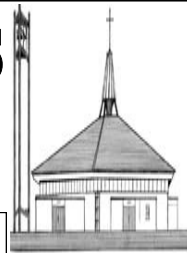




Aughavas & Cloone Parishes

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3rd Dec. 2023



1st Sunday of Advent

Pray for the happy repose of the soul of Fr. Peter Brady, retired Parish Priest of St. Mary's, Legan, Co. Longford whose funeral takes place in Legan today Sunday at 2.00 pm.

Masses:

Cloone: Sat. 2nd Dec. 8.00 pm. Elizabeth Moran, Clooneen, and Edward, Margaret & Hugh McKiernan, Aughawillan and Rose Cassidy, Corlough & D.F.M. Thomas Creamer and Sean & D.F.M., Drumdarkin. Elizabeth Gavaghan, nee Forde, Cloone and London. (20th Anniv.)

Cloone: Sun. 3rd Dec. 10.00 am. Francis & Margaret Reilly, Rocullion. Kathleen & Packie Maguire & D.F.M., Gubbs. Micheál Kellegher, Annamacooleen.

Aughavas: Sun. 3rd Dec. 11.30 am. Michael Whelan, Drumgunny. M.M. Seán Mollahan, Leganomer.

Rossan: Tues. 5th Dec. 7.00 pm.

Aughavas: Wed. 6th Dec. 7.00 pm. Gerry Kiernan, Killafee. (1st Anniv.), and his parents Willie & Margaret and D.F.M.

Cloone: Thurs. 7th Dec. 8.00 pm. ***Eve of Immaculate Conception of the BVM.***

Aughavas: Fri. 8th Dec. 11.30 am. ***Immaculate Conception of the BVM.*** Brigid Duignan, Killafee and her parents James & Brigid.

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, Drumminbawn.

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

The Season of Advent

As we prepare during Advent to celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace and watching the growing excitement in children's eyes it is difficult not to reflect upon the tsunami of tears that have been shed this year because of war and conflict. In many cases tears for the slaughter of innocent children in the land of Herod but beyond even his fevered imagination. It was a Jewish comedian who once paraphrased the prophet Isaiah when he expressed his scepticism that human beings could ever live in peace together when he wrote, '*They shall turn their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks – and then they will stab you with their*

ploughshares. Yet the desire for a real and lasting peace between us as a human family however elusive remains a constant goal for most human hearts.

Pope Paul VI warned that 'wars begin in the human heart' and peace can only be achieved when hearts of stone have been turned to hearts of flesh. The coming of the Prince of Peace offers us another opportunity to reflect on ways that we can become blessed peacemakers. As we contemplate and reflect upon the wonder of God's love which chose to dwell with us, we can rededicate ourselves to making peace, to being part of the solution and not the problem. Peace may seem to be an impossible dream but as followers of the Prince of Peace we are obliged to plough on confident in our Emmanuel, that God is with us despite the setbacks.



Prayer of Blessing for an Advent Wreath

Lord God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Saviour, who enlightens our hearts and dispels of darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendour of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

Santa is coming to Aughavas Community Centre! The big man himself will be visiting Aughavas Community Centre on Sunday December 10th at 3pm. There will be a special visit with Santa and a present for each child. To book your space call/text Michelle on 087 3312017 or email your children's names and ages to aughavascommunitycentre@gmail.com. The cost is €10 per child with special discounts for families of three or more children.

Cloone Gaelic Mothers & Others clothes collection on 9th December. Bags can be left into Cloone Community Centre kitchen from Monday to Friday.

Aughavas ICA Wednesday 6th December in Aughavas Community Centre at 8pm. New members welcome. Refreshments served.

A Christmas Tractor Run will take place on Sunday 10th 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. Please call or text John on 086 3309317 to confirm your attendance by Friday 8th December as numbers are required for Christmas lunch.

Christ's Love For Us

But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall. *Malachi 4:2*

Seen by many as a prophecy of Christ's saving power, this is a beautifully poetic phrase in which we can focus on the power, strength, energy, warmth and healing that comes from the rays of Christ's love for us. He will conquer over all that is evil.

Offertory Collection: (26th Nov.) **Aughavas** € 445.00; (26th Nov.) **Cloone** € 830.00.