

PARISH OF BANAGHER

3rd Sunday of Lent – 8th March 2026

Mass Times:

Monday: St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 9.30am
Monday: St. Peter's & St. Paul's Church, Foreglen: 11am
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 15th March 2026

St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 7.00pm Vigil
St. Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.30am
St. Peter's & St. Paul's Church, Foreglen: 12.00pm Noon

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

THE FORTY HOURS DEVOTIONS † Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament today, Sunday 8th and tomorrow, Monday 9th March in **St. Joseph's, Fincairn**

Sunday: Exposition begins at the end of the 9.15am Sunday morning Mass. There will be Stations of the Cross at **2pm**. There will be guided prayer at 5.30pm followed by Devotions and Benediction at 6.00pm, finishing at 6.30pm.

Monday: Exposition resumes at the end of the 9.30am Monday morning Mass. There will be Stations of the Cross at **1pm**. There will be guided prayer at 5.30pm followed by Devotions and Benediction at 6.00pm, with the Forty Hours finishing at 6.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to visit the church or watch 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, SVDP 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.**

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.

'An Lasair Chríost' Conference (Flame of Christ) Young Adults' Conference will take place on Sunday 22nd March at St. Columb's College, Buncrana Road, Derry, beginning with Mass at 11.30am in St. Patrick's Church, Pennyburn. Fr. Conor McGrath will be the keynote speaker at the conference, with Bishop McKeown celebrating the Mass. It will be a great opportunity to meet other young people in a faith setting. All are welcome and no tickets required.

'Shepherding Talent' Online Programme - Aspire to Serve, Inspire to Lead: In partnership with St. Mary's University Twickenham, the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre is offering this programme. 'Shepherding Talent' is a pioneering programme from the university, in which teaching professionals with leadership potential are challenged to explore their vocation to lead. Aimed at all teaching professionals in Catholic schools, this programme is delivered in the context of Catholic School education. It will be delivered over five weeks, with each session taking two hours. The total cost is £250. The first session takes place on Wednesday 29th April, 4.30 – 6.30pm. For further information and registration, please email: tferry@derrydiocese.org.

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

Offertory Collection

28th February & 1st March 2026

St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £805 St. Mary's Church, Altinure: £630
St. Peter's & St. Paul's Church, Foreglen: £695

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.

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.

Feast Days

Monday 9th March: St. Frances of Rome (1384 - 1440) was born in Rome in 1384 and was married at the age of 13. Although she had wanted to be a nun, she was happily married for 40 years and had three sons. She distributed gifts to the poor and ministered to the sick. She was remarkable for her humility and detachment, her obedience and patience in adversity (including her husband's banishment, the death of two of her sons from plague, and the loss of all her property). She was a mystic and contemplative, part of the great flourishing of mysticism in that period, and after her husband's death she retired to a convent she had founded, where she died on 9th March 1440.

Wednesday 11th March: St. Aengus (d. 824) was born near Clonenagh and educated there at the monastic school founded there by St. Fintan, not far from the present town of Mountrath. He lived for some time as a hermit and then joined the monastery of Tallaght, near Dublin, under St. Maelruain. He was a co-author of a martyrology (written in 790 and the oldest in Ireland) and wrote a long poem, the Féilire, or Festology of the Saints, which he finished in about 805. After St. Maelruain's death he returned to his hermitage, where he died on 11th March 824.

COMMUNITY NEWS

St. Mary's GAC, Banagher Lotto numbers for 03.03.26 were 1, 10, 15, 24. Winning £25 each were Orla McGurk, Ciara Forrester, Cathair McGilligan and Sophia Duggan. Next week's Jackpot is £7,600.

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.

Learmount Community Development Group: Timetable for the week commencing **9th March 2026:** **Monday 9th:** Time for Me Ladies: (10.30 am - 12.30 pm); Dementia Social Group: (Meet at 10.15 for bus into OLT); Ladies Yoga (7-7.45 pm); Men's Yoga: (8-8.45 pm); Ladies Self-Defence Class (7 pm); Evening Art Class: 7.30-9.30 pm; **Tuesday 10th:** 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 8: Session 15 (7 pm) at Craighane Walkway; Slow sewing class (7 - 9 pm); **Wednesday 11th:** Learmount Gardening Club: from 11 am; Thursday 12th March: 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 : Session 16 (7 pm) at Craighane Walkway; Book Club (8pm); **Friday 13th:** Learmount Walking Group: Meet at 10.30 am at the Community; Flower arranging workshop one (10 am - 1pm); Flower arranging workshop two (7 - 9 pm); **Saturday 14th:** Fused Glass workshop with Natasha Duddy (10 am - 12 pm). For further information or to book any of our classes: Tel. 028 7778 1881 /DM/email: admin@learmountgroup.org

Sawel Sisters present: The Spring Equinox Experience: Saturday 21st March in Park Community Hall from 10am – 2pm: Come join your local wellness professionals for an interactive afternoon of celebration as we transition from Winter into Spring: Connect to nature; explore self-care tools; grounding; meditation; gratitude; planting seeds etc: lunch included - limited spaces: to book WhatsApp Catherine on 077 3846 3420.

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.

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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