

PARISH OF BANAGHER

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
14th January 2024

Mass Times

Weekday Mass Times:

Monday: Grotto Chapel, Fincairn: 9.30am
Tuesday: St Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.00am
Wednesday: St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: 7:00pm
Thursday: St Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.00am
Friday: Grotto Chapel, Fincairn: 9.30am

Weekend Mass Times for next weekend: 20th & 21st January

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Vigil 7.00pm
St Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.30am
St Peter's & St Paul's, Foreglen: 12 noon

Weekend Mass times in Neighbouring Parishes:

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

Grotto Chapel Friday: 10:00am
St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Saturday: 6.30pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Divine Mercy Chaplet

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Friday 10.00am – 11.00am
St Mary's Church, Altinure: Thursday 10:30am – 11:30am

Thank You: Banagher SVP wish to acknowledge your generosity to the 'Wonder of Christmas' Appeal 2023. The conference group greatly appreciate the contribution from the Primary Schools in the Parish, Banagher G.A.C., All the donations made Via the Blue envelopes, vouchers received, on line donations and contributions via the collection boxes in the three chapels. We are also very grateful for your support and loyalty throughout the year. Thank you most sincerely. Please be assured that your generosity helps make life a little easier for someone/family in our community. Blessings, Good Health and Happiness to All in 2024.

Children's Liturgy Recommencing: Children's Liturgy will take place every Sunday during the 10:30am Mass in St Mary's Church, Altinure, recommencing, today, **Sunday 14th January 2024**. Children's liturgy is open to all children in P1, P2 and P3, and is a great opportunity for them to experience the Word of God in a way that is more accessible to young children. These sessions will be led by the Parish's Pope John Paul II Award students, along with a group of dedicated parent volunteers. At the beginning of Mass, the children will be invited to go to the sacristy along with the JP2 students and parent volunteers, where the children will listen to the children's version of Gospel and do short activity. They will then re-join everyone in the main Church just before the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Baptism: We welcome into the family of God baby Myla Murray.

A Month's Mind Mass for the happy repose of the soul of Phyllis Reilly will be celebrated on Sunday 21st January at 10.30 in St Mary's Church, Altinure.

Derry Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: We are inviting young people aged 16 + to join us on pilgrimage to Medjugorje for 9 nights from 30 July to 8 August. This will be a unique experience for young people and an opportunity to engage with peers from around the world, in a faith context. Up to 50,000 young people attend the Medjugorje Youth Festival each year. Cost is £800 and there will be a budget plan to help with this. Names and deposit of £100 are required as soon as possible to secure a place. For more information or to book in please contact lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org 00 44 2871264087.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024: Monday 1 to Friday 5 July, ex City of Derry Airport. Led by Bishop Donal McKeown. Full board £799, single room supplement £150. The pilgrimage office at 164 Bishop Street, Derry, will open to the public 11am to 1pm on Thursdays and Saturdays, starting Saturday 10 February. Telephone number 028 71260293, email derry pilgrim@outlook.com

Vocations: Jesus invites the curious disciples in today's gospel to "Come and See." The Vocations Directors of the northern dioceses offer the same invitation to anyone interested in serving the Church as a diocesan priest, to attend a retreat at the Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne, from 8 - 10 March. Anyone aged 18 or over wishing to attend should contact the diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Pat O'Hagan at pgoh2111@gmail.com with their name, date of birth, and telephone contact details.

Troaire Christmas Gifts: Thank you for your support and donations over the Christmas season. The amount that was raised for this cause amounted to £2895.

Banagher Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima 2024: 17-24 May is now fully subscribed. Full payment is due by 11th March 2024. If not already submitted, please send a copy of your passport.

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.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

6th & 7th January 2014

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £700 St Mary's Church, Altinure: £660
St Peter's & St Paul's, Foreglen: £580

Please consider online contributions and Gift Aid. Online Contributions to:
Parish of Banagher Sort Code: 950306 A/c 51052659

Please note that the above figures do not include donations made online directly to the parish bank account. This total figure will be published at the beginning of each month.

Mary's Meals – Double the Love Extended 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 the end of 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 or freephone 0800 698 1212.

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The Saint Dymphna Mass will be celebrated in Saint Eugene's Cathedral on Tuesday 16th January at 7.30pm. This Mass is to give thanks to God for positive mental health and to pray for those who are struggling with mental health issues and those who care for them.

Exploring Poetry with Mary Murphy recommences on Friday 12th January at 11.00am in the Cathedral Hall. You are most welcome to join via the online platforms or in person.

Catholic Schools Week 2024 - Sunday 21st to Saturday 27th January 2024 – To launch Catholic Schools Week in our diocese, a Celebration of the Eucharist will be held in Saint Eugene's Cathedral, celebrated by Bishop Donal McKeown on Tuesday 16th January at 10.00am. Everyone is welcome to attend. Catholic Schools week is an annual all-Ireland celebration which invites schools to give expression in an exceptional way to the ethos of Catholic education. It acknowledges the tremendous contribution that our Catholic primary and post-primary schools makes not just to Irish society, but to the mission of the Church. This year's theme is Catholic Schools as Communities of Service. Resources reflecting on features within the overarching theme are available at www.catholiceducation.ie.

Primary One places for September 2024. There are three excellent Catholic Schools in the Parish, which take both boys and girls. The three schools are St Canice's PS, Feeny, St Mary's PS, Altinure and St Peter & St Paul's PS, Foreglen. If your child is starting primary school in September 2024, you can apply online for their place at www.eani.org.uk/parents/ad

Feast Days this Coming Week:

Monday 15th: Saint Ita (c.475 - 570) was born in County Waterford and founded a community of women in County Limerick, at a place now called Killeedy after her. She was known for her sanctity and for her gift of prophecy and was held in veneration by a large number of saints, both men and women.

Wednesday 17th: St Antony, Abbot (251 - 356) is the originator of the monastic life. He was born in Egypt: when his parents died, he listened to the words of the Gospel and gave all his belongings to the poor. He went out into the wilderness to begin a life of penitence, living in absolute poverty, praying, meditating, and supporting himself by manual work. He suffered many temptations, both physical and spiritual, but he overcame them. Disciples gathered round him, attracted by his wisdom, moderation, and holiness. He gave support to the victims of the persecutions of Diocletian, and helping St Athanasius in his fight against the Arians. He lived to be over a hundred years old, and died in 356.

The Gospels are full of wise sayings of Jesus that seem to be ignored, and one of the most poignant of these was in his meeting with that young man who asked over and over again, insistently, "What must I do to have eternal life?". When, in the end, Jesus told him that if he wanted to be *perfect* he would have to sell all that he had and give the money to the poor, the young man went away, sorrowing; because he was very rich. What could be more of a waste than that? You tell someone what he has to do, and he is afraid to do it. And yet... 250 years later, St Antony hears the story, and does give away all that he has, and becomes the founder of monasticism. And then again, over 1,000 years later, St Francis of Assisi hears the story, and gives away his possessions (and some of his father's) and revolutionises Christianity again. Not all the words that we speak are forgotten, even though we cannot see their effects ourselves. Let us pray that those unknown effects may always be good ones

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

Glenshane House, Dungiven : OCN L2 Award in Managing Challenging Behaviour in Children course starting soon. (6 weeks x 2 hrs) A few spaces available. To register Tel 028 777 42494

St Mary's GAC, Banagher: Lotto numbers for 9/1/2024 were 2,18,24,25. Winning £20 each were Peter Duggan, Gareth McCullagh, Brian Loughery, Ellen McDermott, Andrena O'Kane. Next week's Jackpot is £3,200.

PARISH CLERGY

Fr Micheál McGavigan Adm. JV

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Tel: 028 7778 1223 Email: 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.

Parish Office opening hours next week: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 9.30am - 12.30pm.

Mass is Live on the Webcam at www.banagherparish.com

SVP Confidential Helpline: 07593954973