

# PARISH OF BANAGHER

## Divine Mercy Sunday – 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022

### Mass Times

#### Weekday Mass:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Mon & Fri 9.30am. (NB. No Wednesday evening mass)  
St Mary's Church, Altinure: Tues & Thurs 10am  
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: Wed & Fri 7.00pm

#### 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: Saturday 5.00pm.

#### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Divine Mercy Chaplet:

St Mary's Church, Altinure: Thursday 10.30am – 11.30am.  
St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Friday 10.00am – 11.00am.

**Solemn Divine Mercy** will take place, today Sunday, at 3pm in St Mary's Church, Altinure

**Rest in Peace** we extend our sympathies to the family of James McGillion RIP, Kilcreen, who died recently.

**Baptism:** We welcome into the family of God baby Harper Ella Logue.

### HOPE Banagher Summer Camp 2022

We are delighted to confirm that HOPE Banagher Summer Camp will run this year from Monday 1st August - Friday 5th August 2022.

More details to follow on registration, volunteering opportunities, fundraising activities, the 2022 HOPE jersey and what the week will have in store for our youth!

Volunteers, who have completed Year 12 in June 2022, can sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/wdP8WVCG8L5xYXCb7>

**The Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** will resume this year, from 3 - 8 July 2022. Cost: £689 per person sharing, with single room supplement £150. Price includes flights, transfers and full board. The pilgrimage will be suitable for pilgrims who do not require medical, nursing or personal assistance as, unfortunately, this cannot be provided this year. The intentions of the sick of the diocese can be taken to Lourdes. The Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, will be open for enquires and application forms on Thursdays and Saturdays, 11.00am – 1.00pm, from 3 March. Tel: 028 71 260293 or email [derrypilgrim@outlook.com](mailto:derrypilgrim@outlook.com)

**Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lough Derg** The Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lough Derg will take place on Friday 24th June - Sunday 26th June 2022. Bishop McKeown will lead the pilgrimage and invites you to join him. Booking is essential so please contact Diocesan Catechetical Centre Tel: + 44 28 71264087 Or Email: [lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org](mailto:lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org) Cost is £80 which includes return transport from Saint Eugene's Cathedral, Derry.

### Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service - Marriage Preparation Programme Facilitators

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators. Successful volunteers will 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 in one of our 54 centres throughout Ireland. Contact Deirdre 07980898399 or by email to [info@accordni.com](mailto:info@accordni.com) The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in Selections for this year is Friday May 27th 2022. Registration of Interest form and additional information about becoming a facilitator is available on [www.accordni.com](http://www.accordni.com)

**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.

### Feasts this week:

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April – St Mark, Evangelist**, was a cousin of Barnabas and accompanied the apostle Paul on his first missionary journey; later he followed him to Rome. He was a disciple of Peter, and his gospel is told from Peter's point of view. He is credited with founding the Church in Alexandria. His body was stolen from Alexandria in 828 (though some say that the wrong bones were stolen) and taken to Venice, which adopted him as its patron saint.

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April – St Catherine of Siena**, seeking perfection, entered the Third Order of the Dominicans when she was still in her teens. In 1370 she was commanded by a vision to leave her secluded life and enter the public life of the world. She wrote letters to many major public figures and carried on a long correspondence with Pope Gregory XI, urging him to reform the clergy and the administration of the Papal States. She burned with the love of God and her neighbour. As an ambassador she brought peace and harmony between cities. She fought hard to defend the liberty and rights of the Popes and did much for the renewal of religious life. She also dictated books full of sound doctrine and spiritual inspiration. She died on 29 April 1380. In 1970 Pope Paul VI declared her a Doctor of the Church.

**Online Bank Donations** can be made to Parish of Banagher: Sort: 95-03-06 A/C: 51052659

## Divine Mercy Sunday

Since 2000, the second Sunday of Easter has also been known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

Here are some extracts from a sermon given by Pope John Paul II on the occasion of the canonization of Sister Faustina Kowalska on 30 April 2000:

Today my joy is truly great in presenting the life and witness of Sr Faustina Kowalska to the whole Church as a gift of God for our time. By divine Providence, the life of this humble daughter of Poland was completely linked with the history of the 20th century, the century we have just left behind. In fact, it was between the First and Second World Wars that Christ entrusted his message of mercy to her. Those who remember, who were witnesses and participants in the events of those years and the horrible sufferings they caused for millions of people, know well how necessary was the message of mercy.

Jesus told Sr Faustina: "Humanity will not find peace until it turns trustfully to divine mercy." Through the work of the Polish religious, this message has become linked for ever to the 20th century, the last of the second millennium and the bridge to the third. It is not a new message but can be considered a gift of special enlightenment that helps us to relive the Gospel of Easter more intensely, to offer it as a ray of light to the men and women of our time.

What will the years ahead bring us? What will man's future on earth be like? We are not given to know. However, it is certain that in addition to new progress there will unfortunately be no lack of painful experiences. But the light of divine mercy, which the Lord in a way wished to return to the world through Sr Faustina's charism, will illumine the way for the men and women of the third millennium.

It is important then that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church will be called "Divine Mercy Sunday." In the various readings, the liturgy seems to indicate the path of mercy which, while re-establishing the relationship of each person with God, also creates new relations of fraternal solidarity among human beings. Christ has taught us that man not only receives and experiences the mercy of God, but is also called to practise mercy towards others: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." He also showed us the many paths of mercy, which not only forgives sins but reaches out to all human needs. Jesus bent over every kind of human poverty, material and spiritual.

It is not easy to love with a deep love, which lies in the authentic gift of self. This love can only be learned by penetrating the mystery of God's love. Looking at him, being one with his fatherly heart, we are able to look with new eyes at our brothers and sisters, with an attitude of unselfishness and solidarity, of generosity and forgiveness. All this is mercy!

Sr Faustina Kowalska wrote in her Diary: "I feel tremendous pain when I see the sufferings of my neighbours. All my neighbours' sufferings reverberate in my own heart; I carry their anguish in my heart in such a way that it even physically destroys me. I would like all their sorrows to fall upon me, in order to relieve my neighbour." This is the degree of compassion to which love leads, when it takes the love of God as its measure!

It is this love which must inspire humanity today, if it is to face the crisis of the meaning of life, the challenges of the most diverse needs and, especially, the duty to defend the dignity of every human person. Thus the message of divine mercy is also implicitly a message about the value of every human being. Each person is precious in God's eyes; Christ gave his life for each one; to everyone the Father gives his Spirit and offers intimacy.

This consoling message is addressed above all to those who, afflicted by a particularly harsh trial or crushed by the weight of the sins they committed, have lost all confidence in life and are tempted to give in to despair. To them the gentle face

of Christ is offered; those rays from his heart touch them and shine upon them, warm them, show them the way and fill them with hope. How many souls have been consoled by the prayer "Jesus, I trust in you," which Providence intimated through Sr Faustina!

And you, Faustina, a gift of God to our time, a gift from the land of Poland to the whole Church, obtain for us an awareness of the depth of divine mercy; help us to have a living experience of it and to bear witness to it among our brothers and sisters. May your message of light and hope spread throughout the world, spurring sinners to conversion, calming rivalries and hatred and opening individuals and nations to the practice of brotherhood. Today, fixing our gaze with you on the face of the risen Christ, let us make our own your prayer of trusting abandonment and say with firm hope: Christ Jesus, I trust in you!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**St Mary's GAC, Banagher:** Winning Lotto Numbers for 19/4/22 were: 4, 11, 22 & 24. Winning £20 each Gerard McGillion, Ellen McDermott, Greta McGillion, Marion O'Neill and Patricia Devine. All money can be collected in Feeny Spar. Thanks very much to everyone who continue to support our club lotto- much appreciated. Next week Jackpot is £4,500. Our drive in Bingo continues on Sunday at 6pm (please note change of time). Last house worth a massive £1000.

### 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)

### 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](mailto:banagherparish@derrydiocese.org).

**Parish Office** hours this week: Monday to Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm.  
Bulletin notices should be emailed to [banagherparish@derrydiocese.org](mailto:banagherparish@derrydiocese.org)

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

**SVP Confidential Helpline: 07593954973**