

# PARISH OF BANAGHER

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

### Mass Times for the forthcoming week:

Weekday Masses:

**St Joseph's Church, Fincairn:** Monday & Friday 9.30am, Tuesday & Wednesday 7.30pm.

**St Mary's Church, Altinure:** Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10.00am.

**St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen:** Wednesday & Friday 7.00pm.

Weekend Masses:

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

**St Mary's Church, Altinure:** 5.30pm Vigil; 10.30am.

**St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen:** 7.00pm Vigil; 10.30am.

**Housebound Visitation:** Routine home visits to the sick and housebound are still not permitted. If someone is gravely ill and needs a priest, please call the parochial house.

**Hospital Visitation:** If you have a relative or friend in hospital and they wish to see a priest, please ask a member of the hospital staff to page the Catholic Chaplain. There is always a priest on call to visit. Thank you for your understanding.

**Sick, Elderly, Homebound & Shielding** Do you have a relative who would normally attend Mass or receive a monthly visit from Fr Micheál and is presently shielding due to COVID-19? If you or another family member who cares for them would like to bring them Holy Communion once per week, please let Fr Micheál know.

### Feast of the Epiphany – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January:

Mass Times

**St Joseph's Church, Fincairn:** Tuesday Vigil 7.30pm & Wednesday 7.30pm.

**St Mary's Church, Altinure:** Wednesday 10.00am.

**St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen:** Wednesday 7.00pm.

**Baptisms** We welcome into the family of God Niamh Anne Donaghey, Clara Eve Harison and Hollie Grace O'Kane.

**Children for Baptism:** If you have a child for Baptism, please contact Fr Micheál.

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

**St Joseph's Church, Fincairn:** £1425    **St Mary's Church, Altinure:** £365

**St Peter & St Paul's Church, Foreglen:** £175    **Online:** £270

Thank you for your continued generosity.

**An Acknowledgment:** St Joseph's and St Mary's SVP conference members appreciate your very generous donations made to the Banagher SVP Christmas Appeal. The many contributions helped to make Christmas time a little easier for people in need in our community. We are extremely grateful for your support to SVP at this time and for your support throughout 2020. The conference members wish you Good Health, Peace, and Happiness in 2021 and assure you of our continued assistance if and when needed. Thank you, SVP Banagher.

**Online Financial Contributions,** for those who wish to, can be made directly to the Parish Bank Account. Sort Code: 95-03-06 Account Number: 51052659. Please indicate your name as a reference on the payment.

**Priests Christmas Collection:** Thank you for your generosity to the Christmas Collection; it is greatly appreciated.

### Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis has declared a special Year of St Joseph to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bl Pius IX's proclamation of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. The Year of St Joseph will run from Tuesday, 8 December 2020, to Wednesday, 8 December 2021. Pope Francis has also decreed a plenary indulgence for the Year of St Joseph, available to the faithful under the usual conditions, for various acts of devotion.

In an Apostolic Letter, *Patris corde – With a father's heart* – Pope Francis describes the guardian of Our Lord as beloved, tender and loving, obedient, accepting father; one, who is both courageous and industrious, content to live and work "in the shadows" while he protected and provided for our Lord and Our Lady.

"His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust," Pope Francis wrote in the Letter. "Our world today needs fathers," he said. "It has no use for tyrants who would domineer others as a means of compensating for their own needs," and "rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction."

Vatican News explains that Pope Francis wrote the letter "against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic" and seeks to articulate some of the manifold ways in which the global emergency has laid bare to us our interdependence and our common humanity.

"Each of us," Pope Francis wrote, "can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation." "A word of recognition and of gratitude," Pope Francis wrote, "is due to them all." The Letter concludes with a prayer to St Joseph, reproduced here below in its official English translation:

**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.  
Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.**

**St Mary's Primary School, Altinure** Are you thinking of sending your child to St. Mary's PS Altinure in September 2021? It will soon be time to make your online application at <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>. Why not visit our school's website at [www.altinure.co.uk](http://www.altinure.co.uk) to see what life is like at St. Mary's P.S.? Or you could call into school to get a prospectus or speak to the Principal, Mrs Redmond. The online portal opens on Thursday 7th January 2021 at 12 noon and will close at 12 noon on Friday 29th January 2021. Contact school on 02877781384 for more information. We look forward to meeting you and your child!

**St Canice's P.S Feeny** - Is your child due to start Primary 1 in September 2021? Online registration for P1 will open on 7 January 2021 and will close 29 January 2021 @ noon [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk). Please ring the school for a phone appointment with the Principal, Fiona McCann on 028 777 81346 or e mail [info@stcanicesps.derry.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stcanicesps.derry.ni.sch.uk) We look forward to hearing from you! Our virtual tour will be posted soon! Check out our website [www.stcanicespsfeeny.com](http://www.stcanicespsfeeny.com)

### World Day of Peace – Message of Pope Francis

#### A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace

At the dawn of a new year, I extend cordial greetings to Heads of State and Government, leaders of International Organizations, spiritual leaders and followers of the different religions, and to men and women of good will. To all I offer my best wishes that the coming year will enable humanity to advance on the path of fraternity, justice and peace between individuals, communities, peoples and nations.

The year 2020 was marked by the massive Covid-19 health crisis, which became a global phenomenon cutting across boundaries, aggravating deeply interrelated crises like those of the climate, food, the economy and migration, and causing great suffering and hardship. I think especially of all those who lost family members or loved ones, and all who lost their jobs. I think too of physicians and nurses, pharmacists, researchers, volunteers, chaplains and the personnel of hospitals and healthcare centres. They have made, and are continuing to make, great sacrifices to be present to the sick, to alleviate their sufferings and to save their lives; indeed, many of them have died in the process. In paying tribute to them, I renew my appeal to political leaders and the private sector to spare no effort to ensure access to Covid-19 vaccines and to the essential technologies needed to care for the sick, the poor and those who are most vulnerable.

Sad to say, alongside all these testimonies of love and solidarity, we have also seen a surge in various forms of nationalism, racism and xenophobia, and wars and conflicts that bring only death and destruction in their wake.

These and other events that marked humanity's path this past year have taught us how important it is to care for one another and for creation in our efforts to build a more fraternal society. That is why I have chosen as the title of this year's Message, *A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace*. A culture of care as a way to combat the culture of indifference, waste and confrontation so prevalent in our time.

*(Read the full letter at [www.derrydiocese.org](http://www.derrydiocese.org))*

### Employment Opportunities:

**Safeguarding Coordinator (2-year fixed term contract)** Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry. 14 hours per week – Monday and Tuesday £27, 905 - £29,636 pro rata per annum.

**Designated Liaison Person**, Derry Diocesan Office, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, 14 hours per week - Monday and Tuesday. £27, 905 - £29,636 pro rata per annum

For an application pack for either position please contact: Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP, telephone 02871262302 or email: [payroll@derrydiocese.org](mailto:payroll@derrydiocese.org). Completed applications must be returned to Personnel, Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP or via email [topayroll@derrydiocese.org](mailto:topayroll@derrydiocese.org) no later than 5.00pm on 06.01.2021. Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We welcome applications from all men and women and from members of all communities.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

**St Mary's GAC, Banagher:** Lotto Jackpot of £2400 was won by Laurence O'Kane Congratulations! The winning lotto Numbers were 3,9,12,18. Next week Jackpot is £1,000. Thanks very much to everyone who continue to support our club lotto.

**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 are available online. Parishioners should note that the first three rows of seats are visible online.

**If you have any concerns with regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church** please see contacts on church noticeboards.

#### PARISH CLERGY

Fr Micheál McGavigan Adm. JV  
42 Glenedra Road, Feeny, BT47 4TW  
Tel: 028 7778 1223  
Email: [mcgavigan@derrydiocese.org](mailto:mcgavigan@derrydiocese.org)

#### Retired Priests Residing in the Parish

Fr Seamus O'Connell PEm      Fr Michael Collins PEm.      Fr Arthur O'Reilly PEm.  
028 7778 1228                      028 7778 1776                      028 7133 8261

#### 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](mailto:banagherparish@derrydiocese.org)

Bulletin notices should be emailed to [banagherparish@derrydiocese.org](mailto:banagherparish@derrydiocese.org)  
**Mass is Live and Recorded on the Webcam at [www.banagherparish.com](http://www.banagherparish.com)**

**SVP Confidential Helpline:** 07593954973