

PARISH OF BANAGHER

2nd Sunday of Lent – 1st March 2026

Mass Times:

Monday: No morning Mass

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 Sunday 8th March 2026

St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 7.00pm Vigil; 9.15am

St. Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.30am

Confessions

St. Mary's Church, Altinure: Thursday 10.30am

St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 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

Confirmation 2026

Congratulations to all the Primary 7 children of St. Canice's P.S., Feeny, St. Mary's P.S., Altinure and St. Peter's and St. Paul's P.S., Foreglen, who were confirmed on Saturday 28th February. We also offer our congratulations to their parents, sponsors, family members, relations and friends on this special occasion for their young family member. We thank the children's choirs, musicians, teachers, staff and the altar servers from the schools involved in the ceremonies. We thank the sacristans, flower arrangers, cleaners and helpers for preparing St. Mary's and St. Joseph's Churches for Confirmation Day.

The Forty Hours Devotions † Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place next weekend, **Sunday 8th to Monday 9th March** in **St. Joseph's, Fincairn** from **10.00am to 6.00pm** on Sunday and Monday. Exposition will begin after the Sunday morning 9.15am Mass concluding with Devotions and Benediction at 6.00pm that evening. It will resume after 9.30am Mass on Monday morning with the 40 Hours ending at 6.00pm with Devotions and Benediction that evening. Everyone is welcome to visit the church or go online and spend a short while in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament over the course of the two days.

Fr. Dermot kindly invites all Sacristans, Assistant Sacristans, Altar Server Leaders, Secretaries, Eucharistic Ministers, Collectors, Readers, Children's Liturgy Facilitators, Pope John Paul II Award Leaders and Parents (who are involved in programmes), Parish Council members, SVP members, Choir Members, Cleaners, Ground Workers and all those interested in Safeguarding to a Safeguarding Children Information Meeting in the Parish Hall, Feeny on **Monday 23rd March at 7.30pm.**

March	St Joseph's Church, Fincairn		St Mary's Church, Altinure
	7.00pm	9.15am	10.30am
Readers	Elaine Loughery	Mary Kathleen McDermott	Miriam Lockhart/Sennan Lockhart
Eucharistic Ministers	Patsy McDermott	Geraldine McCloskey	Sally O'Kane
Flowers			Regina Forester
Cleaning	Margaret Cartin, Angela Hasson		Catriona Doughty, Geraldine McElhinney, Estella McLaughlin
Counters	Anne Hassan, Marian & Anthony O'Neill, Patricia McCloskey		Christine McGaughey, Celine McGaughey, Ann O'Kane
Collectors	Marty McGrellis, Vincent McCloskey	Sean Roe McCloskey, Liam Campbell	Stephen Gormley, Tony Gormley, Shaun McElhinney, Shane McElhinney

Baptisms We welcome into God's family Clodagh Marie Millar.

Do This in Memory Mass (Foreglen) Sunday 1st March will be the Do This in Memory Mass for the Primary 4 children in Foreglen, as part of their Sacramental preparation. The theme for the month is the 'Importance of Baptism for First Holy Communion'. Each month the children will receive a gift at the end of Mass which aims to help them grow in their prayer life. This month's gift is a bottle of Holy water, to remind the children of their baptism, and why it is important to them as they prepare for their First Holy Communion. We as a parish pray that Jesus will guide the children throughout their lives and especially during their Sacramental preparation.

Lenten Devotions today, Sunday, at 6.00pm in St. Mary's Church, Altinure.

Dungiven Parish Retreat opens on Sunday 1st March at 6pm and will close at the 6pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 7th March, celebrated by Bishop Donal. The retreat will be led by former BBC political correspondent, Martina Purdy, and Elaine Kelly, a former leading barrister. Martina and Elaine's story is fascinating - their calling from God, the obstacles on their journey, and how St. Patrick has guided them to where they are now. This retreat will bring 'All Kinds of Everything' when on the last two days we will be welcoming Dana 'The Original Derry Girl'. Dana's Catholic faith is deeply rooted in her life to the extent that she was conferred a Papal honour in recognition of her services to the Catholic Church. Martina, Elaine and Dana will help light the flame of faith, hope and love in our hearts, inspired by our very own St. Patrick. This retreat will be the perfect opportunity during Lent to bring our focus to God. 'Whether our faith is still taking root, or already fruitful, it always needs renewed and replenished' – Fr. Gerry Sweeney.

Monday – Friday: **Masses at 7am and 10am.**

Monday – Friday: **7pm - Evening service of prayer and devotion.**

Offertory Collection

21st & 22nd February 2026

St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £1,265

St. Mary's Church, Altinure: £705

Please consider online contributions and Gift Aid. Online Contributions to:
Parish of Banagher Sort Code: 950306 A/c 51052659

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Derry Diocesan Trust

Parish of Templemore – St. Eugene’s Cathedral, Grounds & Maintenance Person

16 hours per week (Fixed Term Contract to 31st March 2027 with possible extension)

To provide an effective grounds and maintenance service to the parish to ensure the grounds are maintained in a tidy, presentable and safe state at all times.

To undertake maintenance work of the Cathedral grounds and premises as designated by the Administrator.

For application packs please contact: Bishop’s House, St Eugene’s Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP, telephone 028 7126 2302 or email: recruitment@derrydiocese.org.

Completed applications must be returned to Personnel, Bishop’s House, St. Eugene’s Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP or via email to recruitment@derrydiocese.org no later than **12 noon on Friday 13th March 2026**.

Coleraine Parish - Grounds Person

30 hours per week on a Seasonal Basis (1st March – 30th November each year)

To provide an effective grounds service to the parish grounds and cemetery areas to ensure the grounds are maintained in a tidy, presentable and safe state at all times. To undertake maintenance work of the Church grounds and premises as designated by the Parish Priest.

For application packs please contact: Bishop’s House, St Eugene’s Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP, telephone 028 7126 2302 or email: recruitment@derrydiocese.org.

Completed applications must be returned to Personnel, Bishop’s House, St. Eugene’s Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP or via email to recruitment@derrydiocese.org no later than **12 noon on Friday 13th March 2026**.

Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We welcome applications from all men and women and from members of all communities.

Eucharistic Healing Retreat in Knock Shrine, led by gifted Croatian Priest, Fr. Rozo Palic on Saturday 7th March and Sunday 8th March. Venue: St. John’s Welcome Centre; Saturday 10.00am – 6.30pm and Sunday 10.00am – 4.30pm. He will be supported by his Croatian Music Ministry team. No prior booking required. Everyone is most welcome and please bring a packed lunch. For further enquires, please contact Patricia on 00353 89 946 6193 or Fiona on fionatjennings@yahoo.com.

Accord NI There are still places available on our courses for: April 24th/25th 2026; May 15th/16th 2026; June 19th/20th 2026. Bookings are online at www.accordni.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Bereaved by Suicide – Support Meeting If you have been affected by the loss of a loved one to suicide, you don’t have to carry the weight alone. A monthly Bereaved by Suicide Support Meeting is held on the first Monday of each month. This March, the meeting will take place on Monday 2nd March at 7.30pm at the Roe Valley Therapy Centre. These sessions are delivered by professionals from Wellness and Positive Minds, with lived experience, offering both compassionate understanding and expert guidance in a safe, confidential space. You are warmly welcome, whether this loss is recent or from years past.

Learmount Community Development Group: Timetable for the week commencing 2nd March 2026: **Monday 2nd March:** Time for Me Ladies: (10.30 am - 12.30 pm); Dementia Social Group: (11 am -1 pm); Ladies Yoga (7-7.45 pm); Men’s Yoga: (8-8.45 pm); Evening Art Class: 7.30-9.30 pm; **Tuesday 3rd:** Men’s Hobby Work Shed (10.30 - 12.30 pm); Craft & Crochet Club (10.30 am - 12.30 pm); Advice NW (2 - 4 pm); Couch 2 5K Week 7: Session 13 (7 pm) at Craigbane Walkway; **Thursday 5th:** Post Office Outreach service (9 am - 12 pm); Painting for Pleasure: (10.30 am - 12.30 pm); Park 60+ Group (12 - 4 pm); Couch to 2 5K Week 7: Session 14 (7 pm) at Craigbane Walkway; **Friday 6th:** Learmount Walking Group: Meet at 10.30 am at the Community; **Saturday 7th:** End Violence Against Women and Girls walk through Park Village with refreshments afterwards in the Community Centre: (from 12pm). **Tuesday 10th March:** Slow sewing class: 7pm at Learmount Community Centre. For further information or to book any of our classes: Tel. 028 7778 1881 / DM/email: admin@learmountgroup.org.

St. Mary’s GAC, Banagher Winning lotto numbers for 24.02.26 were 9, 15, 17 & 25. Winning £100 was Edward Crozier. Next Week’s Jackpot is £7,500.

Epilepsy.ie In Ireland today, over 45,000 people live with epilepsy. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie. Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on Thursday 26th March.

Foster Care 'Children Waiting' is an online Virtual Information Event which will be hosted by HSC NI Foster Care on 12th March. It is aimed at finding homes for specific children. Please join the online event if you can help or want to hear more information. Tel 0800 0720 137 or email adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net.

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, St. Mary’s Church, Altinure and St. Peter’s & St. Paul’s Church, Foreglen are available online. Please note that the first three rows of seats are visible online in St. Joseph’s Church, Fincairn and St. Peter’s & St. Paul’s Church, Foreglen, and the first six rows of seats in St. Mary’s Church, Altinure.

The Parish Webcams are now available to view on the Firestick. If you search for the iTech Media App and download it to your Firestick, you can then search for the Church.

PARISH CLERGY

Fr. Dermot McGirr P.P.

42 Gledra Road, Feeny, BT47 4TW

Tel: 028 7778 1223 Email: banagherparish@derrydiocese.org

CONTACT US

To arrange a Baptism, Wedding or Anniversary Mass, please call Fr. Dermot 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: 075 9395 4973**