

**13th December 2020 • Gaudete Sunday**

**A bearer of light**

Last week we were introduced to John the Baptist as part of our Advent journey. We hear his story again but this time from the fourth Gospel. Light and darkness is a key theme of the fourth Gospel and in its opening verses proclaims that this light has always shone in the dark; the darkness cannot overpower it. The evangelist goes on to tell us that John the Baptist's mission is that he has been sent by God to 'speak for the light'. John is a light bearer, he is not the light, but he points to the light. He is a witness to the light of God in our world, a light that cannot be put out.

We celebrate this light today on Gaudete Sunday, Gaudete which means 'rejoice'. We light the pink candle and we celebrate with joy. As our world continues to battle this pandemic, there is much fear about. People might not feel like celebrating or being joyful. But nature shows us that Spring always follows Winter. Like John, we are called to be light-bearers. To carry Christ's love and light to those we meet in our daily lives. Our world needs light-bearers, especially in these Winter months. It might be a good opportunity to ask today 'Who have been the light bearers for me in these past months?' And also, 'To whom can I carry light to this week?' In this way we observe Christ's ongoing incarnation in the world today.

'Lord there is much darkness in society and in our church. We thank you that someone always comes on the scene, sent by you as a witness to speak for the light ... teachers, community leaders, grandparents, children, a friend ... they bear witness to the rest of us that somewhere in the dark a light shines that darkness cannot overcome.'

*Michel de Verteuil*

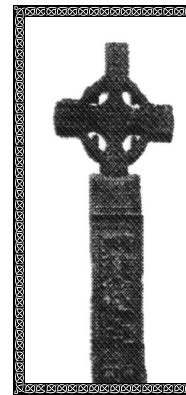
**Pope Francis' Prayer to Saint Joseph**

Oh glorious St. Joseph,  
whose power makes the impossible possible,  
come to my aid in these times of anguish and difficulty.

Take under your protection the serious  
and troubling situations that I commend to you,  
that they may have a happy outcome.

My beloved father, all my trust is in you.  
Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain,  
and since you can do everything  
with Jesus and Mary,  
show me that your goodness  
is as great as your power.

**Amen**



**Parish of Clones**

Sacred Heart, Clones  
St Alphonsus, Connors  
St Macartan's, Aghadrumsee

Parish Office  
10.00am—4.30pm (Monday—Friday)  
Telephone: 047 51048  
Email: clonesparish@gmail.com  
Website: www.clonesparish.com

**13th December  
2020**

**Third Week  
of  
Advent**

**Masses and Intentions for the Week**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

*(Gaudete Sunday)*

Vigil	7.30pm	Dermot McCabe, Roslea Road; Elizabeth Monaghan & Gunn Family, Cherry Park; Evelyn McCabe, O'Neill Park
Sun 13th	10.00am 11.30am	Mary O'Hara, Cortrasna & Joe Rooney, Greagholia People of the Parish
Mon 14th	10.00am	<b>St. John of the Cross, priest and doctor of the Church</b>
Tue 15th	10.00am	
Wed 16th	10.00am	
Thurs 17th	10.00am	
Fri 18th	10.00am	
Sat 19th	10.00am	

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Vigil	7.30pm	Simon, Eileen & Edward Rafferty, Clonfad
Sun 20th	9.00am 10.00am 11.30am	People of the Parish Patricia Toyne, Kilgarrett Peggy McCabe, Magheraveely (Month's Memory)

**Parish Mobile (in case of emergency): 085 817 6203.**

### Masses for the week

**Saturday 7.30pm Sacred Heart, Clones**  
**Sunday 9.00am St. Alphonsus, Connons, 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays**  
**10.00am St. Macartan's, Aghadrumsee**  
**11.30am Sacred Heart, Clones**

**Weekdays: Mon-Sat in Sacred Heart Church at 10.00am**  
(When there is a funeral in Clones, the Mass will be at **11.00am**)

**Baptisms** are celebrated in Sacred Heart Church on the second Saturday of each month at 4.00pm and in St. Macartan's Church on the third Sunday at 1.00pm.

**Adoration:** Postponed until further notice.

**Confessions:** Postponed until further notice.

**Death:** We pray for Gabrielle Bannon, Gorteen

#### St. Alphonsus:

**Reader 20th Dec** Nuala McBride

**Eucharistic Minister 20th Dec** Paul Hackett

#### St. Macartan's:

**Reader 20th Dec** Geraldine Beggan

**Eucharistic Minister 20th Dec** Máire Cullinan

#### Sacred Heart Church, 19th & 20th Dec:

**Readers** Vigil Marie McPhillips

11.30am Leo Rooney

#### Eucharistic Minister

Vigil Siobhan Maguire

11.30am Seamus McKiernan

**Altar Society** Bernadette K Appiah, Eileen Lendrum

### Service of Reconciliation - Christmas 2020

There will be an opportunity to celebrate Reconciliation **online** on Sunday 20th December 2020 at 7.00pm.  
([www.clonesparish.com](http://www.clonesparish.com))

### Schools in Clones Parish

**St Comhgall's** 55329      **St Tiarnach's** 51398      **St Macartan's** 677 51100  
**Gael Scoil Eois** 52162      **Largy College** 51132

#### Please support the SVP Collection, Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

Unfortunately due to Covid 19 it is not possible to collect in the usual way but you can still donate by:

- \* Using the blue SVP envelopes or any envelope marked SVP
- \* Visiting [svp.ie](http://svp.ie) and selecting *Specific location for help*; then type in Clones
- \* Phoning on 0818 176 176

Collection points for envelopes are located in Carafinn Meats, Clones Credit Union, Matthews and Sacred Heart Church (in the secure box at the altar).

SVP Clones relies almost entirely on your generosity. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

**Advent Reflection with Bishop Larry:** You can join Bishop Larry on [www.clogherdiocese.ie](http://www.clogherdiocese.ie) or on the Diocese of Clogher Facebook page at 5.00pm on each Saturday of Advent as he lights a candle on the Advent Wreath and gives a short reflection on that Sunday's Gospel reading.

**Mary's Meals Annual Walk** (socially distanced) around St. Tiernach's Park on Sunday 13th December after 11.30am Mass. A donation of €10 will feed one child for many months. Mary's Meals is a no frills charity with a simple idea that works: by providing one good meal in a place of learning, children are drawn into the classroom where they can receive an education that could one day free them from poverty. Due to COVID restrictions there will be no refreshments afterwards. Donations can be made by contacting Mary on 086 064 6967 or Geraldine on 087 267 5859.

**Jolly Joggers.** Due to COVID the Jolly Joggers 12th annual New Years Day Run held in Emyvale cannot take place in usual way. Instead the 10k/6k run and walk will be virtual and can be completed any time between the 1st and 6th of January. Over the last 11 years the Jolly Joggers have donated in excess of €60,000 to cancer charities. This year their chosen charity is SOSAD. During these difficult times physical and mental health can be challenged, which is why the services provided by SOSAD are so important. They ask that as many people as possible take part. Donations can be made via Go Fund Me Page on Jolly Joggers Facebook Page, Emyvale.net or by googling Go Fund Me Jolly Joggers virtual run. Donations can also be made directly into Jolly Joggers account in Emyvale Credit Union or to any of the Jolly Joggers.

**Aghadrumsee GFC Lotto** 02, 12, 20, 28 No Winner. Jackpot now £10,250  
(Play online at [https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Aghadrumsee\\_St\\_Macartans\\_GAC/lotto](https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Aghadrumsee_St_Macartans_GAC/lotto))