

PARISH OF BANAGHER

The Ascension of Our Lord – 17th May 2026

Mass Times

Weekly Mass Times:

Monday: St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 9.30am
Monday: St. Peter's & St. Paul's Church, Foreglen: 11.00am
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 24th May 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 that took place last weekend, in St. Mary's, Altinure, saw our parish come together in a beautiful witness of faith, unity and joy. Thank you to everyone who visited the church or went online to spend grace-filled time before the Blessed Sacrament.

Baptism We welcome into God's family Micháel Christopher Devine.

Vocations Prayer: Ascension Sunday we celebrate World Communications Day. We pray for those who will be called as priests to preach the Gospel, to communicate the Good News of God's love as God reveals it to us in his Word and in the person of Jesus.

Lough Derg will host its **Day of Friendship and Prayer** this Wednesday 20th May. This special annual event promotes Christian unity. Archbishop Eamon Martin and Archbishop John McDowell will join Fr. La Flynn, Prior of Lough Derg, for a day of spirituality, friendship and reflection. The day begins at 10.00am, finishing at 3.00pm on Station Island, an oasis of calm and peace with over 15,000 years of history. Admission fee of €25 includes boat fare, refreshments and lunch. Advance booking is essential. www.loughderg.org info@loughderg.org tel. 00353 71 9861518.

◦ ◦ ◦ ◦ **Annual Parish CAR WASH for HOPE Camp 2026** ◦ ◦ ◦ ◦

The Annual Parish Car Wash takes place, TODAY, **Sunday 17th May** from **8.30am to 1.30pm** - Gate closes at **1.00pm**. All proceeds from this year's car wash will go towards activities planned for the children of the parish at this summer's HOPE Camp.

Thank you in advance ~ Your support is greatly appreciated

The Sisters from the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus based in Waterford will lead a ladies weekend retreat in the Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca, Derry, entitled 'In the Upper Room with Mary', from Friday 22nd – Sunday 24th May, Pentecost weekend. The cost of the weekend including accommodation is £90. For booking and queries call Aoife on 028 7126 2512 or email termonbaccaderry@ocd.ie.

Encounter Weekend Donegal, Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny. Friday 5th June - 6.00pm - 10.30pm, Saturday 6th June, 9.00am - 10.30pm. Expect to experience the presence of God through the celebration of the Sacraments, Spirit-led worship, inspiring talks and fellowship. Come and be refreshed and empowered by the Holy Spirit and learn from the Saints how to live the lifestyle God intended you to live. Speakers: Patrick Reis, co-founder and Executive Director of Encounter Ministries USA and Fr. Patrick Gonyeau who serves with the U.S. Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in Ohio. Booking, go to <https://encounterschoolofministrydoneg.regfox.com/encounter-conference-donegal>. For more info, email donegal@encounterschool.org.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine will take place on Saturday 6th June. In conjunction with the All-Ireland Rosary Rally, we will join those gathered to celebrate at our National Eucharistic and Marian Shrine. For those for whom it is convenient, buses will leave St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, at 8.00am, cost £50, which includes dinner in Knock House Hotel following the conclusion of the Mass in the Basilica. For further information, please contact Karen in the parish office at St. Eugene's on 028 7126 2894 or by email at cathedral@derrydiocese.org. Full schedule to follow.

Derry Youth Fundraising Concert: Derry Youth Ministry will be holding a Fundraising Concert to raise money for their upcoming Fatima Pilgrimage. The concert will take place in St. Anne's Parish Hall, Brisland Road, Eglinton on Saturday 6th June at 7.30pm. Come and enjoy a great night of entertainment, raffle prizes and light refreshments, all while supporting our young people on their pilgrimage. Tickets are £10. For tickets and more information, please call 028 7126 4087 or email ddcc@derrydiocese.org.

Blessing of the Graves 2026

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: **Sunday 14th June after 11.30am Mass**
St Peter & St Paul's Foreglen: **Sunday 16th August after 12.00pm noon Mass**
St Mary's Church, Altinure: **Sunday 6th September after 10.30am Mass**

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Derry Diocesan Trust: Temporary Administrative & Financial Officer

(15 Hours per week for 6 months) in Doneyloop (parish of Urney & Castlefin, Co. Donegal, based in the Parochial House). Working Days & Times to be negotiated. Reporting to the Parish Priest, the role entails provision of administrative and financial support. For application packs please 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 Wednesday 27th May 2026**.

Derry Diocesan Trust: Caretaker, St. Joseph's Hall, Omagh:

20 Hours Per Week. One-year fixed term contract (with possibility of extension). Days and times in agreement with Parish Priest and to facilitate operational needs of the parish and may include evening and weekend work. For job description and application pack, please email: recruitment@derrydiocese.org or telephone (028) 7126 2302. 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 29th May 2026**.

Derry Diocesan Trust - Parish of Coleraine: Grounds & Maintenance Person.

Full Time - 37½ hours per week. To provide an effective grounds and maintenance 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 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 Monday 1st June 2026**.

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

Our Lady of Lourdes Pilgrimage Society: 7 Night Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes, 8th to 15th July, from Belfast International Airport staying at Hotel Agena - £949 based on 2 people sharing. Contact Kathleen McCann on 028 7963 2205 or 077 1970 1925.

Diocese of Derry Lough Derg Pilgrimage 2026: The Diocese of Derry Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg will take place from Friday 24th July to Sunday 26th July 2026. Lough Derg continues to welcome people seeking prayer, peace, reflection and renewal in the midst of busy lives. A bus will travel from St. Eugene's Cathedral, via Strabane and Lifford. Cost: £95 / €110 including bus transport. You are welcome, of course, to use your own means of transport. Full details available at: derrydiocese/lough-derg.

Fatima Pilgrimage: Flying direct from Belfast International to Fatima. Pilgrimage 7 Nights F/B, Avenida Hotel, 14th – 21st August. Spiritual Director Fr. Andrew McMahon PP. Convenient flight times. £845pps. Full Religious Programme. For further details, contact Joe on 077 7642 5631 or J. Walsh Tours 00353 1 241 0800.

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.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

9th & 10th May 2026

St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £390 St. Mary's Church, Altinure: £625
St. Peter's & St. Paul's Church, Foreglen: £715

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: Week commencing **Monday 18th May:** 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); **Tuesday 19th:** Craft & Crochet Club (10.30 am - 12.30 pm), Men's Hobby Work Shed (10.30 am - 12.30 pm), Advice North West (2 pm - 4 pm), Slow Sewing (7 pm - 9 pm); **Thursday 21st:** Post Office (9 am - 12 pm), Painting for Pleasure: (10.30 am - 12.30 pm), Park 60+ Club (12 pm - 2 pm), Funky Feet kids dance class: (4.30 pm - 5.30 pm); Deed's Dementia awareness training (week 2) for families and those caring for loved ones with a diagnosis of dementia (7 - 9 pm) Resource Centre; **Friday 15th:** Learmount Walking Group (10.30 am). **PLEASE NOTE:** THE LEARMOUNT GROUP WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE BANK HOLIDAY ON MONDAY 25th MAY. For further information on groups, classes, events or workshops, contact Karen on 028 7778 1881 / 077 5111 8656 / DM / email: admin@learmountgroup.org.

Dungiven and Feeny Local Committee for Cancer Research UK is once again holding its Dungiven Walk of Hope 2026 on Friday 19th June at 9.00pm around the town, starting at the Church of Ireland hall. Last year we organised this walk for the first time and it was a great success, raising almost £9,000. Save the date and join us. Sponsor forms are now available from any committee member.

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 Glenedra 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**