

# PARISH OF BANAGHER

The Solemnity of Christ, The King of the Universe  
26<sup>th</sup> November 2023

## Mass Times

### Weekday Mass Times:

Monday: St Jospeh's Church, Fincairn, 9.30am

Tuesday: St Mary's Church, Altinure, 10.00am

Wednesday: St Peter & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: **10.00am**

Thursday: **No Mass**

Friday: St Mary's Church, Altinure, **7.30pm** (*First Friday*)

**\*Note changes this incoming week to daily Mass times.**

### Weekend Mass Times for next weekend: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> December

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Vigil 7.00pm; 9.15am

St Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.30am

### Weekend Mass times in Neighbouring Parishes:

*St Patrick's Church, Dungiven: Vigil 6.00pm; Sunday 9.00am & 11.30am*

*St Matthew's Church, Drumsurn: Sunday 10.15am*

*Immaculate Conception, Gortnahey: Vigil 4.30pm*

*St Joseph's Church, Craighane: Sunday 10.00am*

*St Patrick's Church, Claudy: Vigil 6.30pm; Sunday 11.30am*

### Confessions

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Saturday: 6.30pm

**Clergy of the Diocese of Derry Convocation** Clergy of the Diocese will gather in Dromantine Retreat Centre from Wednesday to Friday this forthcoming week to pray, reflect and discuss how we best minister to God's people in the future. For this reason, there is a change in some of the Mass times and there will be no Mass on Thursday of this week. Thank you for your understanding.

**Congratulations** to Natasha O'Hara & Rory Lafferty who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage this past weekend.

**Fr Micheál** acknowledges with gratitude the generous donation of £1000 towards the ongoing work in St Mary's Church, Altinure.

**Fr Micheál** acknowledges with gratitude the generous donation of £500 from Grace Guy, proceeds from her winnings at the Banagher GAC draw, towards Parish funds.

**Advent Devotions:** Begin next Sunday, 1st Sunday of Advent in the Grotto Chapel at 6pm. Devotions will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary and Evening Prayer. All welcome.

**Advent: Walk With Me** - A daily reflection and prayer through each day of Advent. These books are available at porch doors this weekend and cost £1.

**November Do This in Memory Mass (Foreglen)** Sunday the 26th November will be the Do This in Memory Mass for the Primary 4 children in Foreglen, as part of their Sacramental preparation. The theme for this month is Christ the King, as it is the feast day of Christ the King on Sunday 26th November. Each month the children will receive a gift at the end of Mass which aims to help them grow in their prayer life. This month's gift is a cross, to remind the children that Christ is their King and it is important to have a relationship with Him, especially coming up to receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. We as a parish ask Christ to protect and guide the children throughout their lives and especially during their Sacramental preparation.

## SAVE THE DATE! Final Night of Parish Draw

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December - Fincairn Hall

Final night of the Parish Draw with music, entertainment, bar and supper.

**Banagher Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima 2024: 17-24 May.** Only a few seats remain on the Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima. For those who have reserved a place, please arrange to pay the £200 deposit as soon as possible so that your place can be secured. If you want to pay directly into the Parish Bank Account, the details are printed in this bulletin under the Offertory Collection. Thank you.

December	St Joseph's Church, Fincairn		St Mary's Church, Altinure
	7.00pm	9.15am	10.30am
<b>Readers</b>	Brenda Duddy	Jack McColgan	Patrick Conway
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Bernie Lynch	Geraldine McCloskey	Sally O'Kane
<b>Flowers</b>	Pauline McGrellis		Sheila Byrne
<b>Cleaning</b>	Lucy McLaughlin, Jean O'Neill		Roisin McInroy, Sheila Byrne
<b>Counters</b>	Ann Hasson, Marian & Anthony O'Neill Patricia McCloskey		Anna Smyth, Anna Gormley
<b>Collectors</b>	Paul Campbell Pat McCullagh	Liam Campbell Sean Roe McCloskey	Gerald, Conor, Sean & Shane Kerlin

**Trócaire Christmas Gifts of Change** will be on sale at weekend Masses on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> of December and 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> in St Joseph's Fincairn and 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> December in St Mary's, Altinure. In this Trócaire's 50th anniversary year, the organisation is marking '50 Years of Giving' by the Irish public, helping the poorest people in the world to work their way out of poverty. With 22 gifts to choose from, ranging from £5 to £1,400, each Trócaire gift will support critical work e.g. the horrific situation in Gaza, two gifts that will help families caught up in conflict this year: The Gift of Family Essentials (£30) will bring vital comfort to children and families caught up in conflict in countries like Gaza, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Ukraine. This gift will provide families with survival kits, emergency dignity kits and food baskets and The Mental Health Lifeline Gift (£40) also provides women and children in Gaza access to vital mental health care. Meanwhile, your friend or family member will get a lovely Gift card telling them you have bought this Gift of Change on their behalf. All the gifts are real items, sourced in-country which go to families in need of our support. For further information go to <https://www.trocaire.org/gifts>.

**Canticle at Christmas:** Join Canticle, the Sacred Music Society from Queen's University Belfast on Sunday 17th December at 6pm in St Joseph's Church, Fincairn for an evening of music, song and readings. Admission free with retiring collection. All welcome.

**Prayer for Vocations** We pray for those who hope to serve as priests of the diocese of Derry, that they will play their part in building up the Kingdom of Christ from Aghyaran to Coleraine, from Malin Head to Bellaghy. Bishop McKeown has said, "We will be more like the Holy Spirit-filled Body of Christ when our diocese is blessed with many families of faith, people of all ages exploring and developing their faith, official ministries of Lector, Acolyte, and Catechist, the presence of consecrated virgins, female and male religious, permanent deacons, and ordained priests".

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £1045 St Mary's Church, Altinure: £621

**FOREIGN MISSIONS COLLECTION £1340**

*Thank you for your continued generosity.*

Please consider online contributions and Gift Aid. Online Contributions to:

**Parish of Banagher Sort Code: 950306 A/c 51052659**

**Mary's Meals – Double the Love** Mary's Meals is keeping the promise of a daily school meal to over 2.4 million children in 18 countries. Our Double the Love Campaign has launched, and all donations made to Mary's Meals until 22nd January 2024 will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1million. Amongst the many challenges we see in today's world, from conflict to the cost-of-living crisis, your little acts of love can go further thanks to Double the Love, bringing hope to desperately hungry children and their families. Please pray that we can reach even more children around the world with our life-changing school meals this Christmas. Find out more and browse our Christmas gift cards at [marysmeals.org.uk](http://marysmeals.org.uk) or freephone 0800 698 1212.

**The 2024 Pioneer calendar** is available from Pioneer centres and from Central Office (01805 4226). The calendar is designed to offer spiritual support to families which are being impacted by alcohol and addiction. The calendar is priced at €5. Further information from [www.pioneerassociation.org/calendar](http://www.pioneerassociation.org/calendar).

**Youth 2000 Ireland** are having their annual Christmas retreat in Dominican College, Newbridge, Co Kildare on the 8th -10th of December for ages 16-35. This promises to be a special retreat!! Excellent Speakers, Inspiring Talks & Workshops, Fantastic music, Group activities, Youth Masses, Adoration, Reconciliation, prayer, Drama, Games & plenty of time to chill out, meet new people and find out what it means to be young & Catholic today!! There are free buses leaving from all over the country to the retreat. Donation only. Find out more and register now on [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie)

**ACCORD Derry** Marriage Preparation Courses January 2024 to March 2024 - January 19th/20th 2024; February 23rd/24th 2024 & March 22nd/23rd 2024. Venue: Everglades Hotel, Prehen Road Derry. Please note that these courses are NOT Virtual and are in person.

**Shepherding Talent Programme, *Aspire to Serve, Inspire to Lead*** In partnership with Saint Mary's University Twickenham, the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre is hosting an information session on the *Shepherding Talent Programme, Aspire to Serve, Inspire to Lead* on 4 December at 3.30pm via ZOOM. *Shepherding Talent* is a pioneering programme in which teaching professionals with leadership potential are challenged to explore their vocation to lead. Aimed at all teaching professionals in Catholic schools, this programme is delivered in the context of Catholic school education. It will be delivered over five weeks, with each session taking 2 hours and the total cost is £250. If you would like to register for the Information Session, please email: [tferry@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tferry@derrydiocese.org) or Tel: 00442871264087

**ACCORD NI & Marriage Care UK** are seeking to recruit Marriage & Relationship Counsellors. A fully funded course is provided. No academic qualifications or previous counselling experience is necessary. The 2 year training program begins in April 2024 and applications close in December 2023. For more information call 02890233002 or email [info@accordni](mailto:info@accordni).

**Feasts this week:**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November; St Fergal, Bishop & Missionary**, was an Irish monk, possibly educated at Colbroney under St Samthann and going on to become Abbot of Aghaboe. Like many Irish monks of the time, he set off on his 'pilgrimage of the love of Christ', in 723. He passed through France and southern Germany. He was invited to Bavaria by Duke Odilo and founded the monastery of Chiemsee. Eventually he became Abbot of St Peter's at Salzburg. He engaged in controversy with St Boniface, but on Boniface's martyrdom he became his successor as Bishop of Salzburg in 766 or 767. He is remembered as Apostle of the Slovenes; he also had a keen interest in mathematics and astronomy.

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November: St Andrew, Apostle**, was born in Bethsaida, in Galilee, and worked as a fisherman. He may have been a disciple of St John the Baptist. He became one of the first to follow Jesus and introduced his brother, Simon Peter, to him. As one of the twelve Apostles he was widely venerated in ancient times, and became patron saint of Scotland because according to legend some of his bones were brought there and buried at the place where the town of St Andrew's now stands.

**Safeguarding Notice:** If you have any concerns with regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church please contact Marie Gormley, the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) at 07596 500 793 or at the Safeguarding Office, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6UJ or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services: Duty Social Worker, Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090

**Privacy Notice:** The Diocese of Derry complies with GDPR regulations. A privacy notice is available on the Parish Website or by contacting the Parish Office. Live stream and recordings of Mass and Services in St Joseph's Church, Fincairn and St Mary's Church, Altinure are available online. Parishioners should note that the first three rows of seats are visible online in St Joseph's Church, Fincairn and the first six rows of seats in St Mary's Church, Altinure. Please also note that the outside areas and the interiors of St Joseph's Church, Fincairn and St Mary's Church, Altinure and covered by CCTV.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**St Mary's GAC, Banagher:** Lotto numbers for 21/11/2023 were 9, 10, 12, 26. Winning £100 was Fiona McDermott. Next week's Jackpot is £2,500. Drive-in Bingo Sunday 4pm.

**Family Care Adoption Services** is an Adoption Agency, and a core part of our work is to place children with new adoptive families. We provide adoption services throughout all Northern Ireland and work with Health and Social Care Trusts to place single children and sibling groups for adoption. These children are aged from babyhood to approximately 5 years old. There are currently more children waiting to be adopted in Northern Ireland than families approved to adopt and there is an urgent need for new families to come forward. All sorts of people from all walks of life can be considered for adoption. If you think you could offer a child/ren a new life in a family of their own and would like an informal chat to discuss this and to find out more about adoption please Email:[email@familycareadoption.org](mailto:email@familycareadoption.org) ; phone:02890 691133 or visit [www.familycareadoption.com](http://www.familycareadoption.com)

**PARISH CLERGY**

**Fr Micheál McGavigan Adm. JV**

42 Glenedra Road, Feeny, BT47 4TW

Tel: 028 7778 1223 Email: [mcgavigan@derrydiocese.org](mailto:mcgavigan@derrydiocese.org)

**CONTACT US**

To arrange a Baptism, Wedding or Anniversary Mass, please call Fr Micheál or the secretaries on 028 7778 1223 or email [banagherparish@derrydiocese.org](mailto:banagherparish@derrydiocese.org).

**Parish Office** opening hours next week: Monday - Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm.

**Mass is Live on the Webcam at [www.banagherparish.com](http://www.banagherparish.com)**

**SVP Confidential Helpline: 07593954973**