

PARISH OF BANAGHER

**3rd Sunday of Lent
3rd March 2024**

Mass Times

Weekday Mass Times:

Monday: St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 9.30am
Tuesday: St Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.00am
Wednesday: St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: 7:00pm
Thursday: St Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.00am
Friday: St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 9.30am

Weekend Mass Times for next weekend: 9th & 10th March

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Vigil 7.00pm & 9:15am
St Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.30am

Weekend Mass times in Neighbouring Parishes:

St Patrick's Church, Dungiven: Vigil 6.00pm; Sunday 9.00am & 11.30am
St Matthew's Church, Drumsurn: Sunday 10.15am
Immaculate Conception, Gortnahey: Vigil 4.30pm
St Joseph's Church, Craighbane: Sunday 10.00am
St Patrick's Church, Claudy: Vigil 6.30pm; Sunday 11.30am

Confessions

St Joseph's Church, Finciarn: Friday: 10:00am
St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Saturday: 6.30pm

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

Lent 2024: Stations of the Cross will take place in St Mary's Church, Altinure for the Sundays of Lent at 6pm.

Visitation of the Sick and Housebound will take place at the following times this forthcoming week: Monday morning: Feeny; Monday afternoon: Foreglen; Monday evening: Carnanbane; Tuesday morning: Park. Please let Fr Micheál know if you would not like a visit this month.

Banagher Parish Confirmations: Congratulations to the Primary 7 children from our three parish Primary Schools who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this Saturday, 2nd March. We continue to keep the P7 children in our prayers at this special time in their lives and we thank Fr Dominic McGrattan for officiating at the ceremony.

Children's Liturgy: Children's Liturgy will take place every Sunday during the 10:30am Mass in St Mary's Church, Altinure. Children's liturgy is open to all children in P1, P2 and P3, and is a great opportunity for them to experience the Word of God in a way that is more accessible to young children. These sessions will be led by the Parish's Pope John Paul II Award students, along with a group of dedicated parent volunteers. At the beginning of Mass, the children will be invited to go to the sacristy along with the JP2 students and parent volunteers, where the children will listen to the children's version of Gospel and do short activity. They will then re-join everyone in the main Church just before the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Banagher Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima – May 2024: The remainder of the fare is now due. Please arrangement payment with the Parish Office.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

24th & 25th February 2024

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £1430 St Mary's Church, Altinure: £900
Please consider online contributions and Gift Aid. Online Contributions to:

Parish of Banagher Sort Code: 950306 A/c 51052659

Please note that the above figures do not include donations made online directly to the parish bank account. This total figure will be published at the beginning of each month.

Webinar on Vocations: Will take place on Tuesday 5th March from 8-9pm. The webinar is hosted by 'The Hook of Faith' platform (www.thehookoffaith.com) and is organised in collaboration with the National Vocations Office. The webinar is entitled 'The Last Priest in Ireland? It Depends on You'. It is a follow up of a RTE documentary broadcast in January entitled 'The Last Priest in Ireland'.

Palm Sunday Retreat: Join with the Columba Community for a Day of Healing Prayer at St Anthony's Retreat Centre, Dundrean, Burnfoot, which will include Scripture meditations, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Teaching and Celebration of Eucharist as we enter Holy Week together. Sunday 24th March, 11am-4pm. Mass celebrated at 3pm. Light lunch included. Suggested donation £20. Email columbacommunity@hotmail.com to book or call 02871262407.

Prayer for Vocations: That those being called to serve as priests the people of this diocese may take courage and confidence from the words of St Paul in this weekend's second reading: "God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength." Please pray every day for an increase in vocations, and for those attending next weekend's Vocations Retreat in Larne, that the Lord will bless them in their ongoing discernment of His will for them.

Retreat: Fr. Terence O' Connell will conduct a Day Retreat in Honour of Saint Charbel on Thursday 14th March from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Carmelite Retreat Centre Termonbacca. Cost for the day, including light lunch £20. A First Class Relic and Bless Oil of St. Charbel will also be available on the day. For bookings, telephone 71 262512.

Tour: Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 10th March 2024. £799.00 pps. Price includes return bus from NI, 5 nights' in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact Patricia on 07740 175557 or 087 1890 236 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

Day Retreat for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers: Saturday 9 March, 10.30am – 4.00pm, at Ards Friary, Creeslough, Co Donegal. The day will include some input, silent time, social time and a full lunch. Contact Ards Friary on 074 9138909 or email info@ardsfriary.ie for further information.

Meeting in the Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca, Derry, every Sunday at 3.00pm, for adult children of alcoholic and dysfunctional families. This is an anonymous programme for those 18 years and over who grew up in an alcoholic or otherwise dysfunctional homes.

'Prepare' for the Sunday Gospels of Lent: Would you like to spend a little time each week of Lent preparing for the Sunday Gospel before you hear it at Sunday Mass? 'Prepare' will be delivered via Zoom and facilitated by Fr Patrick Lagan, Diocese of Derry. Beginning on Monday, 19th February at 7:00pm-8:00pm it will continue each Monday until 18th March. Using the prayer practice of Lectio Divina, Fr Patrick will lead the group to read, listen to, respond to and rest with the Word of God. As a group, it is a wonderful opportunity to place the Word of God at the centre of our prayer and spiritual life as we strive to deepen our relationship with Christ and each other. To book your place please click on the link: <https://forms.gle/5xdNdKWYazYjGKddA> or Email: tony.brennan@derrydiocese.org

ACCORD Derry Marriage Preparation Courses: Will take place on March 22nd/23rd 2024. Venue: Everglades Hotel, Prehen Road Derry. Please note that these courses are NOT Virtual and are in person.

Feast Days this Coming Week:

Tuesday 5th: St Kieran: Kieran, or Ciarán of Saighir, was an Irish monk and bishop, active in the fifth or sixth century, and one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland. He is the patron saint of the diocese of Ossory.

Thursday 7th: Saints Perpetua and Felicity (- 203) They were martyred at Carthage in 203 during the persecution of Septimius Severus. With so many martyrs of the third and fourth centuries we have to say "they were martyred but nothing else is known about them." That is not the case here. We have a detailed contemporary account of their arrest, trial, sufferings and martyrdom, written partly by the saints themselves and partly by an eye-witness. Devotion to them spread rapidly and they are mentioned in the Roman Canon of the Mass.

Friday 8th: St John of God (1495 - 1550) He was born to a poor but devout family in Portugal in 1495. After serving as a soldier under the Emperor Charles V he devoted his life wholly to the service of the poor and the sick. He founded a hospital in Granada and a circle of disciples formed round him, which later became the Order of Hospitallers. He died on 8 March 1550, his 55th birthday.

Safeguarding Notice: 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. Please also note that the outside areas and the interiors of St Joseph's Church, Fincairn and St Mary's Church, Altinure and covered by CCTV.

COMMUNITY NEWS

St Mary's GAC, Banagher: Lotto numbers for 27/2/2024 were 16,19,21,22. No winners. Next week's Jackpot is £3,900.

Dungiven and Feeny local committee for Cancer Research U.K. will hold their annual "Big Breakfast" in the Church of Ireland hall, Upper Main Street, Dungiven on Saturday 9th March from 8.00am until 12.30pm. Donations at the door. All proceeds from this event goes towards research carried out here in Northern Ireland. We are looking for volunteers on the day. If you could spare an hour to help, contact Anne Marie on 07834381246 or contact any committee member.

PARISH CLERGY

Fr Micheál McGavigan Adm. JV

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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 opening hours next week: Monday - Friday: 9.30am - 12.30pm.

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

SVP Confidential Helpline: 07593954973