

Mass Intentions for January

Sunday 3 January: Tom Lennon, Oldtown

Sunday 10 January: John and Nora Halligan

Sunday 17 January: Johnnie Hynes and deceased family members, Curnaboll

Sunday 24 January: Nancy Gaffey

Sunday 31 January: Bridget Hardiman, Drumlosh (month's mind)

Mass Servers for January

3 January: Sean, Lorcan, Liam

6/10 January: Aileen, Rachel, Áine.

17/24: Sean, Lorcan, Liam

31 Jan /7 February: Aileen, Rachel, Áine

Ministers of the Eucharist:

3/6 January: Peadar Molloy

10/17 January: Mary Naughton

24/31 January : Ann Golden

7/14 February: Helen Cunningham

Reader: Anthony Dalton

Altar Society: Bernie Dunning, Teresa Lennon

Thank You

We wish to thank all who helped with the newsletter during the past twelve months. Thanks to all those who provided news, particularly Ann Dunning and Anthony Dalton and the school children who sent in their monthly reports. A special word of thanks to Brenda in the parish office for photocopying the newsletter every month.

CLONOWN NEWSLETTER

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January 2016

We wish Clonown People
Everywhere
A Happy and Prosperous
New Year

Review of 2015

It may appear to some that little happened in Clonown in 2015. Yet, looking back through the newsletters of the past year it is obvious that Clonown was an active community, with lots of people taking part in many events.

The 5/10 k Fun Run was a huge success and the Welly Walk organised by the children in the school was a great fun event. The Community Field has been used by Clonown Rovers Soccer Club and the Drum/Clonown Community Games committee. Perhaps the most used part of the field is the walking track. Being floodlit during the winter months it facilitated walkers and runners, particularly when several of the roads were flooded.

The church celebrated its Golden Jubilee in June. Bishop Kevin Doran presided at the Jubilee Mass and many Clonown people returned for the occasion. There was a display of photographs of the church opening in 1965 and a party was held for everybody in the community centre after Mass.

There were many successes, also. Clonown Rovers Soccer Club won the Combined Counties Shield and Clonown players played a prominent part in Clann na nGael's success in the County Championship, winning the Fahey Cup. Gold and silver medals were won in the Fleadh Cheoil and at the Community Games. Members of the community were on the red carpet at the premiere of the film *Older Than Ireland*.

The community centre was the centre of many of the activities in the area. Meetings took place, a coffee morning for Join Our Boys was held, and the committee was busy preparing refreshments for all occasions including First Holy Communion, and other community events. Keep Fit, Running and Pilates classes were held. There were various fund raisers including a table quiz, bag packing, cake sales and social nights. Restoration of the *Cillin* or unbaptised babies burial ground was completed. A memorial plaque will be erected shortly.

The school children reported on their activities each month. They visited Ericssons, the town library, Athlone castle, the National Concert Hall and went on school tours. Also, members of the Defence Forces visited the

school and presented the children with a copy of the Proclamation and the Irish flag in preparation for the 1916 celebrations.

There were happy and sad occasions. We welcomed two new babies and there were four marriages. There was widespread sadness at the deaths of Kathleen Ward, Patsy Dunning, Lil Ward and Bridget Hardiman.

Finally, a special word of thanks to all the community members who volunteered for and who supported the various activities during 2015.

School Report

This December we have been getting ready for Christmas. We practised very hard for the Christmas concert. The junior room went to see Hippo for Christmas. They really enjoyed it. The senior children have been working hard on their polar animal project. We had a Christmas party on our last day. We wore our Christmas jumpers and got to do secret Santa. We went to the library. Afterwards we went to the church and looked at the crib and lit a candle. We had a great time - Megan and Áine.

Cake Sale

The hall committee wishes to thank all who donated cakes etc and who supported the cake sale. It was very successful. A total of €955 was raised.

Social Night

Thanks to all who supported the night out in aid of the Community Field in McNeills recently. Also thanks to all who volunteered and donated prizes.

Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations to Laura Gaffey, Carricknaughton, and Brian Madigan who were married recently.

Recent Deaths

Our deepest sympathy to the Hardiman family, Drumlosh, on the recent death of their mother, **Bridget Hardiman**.

We offer our deepest sympathy, also, to Deirdre O'Brien on the death of her father, **Laurence Watson**, St Coman's Park.

We sympathise, also, with the Duncan family, Ballinaculla, on the death of Padraig's father, **Shane Duncan**, Beech Park.

Our condolences, also, to Larry Caulfield, on the death of his mother, **Bridie Caulfield**, Summerhill.