

PARISH OF BANAGHER

3rd Sunday of Lent – 7th March 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: Sunday 9.15am

St Mary's Church, Altinure: Saturday 5.30pm Vigil

Lenten Devotions will take place on the Sunday evenings of Lent at 6pm from St Joseph's Church, Fincairn. The order of service will be available to borrow from the Church porches or will be posted online to download.

Trócaire Boxes are available in Church porches this weekend.

A First Anniversary Mass will be celebrated for the happy repose of the soul of Jim Hasson RIP, on Monday 8th March at 9.30am in St Joseph's Church, Fincairn.

A First Anniversary Mass will be celebrated for the happy repose of the soul of Rena (Kathleen) O'Kane RIP on Saturday 13th March at 5.30pm in St Mary's Church, Altinure.

Return to Public Mass

The next NI Executive review of current lockdown provisions will be taking place on Tuesday 16th March. The Northern Bishops of the Catholic Church have agreed to further assess the situation immediately after that date in the cautious expectation that, from Friday 26th March onwards, and in preparation for Holy Week, the faithful may safely gather once more for the celebration of Mass, with all necessary risk assessments having taken place and with all necessary precautions and mitigations in place. Further details will be announced in due course.

Children for Baptism: If you have a child for Baptism, please contact Fr Micheál. Baptism ceremonies can continue during this current lockdown but are restricted to immediate family and no more than 10 in the Church at the time of the ceremony.

CTS Books: The Book Stands in St Joseph's Church, Fincairn & St Mary's Church, Altinure have been restocked with new titles including prayers and reflections for lent and a life of the recent Blessed Carlo Acutis. Titles are individually priced.

Confirmation 2021: Due to the ongoing, extended restrictions and the uncertainty around when children in Primary 7 will return to face-to-face teaching, and in addition, the continued closure of Churches, Confirmation will have to be postponed once again, at least until after Easter. Once we can be certain that children will be back in school and Churches are permitted to have public worship, then we will arrange a new date. Apologies for the inconvenience and repeated postponement of the celebration. Much of this is outside our control and I appreciate your understanding at this time.

Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion 2021: Children in Primary 4 were due to celebrate the Sacrament of First Confession in the forthcoming weeks. As they have not been attending school, this will be postponed until after Easter. As this is a more informal celebration, a new time will be agreed with the schools once children return. It is hoped that the existing dates arranged for First Holy Communion will continue as normal. Thank you for your continued understanding and patience.

The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. The next intake will be Autumn 2021. If you require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org.

Saint Vincent de Paul – continue to be available to assist in a confidential way anyone who is struggling at this time. If you need help with fuel, food or electricity etc, please get in touch. People living in Park area are covered by the Learmount Community Association, but anyone in the Feeny and Foreglan areas should contact SVP on 07593954973.

Walking with Jesus along the Via Dolorosa - LENT 2021 This five-week programme for Lent includes a Gospel Reading, Reflective Prayer and Scriptural Rosary. More info at: <https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/categories/len-2021>

'Living Christian Faith' Lenten Conversations – Online at Knock Shrine Knock Shrine are launching a new series of online discussions to engage you during Lent. The talks will be streamed at 8.30pm every Thursday during Lent. Join us at www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live or on Facebook @knockshrine

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Online & via Parochial House: £2182

Thank you for your continued generosity.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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 6 rows of seats in St Mary's Church, Altinure.

COMMUNITY NEWS

St Mary's GAC, Banagher: Lotto Numbers for 2/3/21 were 7, 9, 17 & 26. Winning £50 each were Eileen Rafferty & Regina Forrester. Thanks very much to everyone who continue to support our club lotto- much appreciated. Next week Jackpot is £1900.

Census 2021 is here!

The census happens only once every ten years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in Northern Ireland. It gives us three windows on our world. The Past – As well as being a rich source of genealogy information, we can find out interesting facts like Putter Outter, Clod Hopper, Toe Rag all past occupations that have disappeared from census records.

The Present – It shows us what Northern Ireland looks like today highlighting current trends. For example, renewable energy in homes is included for the first time while we don't ask about outside toilets anymore.

The Future - Census data is used make decisions about how vital public services, such as health, housing and transport are planned and funded. As we get older our needs may change and it is important that this is captured so everyone has access to the services they need.

You should have received your pack in the post. It will have included an access code for completing online or details on how to request a paper form. If you have already completed your census we are very grateful. Your answers are important and completely confidential. Your personal data will never be shared.

If you didn't receive a pack, have lost your access code or have any questions call our contact centre for free on 0800 328 2021 or visit our website at www.census.gov.uk/ni. Here you can find out about the support available to help you complete including guidance in Braille, Easy Read, British and Irish Sign Language and large print questionnaires.

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	Fr Michael Collins PEm.	Fr Arthur O'Reilly PEm.
028 7778 1228	028 7778 1776	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