cannot attend Church and for family members who are living abroad.

Coffee Morning and sale of Kindlers: Aughavas Men's Shed are holding a coffee morning and a sale of kindlers today Sunday 22nd December at 12 o'clock at Aughavas GAA Club grounds. All proceeds are going to upgrade and the purchase of new defibrillators and cabinets for the Parish and to run a First Aid and Defib course in the new year. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Cloone Christmas Bingo next Sunday 29th December at 3pm in Cloone Community Centre. Join us for a festive filled afternoon, with some great prizes on offer.

Christmas Message 2024.

When I was appointed bishop of Ardagh & Clonmacnois by Pope Francis last year, I chose Deus Spes Mea – God is my hope, as my episcopal motto. A motto is defined in the dictionary as a brief statement used to express a goal or ideal. I chose it for a number of reasons, but most especially because it expresses what is at the heart of our Christian faith. Its core message is that God overcomes all obstacles through the fire of hope. We live in a troubled world where all around us there is difficulty and pain, so much so that at times we are inclined to despair.

What is needed in all of us, you and me, and all those who believe in Christ is that fire of hope. This is the gift that we give to others and pass on to our children. The people who have gone before us have left us a legacy of perseverance in the faith, keeping Christian hope alive in their time. Now is our turn to persevere, so that this same light of hope shines from us. We do not know what the future brings, but we do know that the flame of Christian hope can continue to burn brightly, even in the most difficult situations.

The beauty of the Christmas message is the hope that is found in this weak and vulnerable Christ child who has come to save us. We are reminded of the love that God has for each of us, that He is a kind and merciful God. We are reminded that despite the darkness that engulfs our world today, especially in the Holy Land, the light of hope, of faith will endure.

To quote Pope Francis:

Let us exult in this gift of grace!

Rejoice you who have abandoned all hope,

for God offers you His outstretched hand;

He does not point a finger at you,

but offers you His little baby hand,

in order to set you free from your fears,

to relieve you of your burdens and to show you that,

in His eyes,

you are more valuable than anything else.

I wish every one of you a blessed, peaceful Christmas, full of the joy and peace that the Christ child brings into our lives.

+ Paul Connell

Bishop of Ardagh & Clonmacnois.

Offertory Collection: (15th Dec.) Aughavas € 485.00; (14th/15th Dec.) Cloone € 1,125.00.