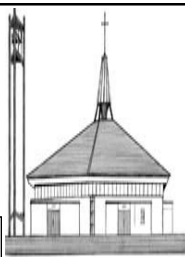




Aughavas & Cloone Parishes

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23rd Dec. 2018



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pray for the happy repose of the souls of John Laughlin, Birmingham and Cornulla, Cloone, who died in Birmingham recently (son of Margaret and the late Pat Laughlin, Cornulla and Birmingham), and Margaret Devane (nee Carroll) late of Edergole, Cloone who died in England.

Masses

Cloone: Sat. 22nd Dec. 8.00 pm. Brigid & Con Mahon & their son Con, Gortnaragh.

Cloone: Sun. 23rd Dec. 10.00 am. Pro Populo.

Aughavas: Sun. 23rd Dec. 11.30 am.

**Christmas Masses: Monday 24th December—Christmas Eve: Rossan 6.00 pm.
Aughavas 8.00 pm; Cloone 10.00 pm.**

Cloone: Tues. 25th Dec. 10.00 am. **Christmas Day.**

Aughavas: Tues. 25th Dec. 11.30 am. **Christmas Day.**

Aughavas: Wed. 26th Dec. 10.00 am.

Cloone: Thurs. 27th Dec. 10.00 am. John & Bridie McGovern, The Grange & Michael Brady, Keeldra.

Cloone: Fri. 28th Dec. 10.00 am.

Cloone: Sat. 29th Dec. 8.00 pm. Irene Heeran, Adoon. M.M.
Charlie Mitchell, Streamstown.
Gerard Moran, Edenbawn & Peter & Ann Moran.

Cloone: Sun. 30th Dec. 10.00 am. Jim Foy, Riverstown. M.M.

Aughavas: Sun. 30th Dec. 11.30 am.

Eucharistic Adoration will not take place this week in Cloone & Aughavas, on 24th and 25th December.

Trócaire's Christmas Appeal 2018: "In Yemen people are facing the worst famine in a century, with five million at risk of starvation. In South Sudan, four million have had to leave their homes and seven million are in need of food aid. Trócaire's Christmas Appeal focuses on providing food and support for the people in countries such as South Sudan and Yemen. If you wish to make a donation this Christmas, please visit the Trócaire website at <https://www.trocaire.org/Christmas>".

All Ireland Rosary Rally for Faith and Life is taking place on 1st January 2019 (Solemnity of the Mother of God), at 12 noon at Dáil Éireann, Dublin. This is to ask God through Our Lady to increase the Faith in Ireland and to protect the unborn child. The Rosary is a most powerful weapon against evil. To book your place on a bus from Leitrim, call 086-8775036.

Parish Calendar: The Parish Calendars are in the Church porches and you are welcome to take a copy home or send a copy to family abroad.

Mohill Computer Training—Upcoming Evening Courses in 2019: New Level 5 part time Design Skills & Digital Fabrication starting on Friday 18th January and run for one day per week for approx. 14 weeks; **Internet Security with Basic Computing; Navigating Modern Living, Renewable Energy & Digital Photography.** The Centre will be closed from Thursday 20th December to Wednesday 2nd January. Call 071 9632024. Email: info@mct.ie.

Christmas Day Swim in aid of Pieta House: The Christmas Day Swim will be taking place once again this year. All funds raised will be in aid of the very worthy Pieta House. The swim will take place at 12:00 in Keeldra Lake. Volunteers for the swim are greatly appreciated, as is support on the day. For more information and sponsorship cards, please contact 087-9408117 or +971559355647 on WhatsApp.

Pair of child's spectacles found in St. Mary's Church, Cloone recently. Please contact Fr. Peter Tiernan.

Thank you to everyone who supported our cake sale on Sunday last. All proceeds raised are going to 3 worthy causes - Friends of St Luke's, Cancer Care West and the North West Hospice. Total amount raised was €1,685.00. Our Presentation night for our senior champions 2018 takes place in Kilbracken Arms hotel on Friday 28th December, tickets on sale now. Music on the night by the busy fingers.

Christmas Message 2018:

As I look back on 2018 the high point of the year for me was the visit of Pope Francis to the World Meeting of Families. During his visit Pope Francis said "the World Meeting of Families has given us great hope and encouragement that families are growing more and more conscious of their own irreplaceable role in passing on the faith". For him family is a key aspect of life.

Christmas is a family time, a time for all generations, just as the first Christmas was such a family moment, not just the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph but for the entire family of God, all people of all generations. At Croke Park Pope Francis reminded us that a society that does not value grandparents will end up lacking that quality that really matters - love. This is a love and dream that so many, including our parents and grandparents, lived out in the dream and reality of marriage. Pope Francis encouraged each married person to keep repeating in their heart: "I will never fail you or forsake you!" They are the same sentiments God has for his people (Heb 13: 5).

The Christmas story is so familiar and yet it always seems fresh. There is the good news of a baby, the good news of a birth and good news of a bright future for all humanity. The Christmas story has expectation, joy and great hope for the future. But side by side with these positive elements are darker ones, uncertainty, vulnerability and danger. The circumstances of the birth of the Saviour were not at all easy for baby or parents. That is the way life often is. Side by side with great joy there can be sorrow, alongside hopes there can be fears, accompanying successes is sometimes failure. So the darker side, the vulnerable side of Christmas, is nothing new. It is very human and realistic that these contrasting emotions and circumstances coexist. Mary decided to invite the 'source of peace' to enter our world. Let us do the same.

I wish you and your family members a happy Christmas, a peaceful and hopeful experience, as we remember the birth of our Saviour.

Francis Duffy

Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnois.

Offertory Collection: Aughavas € 570.00; Cloone € 480.00.