

PARISH OF BANAGHER

Feast of the Ascension of the Lord – 16th May 2021

MASS TIMES

Weekday Mass:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Mon & Fri 9.30am; Wed 7.30pm
St Mary's Church, Altinure: Tues & Thurs 10am
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: Wed & Fri 7pm

Weekend Mass:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Vigil 7.00pm. 9.15am.
St Mary's Church, Altinure: Vigil 5.30pm. 10.30am.
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: Vigil 7.00pm. 10.30am.

Confessions:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Wednesday 7.00pm; Friday 10.00am.
St Mary's Church, Altinure: Friday 7.00pm; Saturday 5.00pm.

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.

Funerals, Weddings & Baptisms: As restrictions ease, the number of people permitted to attend funerals, weddings and baptisms is now determined by the risk assessment of each Church and is no longer restricted to 25 people.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £1395 St Mary's Church, Altinure: £685
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: £410 Online: £380
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.

Parish Gift Aid Claim for the year ending April 2021 is in the process of being completed. If you have envelopes or donations to include or there is a change to your gift aid status, please contact the parish office.

Celebrating the Feast of Pentecost- Receive! Believe! Live! As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost on the 23rd May, the Diocesan Catechetical Centre has created a variety of resources, including prayers, reflections and craft activities, for parishes, families & schools. These resources are available online at <https://catecheticalcentre.org/category/celebrating-the-feast-of-pentecost/>

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION 2021

Given the easing of restrictions across Northern Ireland, Bishop Donal has reviewed his decision to postpone the celebration of First Holy Communion and Confirmation until after the summer holidays.

With this in mind and following a review by the NI Executive the following dates have now been provisionally arranged celebration of the Sacraments in the Parish. Once approval of the easing of restrictions is given on May 20th, these dates will be confirmed.

First Holy Communion:

St Mary's PS, Altinure: Saturday 5th June, 11am.
St Peter's & St Paul's PS, Foreglen: Saturday 12 June, 10am.
St Canice's PS, Fincairn: Saturday 12th June 10am.

Confirmation:

St Canice's PS, Fincairn & St Peter's & St Paul's PS, Foreglen : Saturday 19th June, 11am, St Joseph's Church, Fincairn.
St Mary's PS, Altinure: Saturday 19th June, 2pm in St Mary's Church, Altinure.

The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord: The Unfinished Painting - Leonardo da Vinci had started to work on a large canvas in his studio. For a while he worked at it – choosing the subject, planning the perspective, sketching the outline, applying the colours, with his own inimitable genius. Then suddenly he stopped working on it. Summoning one of his talented students, the master invited him to complete the work. The horrified student protested that he was both unworthy and unable to complete the great painting which his master had begun. But da Vinci silenced him. "Will not what I have done inspire you to do your best?" Jesus our Master began to spread the Good News two thousand years ago by what he said and did, and supremely by what he suffered. Jesus illustrated his message and left us to finish the picture. Will Jesus' life not inspire us to finish the picture? This is the message of the Ascension

Celebrating Mary in the Month of May. May is a very special month for the Church as we remember Mary, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother. A full month is given over to Mary and during this month we are encouraged to honour Mary in different ways. To help parishes, families and schools to do this, the Diocesan Catechetical Centre has created a number of resources including prayers, Gospel reflections, colouring and craft activities, examples of May Altars and ideas on how to pray the Rosary. These resources are available online at catecheticalcentre.org/category/celebrating-mary-in-the-month-of-may-2021/

Mary's Meals – Pray in May - This May we invite you to join us in our prayer campaign for the work of Mary's Meals, which is reaching more than 1.8 million children with a nutritious meal in 19 countries every school day. We pray for God's continued blessing on our beautiful mission, that through His providence it will always flourish enabling us to reach more hungry children. Prayer resources and further information can be found at www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service is seeking volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators. Accord is seeking registration of interest from those who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and the enthusiasm to be part of a team supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service has 54 centres in dioceses across the island. Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice. Contact Deirdre 07980898399 or by email to info@accordni.com The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in selections for this year is Friday June 4th. Registration of Interest form and additional information about becoming a facilitator is available on www.accordni.com

The Net is available on the Diocesan website and Facebook Page www.derrydiocese.org/news/the-net-may-2021 May's edition includes Golden Rose – Our Lady of Knock by Fr Joseph Varghese and Some May Memories by Vera McFadden.

Accord Marriage Preparation Workshop, which is a requirement of all couples intending to marry in the Catholic Church have added a further workshop this summer, taking place online on 22nd & 23rd June 2021. To register visit www.accord.com

Consultation on Irish Synod As you may have heard via the media, the Irish Bishops have decided to initiate a process in the Irish Church, leading to a Synodal Assembly in perhaps five years. The Bishops' Conference plans the next two years as a period of prayer, listening and discernment, involving a nationwide consultative conversation on this theme. Following this, there will be a three-year preparation for a National Synodal Assembly. Before embarking on the Synodal Pathway consultation, bishops are inviting submissions to reflect on what methods/models to adopt in these coming two years of conversations. Individual and groups are invited to submit ideas as to

- how the national conversation might best be conducted,
- what hard-to-reach groups need to be involved.

For further information on making a submission go to www.catholicbishops.ie/synod Please note that submissions are sought by 23 May 2021 and can be made directly online through that website.

Master of Arts in Religious Education and Social Justice: St Angela's College, Sligo, is offering this online part-time MA, starting in September 2021. The closing date for receipt of applications is 16 June. Please visit www.stangelas.nuigalway.ie or contact Mary Kearns on 0035371 9195550. Email: mkearns@stangelas.nuigalway.ie

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.

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 / 07707 311 358 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: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.

COMMUNITY NEWS

St Mary's GAC, Banagher: Winning lotto numbers for Tuesday 11th May were 7, 8, 13 & 16. Winning £50 each was Oisín McCloskey & Geraldine Forrester. Thanks very much to everyone who continue to support our club lotto. Next week's Jackpot is £2900.

Drive in Bingo at 4pm on Sunday.

Destined would like to invite you to a public consultation to actively engage and gain support of the wider public in the need for a new Learning Disability Centre in rural areas on Thursday 20th May 2021 at 7pm via Zoom. If you would like to take part or require more information, please contact Grainne on 07742864625 or email grainne@destined.ie

PARISH CLERGY

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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.

Parish Office New office hours: Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 12.30pm.
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