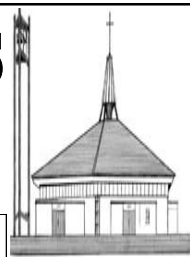


Aughavas & Cloone Parishes

Fr. Peter Tiernan: 071-9636016
Mobile: 086 3500114
Web Page aughavascloone.ie
E-mail: aughavascloone1@gmail.com



20th June 2021

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pray for the happy repose of Cian Gray, Ballyduffy, Moyne, Co. Longford (grandson of Roseann Heslin, Gurteen, Aughavas) who died recently.

Masses:

Aughavas: Sat. 19th June. 8.00 pm.
Cloone: Sun. 20th June. 10.00 am.
Aughavas: Sun. 20th June. 11.30 am. Pro. Populo.
Cloone: Mon. 21st June. 10.00 am.
Rossan: Tues. 22nd June. 8.00 pm.
Aughavas: Wed. 23rd June. 10.00 am.
Cloone: Fri. 25th June. 8.00 pm. Tommy Tiernan & D.F.M., Annamaconway.
Aughavas: Sat. 26th June. 8.00 pm.
Cloone: Sun. 27th June. 10.00 am.
Aughavas: Sun. 27th June. 11.30 am.

Confirmation: Please remember in prayer boys and girls in Cloone and Aughavas preparing for Confirmation.

Aughavas Parish Pastoral Council Meeting on Tuesday 22nd June at 8.30 pm.

Pro Life Campaign: RTÉ – challenging media bias on abortion: The Pro Life Campaign are currently running a campaign asking RTÉ to “Stop The Bias”. RTÉ is a publicly funded national broadcaster and should therefore represent all people. However when reporting on the issue of abortion they do not represent different views and options and are totally skewed and biased in manner. They now need to hear from every pro-life supporter on the issue! Sign the instant E-Card from the Pro Life Campaign that asks the Director General of RTÉ to explain and justify expecting pro-life people to continue paying the TV licence given the shockingly biased coverage on abortion. To sign go to : [www. https://prolifecampaign.ie/stop the bias/](http://www.prolifecampaign.ie/stop-the-bias/)

Ecological Conversion: Pope Francis, in his ecological encyclical *Laudato Si'* points out that every living creature on Earth is linked to everything else in what he calls a network. The reason why the world has this single web of life is that, over millions of years through the process of evolution, plants, animals, and humans all developed from common ancestors. As Christians, we have a new awareness that every creature is a precious gift from God. And, as Pope Francis points out, God enfolds even the smallest creature in His love. We have a crucial role to play in ensuring that the inter-linked web of life is not damaged. Sadly, however, we are seeing all around us how we have largely failed to live up to this

responsibility. The way we modern humans are behaving and living has caused thousands of different species of plants and animals to be wiped out; and this destruction is becoming more and more rapid and serious.

The modern type of so-called ‘development’ is the primary cause of the wiping out of so many precious animals and plants. It is also having disastrous consequences for millions of humans all over the world – especially the poorest people who have done least damage to the environment. Large areas of low-lying land, and even whole islands in the Pacific, are already badly effected by rising sea levels. The kind of hurricanes and floods that might have been expected once in a century are now becoming far more frequent. Deserts are growing rapidly in Africa and elsewhere. Coastal erosion is now much more rapid because of more severe storms and rising ocean levels. The result is not just that whole populations now suffer serious food shortages and danger of more famines. It is also that our children and future generations will have to live in a world where the environment will be radically and irreparably damaged. Greta Thunberg starkly summed up this situation in her address to the UN Climate Change conference in December 2018: ‘You say that you love your children above everything else. And yet you are stealing their future’.

No wonder, then, that Pope Francis is calling people all over the world, and our governments, to wake up and to become ‘ecologically converted’. He wants us to realise that we have a crucial role to play in the extraordinary web of life and to have a sense of wonder at its beauty and complexity. But he is also asking us to allow ourselves to become *painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering* (LS 19). He wants us to let ourselves be almost overwhelmed by the reality of the damage that we humans are doing to the Earth and its most vulnerable inhabitants, through climate change, pollution and the tragic loss of biodiversity. If we let ourselves really feel part of the whole web of life which is being so damaged, and feel both its beauty and all the suffering and loss, we will, hopefully find the energy and commitment to change the present destructive style of development and living.

I venture to add that I, as a Christian who is part of the more privileged segment of humanity, have to acknowledge that many of the comforts of my life come at the price of irreparable damage to the Earth, and the exploitation of its poorest inhabitants. For instance, it is quite likely that the materials in the batteries in my mobile phone have been dug up by exploited under-age workers, in mines that are destroying the environment, and then turned into batteries by very poorly paid workers, in factories that are over-crowded, unhealthy, and in danger of collapsing or going on fire. So I find myself benefitting from a system that is truly sinful. This means that I am morally bound to work to change the system.

We see that we are obliged to join with others in campaigning and putting pressure on local, national and international politicians, governments and business leaders to put in place a set of laws and international treaties to prevent the exploitation of vulnerable people and our vulnerable Earth. Furthermore, we must commit ourselves to repairing the damage that has already been done by human activity to the community of living beings on Earth. In this way we can play our part in ensuring that we humans live in a respectful relationship, both locally and globally, with each other, with the other creatures that share our planet and with the Earth itself.

Fr. Donal Dorr is a theologian, a writer and a priest of St. Patrick’s Missionary Society and lives in Dublin. For a more detailed treatment of this topic see chapters 17, 18 and 19 of Donal’s new book, ‘A Creed for Today’ published by Veritas in Ireland and Orbis Books in the USA.

Offertory Collection: (5th, 6th June) **Aughavas** € 515.00.
(13th June) **Cloone** € 505.00.

Pentecost Dues: **Aughavas** € 1,515.00; **Cloone** € 1,965.00.