

PARISH OF BANAGHER

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – 17th January 2021

Mass Times for the forthcoming week:

Online Weekday Masses:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am

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

Online Weekend Masses:

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

St Mary's Church, Altinure: 5.30pm Vigil; 10.30am

New Webcam in St Mary's Church, Altinure will go live on Tuesday 19th January for the 10am Mass. The regular parish Mass schedule will resume online. Both webcams can be accessed at banagherparish.com and the Masses will be recorded so that they can be watched later in the day. Thank you to all those who contributed to the cost of the installation. Any further donations would be most welcome.

Trócaire Christmas Gifts: The total amount collected was £2634. Thank you on behalf of Trócaire for your generosity. Thanks too to those who organised the selling of the gifts in the Parish.

An Anniversary Mass will be celebrated for the happy repose of the soul of Paschal McFeely RIP, Foreglen, on Saturday 23rd January 2021 at 5.30pm on the webcam.

Housebound Visitation: Routine home visits to the sick and housebound are still not permitted. If someone is gravely ill and needs a priest, please call the parochial house.

Hospital Visitation: If you have a relative or friend in hospital and they wish to see a priest, please ask a member of the hospital staff to page the Catholic Chaplain. There is always a priest on call to visit. Thank you for your understanding.

Sick, Elderly, Homebound & Shielding Do you have a relative who would normally attend Mass or receive a monthly visit from Fr Micheál and is presently shielding due to COVID-19? If you or another family member who cares for them would like to bring them Holy Communion once per week, please let Fr Micheál know.

Baptisms: We welcome in the family of God baby Cain Joseph McGurk.

Children for Baptism: If you have a child for Baptism, please contact Fr Micheál. Baptism ceremonies can continue during this current lockdown, but restricted to immediate family.

Funerals: During this current lockdown the number of mourners permitted in the Church and at the graveside are restricted to 25 people.

Confirmation 2021: Due to the recent lockdown, Confirmation will be postponed for 2 weeks, until **Saturday 13th March 2021**. This will give families a chance to make preparations for their children and the teachers more face to face time with the children to prepare them for the Sacrament.

The children from St Peter's & St Paul's Primary School, Foreglen and St Canice's Primary School, Fincairn will be confirmed at **11.00am** in St Joseph's Church, Fincairn. The children from St Mary's Primary School, Altinure will be confirmed later on the same day at **2.00pm** in St Mary's Church, Altinure.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £NIL **St Mary's Church, Altinure:** £NIL

St Peter & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: £NIL **Online:** £569

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on Monday, 18 January and lasts until Monday the 25th. The theme this year is "*Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit*", based on John 15:1-17. The resources for this year have been provided by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland. We are encouraged to pray together in our homes and, if possible, via online means. For prayer and other resources visit www.irishchurches.org

ACCORD – COVID-19 Counselling & Support: If you can't talk to each other, talk to Accord. Accord's free and confidential 'Relationships Support Phone Line' for marriages, families and relationships, offers support to those experiencing extra pressure due to social restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Accord NI – 028 9568 0151.

Preparing for Marriage? Catholic Engaged Encounter: A 'Zoom' online Marriage Preparation course is planned for 27-28 March 2021. This 2-day course is a positive way of preparing for Marriage where you will discover how you can enrich your future relationship. This course fulfils the requirements of get married in the Catholic Church. Information/Booking: marriageencounter.ie or 028276 38512

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated from 24th-31st January 2021. The theme this year is Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith and Resilience. To launch Catholic Schools Week in the Diocese of Derry, Bishop Donal Mc Keown will celebrate Mass on Thursday 21st January at 10 am in St Eugene's Cathedral, via the webcam: www.steugenescathedral.com The Mass can also be viewed on Saint Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page.

The NET The January edition of *The Net*, the monthly publication sharing the fruits of faith in the Derry Diocese, is now available on the Diocesan website and Facebook Page - <https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/the-net-january-2021>

St Mary's Primary School, Altinure Are you thinking of sending your child to St. Mary's PS Altinure in September 2021? It will soon be time to make your online application at <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>. Why not visit our school's website at www.altinure.co.uk to see what life is like at St. Mary's P.S.? Or you could call into school to get a prospectus or speak to the Principal, Mrs Redmond. The online portal opens on Thursday 7th January 2021 at 12 noon and will close at 12 noon on Friday 29th January 2021. Contact school on 02877781384 for more information. We look forward to meeting you and your child!

St Canice's P.S Feeny - Is your child due to start Primary 1 in September 2021? Online registration for P1 will open on 7 January 2021 and will close 29 January 2021 @ noon www.eani.org.uk. Please ring the school for a phone appointment with the Principal, Fiona McCann on 028 777 81346 or e mail info@stcanicesps.derry.ni.sch.uk We look forward to hearing from you! Our virtual tour will be posted soon! Check out our website www.stcanicespsfeeny.com

If you have any concerns with regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church please see contacts on church noticeboards.

Online Financial Contributions, for those who wish to, can be made directly to the Parish Bank Account. Sort Code: 95-03-06 Account Number: 51052659. Please indicate your name as a reference on the payment.

Saints this week:

Thursday 21st January: St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr (-304) As with so many of the early Roman martyrs, very little is now known about Agnes' life. Partly this is because the details have been obscured by the light that shines from her martyrdom and the cult that it inspired, and partly because if you are martyred at the age of 12, your life has not really acquired that many details in any case. Agnes was filled with the love of God from an early age, vowed herself to celibacy, and when the opportunity of martyrdom arose, she did not hide away but stepped forward and took it. That is really all that is known: but it is enough. We who are used to compromising with the world at every turn, and would find excuses to avoid any inconveniences that our faith might cause us, let alone martyrdom ("yes, of course I would die for my faith *in principle*, but wouldn't I be able to do more good in the long run if I stayed alive just now?"), should admire the simple wisdom of Agnes, realise that there are moments where compromise and moral ambiguity just will not do, and pray for the strength to live up to such moments when they happen.

COMMUNITY NEWS

St Mary's GAC, Banagher: The winning lotto Numbers were 4,13,14,23. No winners this week. Receiving £35 each were Kevin Farren, Majella Burke and John O'Dwyer. Next week's jackpot is £1,200. Thanks very much to everyone who continue to support our club lotto.

Feeny Medical Practice

FLU Vaccines - Our Flu Clinic for all patients aged 50 - 64years will run in Banagher Sports Pavilion on Monday 18th January from 4pm - 6.30pm. All patients who have registered for the vaccine should have received their appointment. It's not too late to book, please ring before 11am on Monday 18th January if you are in this age bracket, or if you missed your vaccine at the original clinic.

COVID Vaccines: We had a very successful Covid-19 Vaccination Clinic last week. We still await further supply of vaccine but anticipate our next clinics will run in the week beginning 25th January. We will be in touch with patients as soon as vaccine becomes available for their age group.

Mobile Numbers: The quickest way for us to contact patients is by mobile. If we don't have your mobile number, or if it has changed recently, please contact us to update.

Winter Pressures: The winter months see an increase in the number of patients needing GP Services. This year Covid-19 has added to these pressures. We know that it can be difficult to contact us, and patients are frustrated with long telephone queues, but like all workplaces we have had problems with reduced staffing levels and increased workload for the past months due to the virus.

Our GP's are working, but all calls are telephone triage in the first instance, the fewer people who need to come into the health centre the better, to keep everyone safe.

We also have a First Contact Physiotherapist, Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Pharmacists, Social Workers and a Mental Health Practitioner working in our Practice. When you ask for a call we may direct you to someone other than a GP if we feel this is more appropriate. Please be patient with us, if your call is not urgent then try another time as we try to keep phone lines free for urgent or emergency matters.

You may also register for our online service, where you can order medication or send us a message. The website for this is www.patient-services.co.uk.

Dún Uladh's Music Classes are back for 2021 and will be continuing online via Zoom. Lessons available in tin whistle, flute, fiddle, banjo, harp, button accordion and concertina for all ages and abilities. Instruments also available to hire. For further information or to register, please e-mail music@dunuladh.ie

Openreach Broadband The scheme is a community fibre partnership which allows residents, businesses and community providers to pledge a free government Gigabit voucher worth £1500 for homes and £3000 for businesses towards the cost of the works associated with upgrading the broadband structure in the area. The vouchers will allow Openreach to undertake works on roads/addresses that would not usually be commercially viable and will therefore deliver superfast broadband to most addressees in Feeny & Park. However, they need in the region of 80% of the exchange area to pledge their voucher in order for the scheme to proceed. So far only 102 vouchers out of a possible 820 have been pledged and therefore the target is falling considerably short on the current uptake. If the target was to be met, the scheme would be expected to be delivered this year which would be a major boost to the local area in a very short period of time.

Please visit www.openreach.cm/connectmycommunity to register.

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 are available online. Parishioners should note that the first three rows of seats are visible online.

PARISH CLERGY

Fr Micheál McGavigan Adm. JV
42 Glenedra Road, Feeny, BT47 4TW
Tel: 028 7778 1223

Email: mcgavigan@derrydiocese.org

Retired Priests Residing in the Parish

Fr Seamus O'Connell PEm
028 7778 1228

Fr Michael Collins PEm.
028 7778 1776

Fr Arthur O'Reilly PEm.
028 7133 8261

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

Bulletin notices should be emailed to banagherparish@derrydiocese.org

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

SVP Confidential Helpline: 07593954973