

PARISH OF BANAGHER

Palm Sunday – 29th March 2026

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

EASTER TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord's Supper

St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: **6.00pm**

St Mary's Church, Altinure: **7.30pm**

Good Friday – Passion of Our Lord

St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: **3.00pm**

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: **7.00pm**

Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil

St Mary's Church, Altinure: **6.30pm**

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: **8.30pm**

Easter Sunday Mass

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: **9.15am**

St Mary's Church, Altinure: **10.30am**

St Peter's & St Paul's, Foreglen: **12.00pm Noon**

Confessions

St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: Good Friday: After 3.00pm service

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Holy Saturday: 11.00am – 12.00pm Noon

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

Do This in Memory Mass Foreglen Sunday the 29th of 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 this month is 'Prayer'. 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 prayer card. We as a parish pray that Jesus will guide the children throughout their lives and especially during their Sacramental preparation.

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.

April	St Joseph's Church, Fincairn		St Mary's Church, Altinure
	7.00pm	9.15am	10.30am
Readers	Brenda Duddy	Liam Campbell	Mary Redmond/Emma Redmond
Eucharistic Ministers	Joanne Donaghy	Breige O'Neill	Tony Gormley
Flowers	Breige O'Neill		Mary Redmond
Cleaning	Lorraine O'Kane, Marie French, Sarah McGrellis		Margaret Rose Devine, Roisin McLaughlin
Counters	Liam & Siobhan Campbell, Pat McCullagh, Bernie McCullagh, Vincent McCloskey, Geraldine McCloskey		Anna Smyth, Anna Gormley
Collectors	Paul Campbell, Liam McLaughlin	Paul McDermott, Jackie Hasson	Gerald, Shane, Connor & Sean Kerlin

Holy Thursday Mass of Chrism: Bishop McKeown will celebrate the annual Mass of Chrism with the priests of the diocese in St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, this Holy Thursday morning, **2nd April, at 10.00am.** During Mass the Holy Oils for Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick and Ordination are blessed. Also, the priests renew their Ordination promises. It is the only Mass celebrated in the diocese on Holy Thursday morning. Everyone is welcome to attend the Chrism Mass, or to join it via the St. Eugene's Parish webcam: www.steugenescathedral.com/webcam.html.

Friends of HOPE want to sincerely thank the businesses for their donations and helped us raise funds for our Hope Camp in July 2026. We are asking businesses to donate £100 to our Friends of Hope. Businesses who donate will have their name recognised on our Facebook page and on our Hope 2026 banner. You can PM our Facebook page or contact any member of the committee. Thanks in advance for all your support and for helping us to give the young people of our parish the best week possible. We are looking forward to another fantastic camp this year.

Catechism of the Catholic Church Knock Pilgrimage, Saturday 18th April from 11.00am to 3.00pm, led by Bishop John Keenan, Diocese of Paisley, Scotland. Morning talk theme 'The Church as the People of God, a priestly, prophetic and royal people'; outdoor Stations of the Cross; Holy Mass; Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions throughout the day. Parents, School staff, Parish Pastoral Council members welcome. Choir members especially welcome. Bring a packed lunch. Pray for good weather! Catechism of the Catholic Church – Learning and Living our Catholic Faith.

Catholic Mothers Ireland – Catholic Couples – Date Night: Join us for an unforgettable evening with Mark and Anne O'Leary – inspiring talks, laughter, faith, and a gorgeous 4-course meal! Saturday 18th April • 7.00pm • Armagh City Hotel • Fun prizes • Great atmosphere • A perfect night out together! For more information or to book, contact: info@catholicmothers.ie.

One Day Retreat – ‘In the Stillness: Faith in a Busy World’ In a world that often feels busy and distracted, this retreat offers young adults the opportunity to pause, reflect and reconnect with faith in the peaceful setting of Lough Derg. The day will conclude with the celebration of the Eucharist at 5.00pm, which is open to the public. This retreat is open to young adults aged 18–35 and is free to attend, thanks to the support of the Knights of St. Columbanus. It takes place in Lough Derg, Co. Donegal on Saturday 25th April. Boat departs at 9.30am. Registration is essential: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/young-adult-retreat-day-18-35yrs-tickets-1984550442797?aff=ebsdoporgprofile>. For further information, please contact info@knightsostcolumbanusomagh.co.uk or 077 5949 6677.

Prayer for Vocations For an increase in vocations, and for the future priests of our diocese, that they will follow the example of Jesus, the humble, faithful, and suffering Servant who gave his life for God's people.

Derry Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Monday 29th June to Friday 3rd July: Due to the great demand for places, we have secured 50 extra seats ex-Dublin direct to Lourdes and return, with complimentary bus to the Airport. The fare is £895 pps full board. If you wish to book, please contact the pilgrimage office at 164 Bishop St., Derry. Tel. 028 7126 0293, email: derrypilgrim@outlook.com as soon as possible.

Derry Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Fatima We are inviting young people aged 16+ to join us on pilgrimage to Fatima for 5 nights from 3rd to 8th August. This will be a unique experience for young people and an opportunity to engage with their peers from around the world in a faith context. Cost is £820 and there will be a budget plan to help with this. Names and deposit of £100 are required as soon as possible to secure a place. For more information or to book in, please contact bethany.doherty@derrydiocese.org or tel. 028 7126 4087.

PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday marks the start of Holy Week, embracing both the joy of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the sorrow of his Passion. It calls Catholics to shift from cheering crowd members to faithful followers, carrying Christ's love in service rather than seeking earthly glory, while trusting in God's victory over suffering.

The Paradox of Praise and Passion: The day begins with palm branches (triumph) but moves quickly to the Gospel of the Passion (crucifixion). This reminds us that true faith requires walking with Christ through both joy and sacrifice, not just at his popular moments.

A King of Service: Jesus enters not on a warhorse, but on a donkey. His kingdom is defined by humility, washing feet, and selfless love, not brute force or authority, prompting us to check our own ambition and focus on service.

Walking Through Suffering: The Passion narrative reminds us that Jesus shared in human suffering – betrayal, mockery and physical pain. He invites us to unite our own suffering with his, knowing that the Passion is not a defeat but a victory of love.

The Call to Loyalty: The crowds who cried 'Hosanna' soon shouted 'Crucify him'. We are challenged to ask if we are loyal to Jesus when it is difficult, or if we abandon him when his demands conflict with our comfort.

Offertory Collection

21st & 22nd March 2026

St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £1,400 St. Mary's Church, Altinure: £685

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Learmount Community Development Group: Timetable for the week commencing 30th March 2026: **Monday 30th:** 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); Self-Defence Class: (7 - 8.30 pm); Evening Art Class: 7.30-9.30 pm; **Tuesday 31st:** Craft and Crochet Club: (10.30 am - 12.30 pm); Men's Shed: (10.30 am - 12.30 pm), Advice NW: (2 pm - 4 pm); Grave arrangements workshop: (7 pm); Slow Sewing class: (7 - 9 pm); **Thursday 2nd April:** Post Office Outreach service (9 am - 12 pm); Painting for Pleasure: (10.30 am - 12.30 pm); Park 60+ Group (12 - 4 pm); **Friday 3rd April:** Learmount Walking Group: Meet at 10.30 am at the Community Centre. For further information or to book any of our classes: Tel. 028 7778 1881 /DM/email: admin@learmountgroup.org.

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.

PARISH CLERGY

Fr. Dermot McGirr P.P.

42 Glinedra 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: Tuesday - Friday: 9.30am - 12.30pm.
Mass is Live on the Webcam at www.banagherparish.com

SVP Confidential Helpline: 075 9395 4973