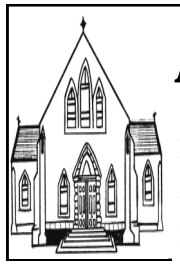
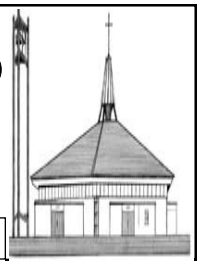


Aughavas & Cloone Parishes



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6th Sept. 2020

23rd Sunday in ordinary time

Masses:

Cloone: Sat. 5th Sept.	8.00 pm.	
Cloone: Sun. 6th Sept.	10.00 am.	
Aughavas: Sun. 6th Sept.	11.30 am.	Pro Populo.
Cloone: Mon. 7th Sept.	10.00 am.	
Cloone: Tues. 8th Sept.	10.00 am.	***Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.***
Cloone: Fri. 11th Sept.	10.00 am.	Mary Flood, Leganomer. M.M.
Cloone: Sat. 12th Sept.	8.00 pm.	
Cloone: Sun. 13th Sept.	10.00 am.	
Aughavas: Sun. 13th Sept.	11.30 am.	

Eucharistic Adoration: Cloone: Tuesday 8th September from 8 pm—9 pm.

Monday morning Mass in Cloone: Up to now the daily Masses in Cloone did not have any congregation. The reason for this is that the Church would have to be sanitised before and after each Mass. We are now in the position of having someone to sanitise the Church before and after Mass on a Monday morning. On this Monday 7th September we will have Mass at 10.00 am in Cloone and those who wish to attend may attend. The same will apply for the following Mondays. On the other week days on which there is Mass in Cloone we will not have a congregation.

Stewarding/Sanitising: To ensure that we can continue to have public Masses each weekend, we will urgently need more volunteers for the coming months.

The Corona Virus: In recent times we have seen all too clearly that how we act in our local context affects the world in our increasingly globalised reality. The coronavirus pandemic also causes us to reflect on our 'old normal' to see if it really was working for all. Pre-pandemic Ireland was considered a developed country with a successful economy yet it had a housing and homelessness crisis, poverty and in-work poverty, was not fulfilling its climate justice targets, was seeing the demise of rural areas, the majority of those with a disability were excluded from work, marginalised groups remained 'outside' such as the Traveller community, and there was a mental health and suicide crisis. Were we succeeding in terms of authentic human development and integral ecology?
The arrival of the coronavirus to the island of Ireland was a devastating turn of events that resulted in suffering and loss of life. Some of the most marginalised in our society suffered most, including and most especially the elderly and vulnerable. The public health measures brought in to tackle the crisis urgently made us look anew at what is possible, made us see more clearly the parts of society that may normally be ignored made us value the really important things in life. We were also forced to radically change our normal ways and routines and Governments too were forced to make sweeping, unprecedented changes to the delivery of public services, some of which may have been unimaginable before. Before we rush then to reclaim what we deem normal, let us reflect on what we can learn from this crisis and see the opportunities not for returning to, but for moving forward into a new way of living where we strive to value all creation.
A new way of living: Simplicity, moderation, discipline have always been valued by our Christian faith which reminds us that we are more than what we have or the material goods that we possess. As the 2014 Pastoral Reflection on Climate Change from the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, *The Cry of the Earth,* reminds us, by living a life of greater detachment from material goods and in making even small sacrifices for the good of others and of our planet, we may find that we are more, not less content. With having to travel less or consume less goods, we are no longer enslaved to our happiness depending on the next purchase or trip. We may find a slower pace of life leads to less stress and more time to focus on others, ourselves and our faith. Many people's experiences in the difficulties of the last few months have also illuminated this reality. In the darkness and suffering which this pandemic has wrought and continues to wreak, let us not lose sight of some of the learnings and lessons;
We are global citizens interconnected like never before and this applies to our impact on the environment, our buying habits, the businesses we engage with and the standards we hold;
We are all vulnerable; Some of our most important fields of work and workers are paid least and experience difficult or precarious working conditions including those involved in agriculture and food production. Many of our countries rely on migration and migrants who positively benefit our societies and work in our health system, our food supply chains and so on;
What we deemed impossible is not; and what we refused to change, we had to change.
Pope Francis has called attention in *Laudato Si'* to Saint Francis as 'the example par excellence of care for the vulnerable and of an integral ecology lived out joyfully and authentically … He shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace. In his 1990 World Day of Peace message, Saint John Paul II also reflected on the link between certain approaches to affluence and ecological devastation and human deprivation: 'Modern society will find no solution to the ecological problem unless it takes a serious look at its lifestyle. In many parts of the world, society is given to instant gratification and consumerism while remaining indifferent to the damage which these cause …. if an appreciation of the value of the human person and human life is lacking, we will also lose interest in others and the earth itself. Simplicity, moderation and discipline, as well as a spirit of sacrifice, must become part of everyday life, lest all suffer the negative consequences of the careless habits of a few.'
We must learn to examine our consciences over our decisions in the simplest acts of daily life. Simplicity of living might be our route to wonder and awe – one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit – to return to 'the newness that was in every stale thing when we looked at it as children: the spirit-shocking wonder in a black slanting Ulster hill' as Kavanagh put it in his poem *Advent.*

Totus Tuus Magazine: Due to the Covid 19 Outbreak Totus Tuus magazine is now being delivered straight to your door. If you would like to start receiving Totus Tuus to your home then please phone Fiona at 086 876 0058.

Offertory Collection: (23rd August) - **Cloone €** 405.00; **Aughavas €** 660.00.
Shrine **Cloone €** 305.00.