

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Weekday Mass Times this Week:

St Joseph's, Fincairn: Monday & Friday 9.30am; Wednesday 7.30pm.
St Mary's, Altinure: Tuesday & Thursday 10am.
St Peter's & St Paul's, Foreglen: As announced.

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 & Divine Mercy: St Mary's, Altinure, Thursday 10.30am – 1pm and St. Joseph's, Fincairn, Friday 10am – 11am.
Cenacle Prayer and Adoration: Grotto Chapel, Fincairn, Mon 7.30pm.

LENT 2020

Lenten Devotions:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn & St Mary's Church, Altinure: Every Sunday in Lent at 6pm.

Stations of the Cross:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Wednesday evening after the 7.30pm Mass.
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: Every Friday in Lent at 6pm.

Rest in Peace: We offer our sincere sympathies to the families and friends of the late Katie Lynch, Park and Liam O'Neill, Main Street, who were buried during this past week.

Readers

Saturday 14th Mar: Hugh Francis O'Neill (Fin) Betty McAteer (Alt) Marie McCloskey (For)

Sunday 15th Mar: Mary Kathleen McDermott (Fin) Children's Mass (Alt) Dee McGrellis (For)

If you are unable to read on your designated day, please arrange a replacement or contact the coordinator.

New Parish Website is now live. The webcam and recordings of Sunday morning Mass are available. Information regarding the parish, celebrating the sacraments, the weekly newsletter, and parish news are also available. Visit: banagherparish.com

Offertory Collection for last weekend:

St Joseph's, Fincairn: £1020 **St Mary's, Altinure:** £975 **St Peter's & St Paul's:** £355
Thank you for your continued generosity.

Trócaire Lenten Appeal 2020 Representatives from Trócaire will speak about this year's Lenten appeal at Masses in the parish this weekend. Please help Trócaire to continue their support for vulnerable families. Trócaire boxes are available in all our churches.

Lenten Diocesan Prayer

Loving Father,

To prepare for His mission of proclaiming Your kingdom to the world
Your Son Jesus was guided by Your Holy Spirit to the quiet of the desert.

In these Lenten days, I pray that I will be guided by that same Spirit,
to a place of renewal in my heart and mind, so that I will seek opportunities for
daily personal prayer, personal sacrifices and acts of kindness.

With Your help, may I too be truly prepared to share in the story of the passion,
death and resurrection of Jesus Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Fr Micheál acknowledges with gratitude the donation of £100 from the family of the late James O'Donnell RIP for the use of Fincairn Hall.

7th & 8th of MARCH 2020

Bishop Donal's Lenten Reflections - March 8th Gospel: The Transfiguration

The Transfiguration of Jesus in the presence of three of His disciples may have been a bewildering or confusing moment for them but, beyond that, it was a glimpse of the glory of God, a changing moment that would strengthen them in faith and give them the courage and hope they needed for the challenging and dark times ahead. Reflections for discussion and consideration:

a. Things that we don't anticipate can happen in our lives (or in the lives of others) that cause us anxiety, fear or confusion. We may even wonder sometimes where God is! Like the three disciples in today's Gospel, however, we may also experience special moments of God's grace – precious moments of transfiguration and knowledge of His presence - that renew us in faith and hope. How can we encourage each other through our Catholic faith, to give renewed hope to others in times of doubt, fear or despair? How can the parish support the pastoral needs of the community in times of need?

b. Staying close to God through prayer and through the sacraments increases our awareness of His loving presence, especially in challenging times. Are we allowing the sacramental opportunities that are available to us to 'transfigure' our relationship with God as we prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter? As a parish, how can we best share with others the benefits of participating in the Sacraments for everyone to experience the enduring and loving presence of God?

c. Jesus was transfigured in order to prepare the apostles for the difficulties that lay ahead. We face many challenges in Church today. Are we inclined to tell a story about the present and future that is dominated by loss and negativity, or do we prepare for the future with positivity and trust in the power of Christ's Resurrection?

Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Wednesday 11th March in the upper sacristy at St Joseph's Church, Fincairn, after the evening Mass and Stations of the Cross.

Parish Pilgrimage to Italy: Plans are underway for a Parish Pilgrimage to Italy in Early May 2021. The cost will be approximately £850pps and places are limited. At this stage, you are asked to register your interest and more information will be provided in due course. Please see Fr Micheál or email banagherparish@derrydiocese.org to add your name to the list of interested parties.

Novena to St Patrick: 8 – 16 March. Visit www.padraignaofa.ie to download a copy of Novena Prayer and other resources, including a Novena for children, in honour of St Patrick.

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. If you require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org.

SMA Retreat and Conference Centre, Dromantine LENTEN DAYS of Recollection 'Lord, open my heart as wide as it can open' led by Fr. Damian Bresnahan SMA - Sat 14th March 9.30am – 5pm inc. lunch £25. 'Remember – You're worth it' led by Fr. John Gallagher SMA - Sat. 28th March 9.30am – 5.00pm inc. Lunch - £25. HOLY Week Retreat Wed 8th April to Easter Sunday 12th April - The SMA Community, Dromantine invites you to join in reflectively celebrating the Easter Triduum' beginning with the Seder Meal. Cost £260 / E290

Thornhill Ministries, 121 Culmore Road, Derry: Praying Lent - Invitation to be part of a praying community during Lent. Led Meditation, Exposition, Mid-Day Prayer, and Lenten soup! Thursdays 12, 19, 26 March & 2 April 10:30am-12:45pm. Sugg: £10. Let's Talk Church Music An opportunity for those who lead music in their parish to come together and explore good practice in their experience of this ministry. Thurs 19 March 8:00pm – 9:15pm. To book or info. Tel 028 7135 1233 or thornhillministries@derrydiocese.org. Website: www.thornhillministries.co.uk

Foster Carers are urgently required in the WHSCT area, to meet the unfortunate demand for foster placements. If you think you can help, please call 0800 0720137 or email www.adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Learmount Community Development Group LCDG committee meeting on Tuesday 10th March from 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

Gardening Club: Wed 11 March from 10.30am - 12 noon in the Community Centre. Seed planting for Spring. £2pp. Book Club: Wed 11 March from 8pm in the Community Centre. New members welcome. £2pp. Woodland Trust Event: Community allotment spruce up and tree give away at Park Soccer Club on Saturday 14 March from 10.30am-1.30pm. Seed planting, tidying the allotments, transplanting seedlings. Free tree saplings from the nursery and eco-wildflower pots to make and take home. Event is suitable for families and everyone is welcome. Refreshments included. Booking advised by contacting Bronagh Gallagher on 07584595423 or email bronaghgallagher@woodlandtrust.org.uk
Contact the Community Centre on 02877781881 or email learmountgroup@gmail.com

Friends of Africa Coffee Morning There will be a coffee morning held in Learmount Community Centre on Sunday 15th of March from 12-4pm. All proceeds will be in aid of Friends of Africa and their associated projects in Tanzania. The coffee morning will be hosted by Megan Gormley who will travel to Tanzania with Friends of Africa in June 2020. Please come along for a cup of tea and some treats. Your support would be greatly appreciated. Many thanks in advance.

Banagher GAC Lotto numbers for 3/3/20 were 10,13,16&2. Winning £100 was Amanda Hasson. Jackpot now £2400. Fixtures: Dr Kerlin Cup Sunday 8th March Banagher v Claudy at 1pm at Banagher. Carlin / Duffy Cup Monday 9th March Eoghan Rua v Banagher at Eoghan Rua. Results: James O Hagan Cup Banagher 4-15 Coleraine 4-09. Bingo takes place every Sunday night at 8pm at Fincairn Hall. All welcome. Last house £1000, Books £10, half books £5, flyover sheets £2. Senior Scor: Hard luck to our brilliant Solo Singer Joan Devlin & to our very talented Ballad Group who were very unfortunate not to have qualified for the Scór Sinsir Ulster-Semi-final after giving a very impressive performance on the night. We are delighted that our club participated in both Junior & Senior Scor this year & we hope this continues for many years to come & we thank all those Great People who represented Banagher in the Junior & Senior Scor. A massive thanks to our Scor Co Ordinator Bridin McCloskey for all her hard work & dedication - very much appreciated. £100 ticket Draw is on Saturday 7th November at Jackson Hotel Ballybofey. £100 Tickets will be with our usual sellers in March. Book your overnight stay - Jackson's Hotel is keeping 40 Rooms on Saturday 7th November. Double room - 65 Euro pp sharing with breakfast. Single Room - 85 Euro with breakfast. Don't miss this opportunity.

Foreglen Development Group Following on from the petition carried out in and around the village last summer, Causeway Coast & Glens Council are this month sending out the consultation letters for the new street signs to be erected in Irish & English. If you signed the petition you will receive a consultation letter – please complete it and post back in the prepaid envelopes that are included with the letter. The deadline for the returned letters will be at the bottom of each letter. A copy of the letter can be seen on the Foreglen Development Group Facebook page. Just like the page and see updates on what is happening to improve the village and surrounding areas.

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 is open this week Monday 9.30am - 12.30pm, Tuesday 1.30pm - 4.30pm, Wednesday & Thurs 9.30am - 12.30pm & Friday 2pm - 5pm.

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