

# PARISH OF BANAGHER

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent - 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### Mass Times

#### Weekday Mass:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Wed 7.30pm **Grotto Chapel:** Mon & Fri 9.30am.  
St Mary's Church, Altinure: Tues & Thurs 10am.  
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: Wed 7.00pm & Fri 7.00pm

#### Weekend Masses for Christmas Day:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Vigil 5.30pm & 7.00pm. 9.15am.  
St Mary's Church, Altinure: Vigil 5.30pm & 7.30pm. 10.30am.  
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: Vigil 7.00pm. 12noon.

#### Confessions:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: Wednesday 7pm & Friday 10am.  
St Mary's Church, Altinure: Saturday 5.00pm.

#### 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.

**Grotto Chapel** Weekday Mass in Fincairn will be celebrated in the Grotto Chapel for the winter months, with the exception of funerals, Month's Mind and Anniversary Masses.

### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

#### Saturday 24th December - Christmas Eve

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 5.30pm & 7.00pm  
St Mary's Church, Altinure: 5.30pm & 7.00pm  
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: 7.00pm

#### Sunday 25th December - Christmas Day

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 9.15am  
St Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.30am  
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: 12noon

**A Month's Mind Mass** will be celebrated for Bridie Stevenson RIP in St Joseph's Church, Fincairn on Wednesday 21st December at 7.30pm.

**Baptism** We welcome into God's family Tommy McLaughlin & Eimear Lynch.

**St Joseph's Junior Choir** has been reformed and practise in the Church on Thursday evenings from 5pm - 6pm. They will make their debut performance at Mass on Christmas morning. Children in Primary 4 to Year 9 are welcome to join.

**Advent Devotions** will take place on Sunday Evening in St Joseph's Church, Fincairn at 6pm.

### New Weekend Mass Schedule Trial 2023

As announced the Mass schedule will begin on the weekend of 31st December/1st January 2023 and will be a trial for three months:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn, Vigil 7.00pm; Every Other Sunday 9.15am  
St Mary's Church, Altinure: Sunday 10.30am  
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: Vigil 7.00pm; Every Other Sunday 12noon

#### Mass times in Neighbouring Parishes:

St Patrick's Church, Dungiven: Vigil 6.00pm; Sunday 9.00am & 11.30am  
St Matthew's Church, Drumsurn: Sunday 10.15am  
Immaculate Conception, Gortnahey: Vigil 4.30pm  
St Joseph's Church, Craighbane: Sunday 10.00am  
St Patrick's Church, Claudy: Vigil 6.30pm; Sunday 11.30am

**December 'Do This in Memory' Mass** Sunday the 18th of December is the fourth Sunday of Advent and the last Do This in Memory Mass of 2022 for the Primary 4 children in our parish, as part of their Sacramental preparation. This month the children have been learning about Advent and the importance of this special season, as a time of preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ. For their parish gift this month, the children will be receiving a Christmas treat for all their hard work and dedication that they have shown towards their First Holy Communion preparation so far.

**Banagher SVP** The Theme of the SVP Christmas Appeal 2022 remains 'Many Families will face impossible choices this Christmas'. Banagher SVP is asking you again this year to please participate in our Gift of Choice Appeal so that families can make their own decisions on how best to meet their needs. Unfortunately for some that may be to HEAT or EAT. There are a number of ways to help: Take a tag from the Christmas tree in St Joseph's Fincairn/St Mary's Altinure and consider a donation of funds or a gift voucher or Use a blue envelope to make your donation. These are available in all three chapels St Joseph's / St Peter & St Paul's / St Mary's and return via Parish collection box, The SVP box or to any conference member. You can also donate by phone 02890750161; by post or online at [www.svp-ni.co.uk](http://www.svp-ni.co.uk). If you are a UK taxpayer your donation can be Gift Aided by HMRC - 25p for every pound (e.g., £100 donation Gift Aided = £125 donation). As always, SVP thank you sincerely and appreciate all your support and generosity in the past. The conference group wish you God's Blessings and Best Wishes for Good Health and Happiness in 2023. Banagher SVP

**Mary's Meals -There's still time to order Christmas Gifts** This Christmas, you can give meaningful gifts to the people you love and help to feed hungry children living in some of the world's poorest countries. With Double The Love, your support will go further this winter. Until 31 January 2023, donations made through all our gift cards, life-changing gifts and Big Family Christmas will be matched by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.5 million. This means you can transform the lives of two children by sending our popular £15.90 gift card or setting a place at our Big Family Christmas table! So, your kindness will go even further.

**Free park-and-ride arrangements for Foyle Hospice Christmas Lights of Love ceremony** Foyle Hospice have announced that a free park-and-ride service will be available for their Christmas Lights of Love ceremony this year. Thanks to Reddins Coach Hire and Thornhill College, anyone attending the interdenominational service can park at Thornhill College and a shuttle bus from Reddin's Coach Hire will take attendees to the ceremony at Foyle Hospice. The Foyle Hospice Lights of Love service, lighting up the Christmas tree in memory of loved ones who have died, will take place this year on 20th December at 7pm. Foyle Hospice are asking attendees to park at Thornhill College and the Reddin's shuttle bus will start transporting people from there at 6.30pm to the Hospice grounds. The shuttle bus will return you to your cars after the service and shuttles will end at 8:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION

10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> December 2022

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £845    St Mary's Church, Altinure: £555  
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: £455

*Thank you for your continued generosity.*

**Online Bank Donations** can be made to Parish of Banagher: Sort: 95-03-06 A/C: 51052659

**Calling all Rosary Coasters!** The next Rosary on the Coast will be on 18 December at 3pm on Benone Strand, left hand side as usual. There may be a Christmas cupcake for us afterwards. For information, ring 07730330028

**Parish Pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome 3rd - 10th May 2023** Led by Fr Micheál McGavigan. Seven nights (direct flights from Dublin to Rome with Aer Lingus; all airport transfers and tours in Italy; 3 nights in Grand Hotel Assisi 4\* - half board; 4 nights in Hotel President 4\* in Rome - bed & breakfast. Visiting the Tomb of St Francis, St Clare and Bl Carlo Acutis; The 4 Papal Arch Basilicas in Rome; Angelus with Pope Francis in St Peter's Square; The Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, Piazza Navona. Cost: £1189pps. For full details & to book contact Fr Micheál McGavigan on 028 777 81223.

**Pilgrimage to San Giovanni & Rome:** As part of St Eugene's Cathedral 150th Anniversary Celebrations, Bishop Donal McKeown will lead a pilgrimage to San Giovanni & Rome from 25th – 30th September 2023. Visiting the birthplace of Padre Pio, Shrine of St Michael Archangel, St Peter's Basilica and other important sites. Price is £879pps (Single room supplement £150). For more details, email info@marian.ie or call Belfast on (028) 956 80005 or Dublin on (01) 878 8159.

**Lourdes 2023: The Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage,** led by Bishop Donal McKeown, will go direct from City of Derry Airport. 3rd to 7th July, four nights full board in the Hotel Avena: £745 sharing, £35 single supplement. Travel insurance up to age 79-£39. Age 80 to 94-£78. (Pilgrims may wish to use their own insurance). Further details and payment arrangements will be available in the new year via the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, derrypilgrim@outlook.com, tel 02871 260 293

**An Irish Pilgrimage Guide to the Holy Land** is a new book by Michael Kelly, Editor of The Irish Catholic newspaper which explores the places associated with the life of Christ. Michael, who has led many pilgrimages to the Holy Land, says he hopes the book can also act as an 'armchair retreat' for people who cannot travel to the Holy Land bringing the Gospel to life for them. It is available now from all good bookshops, www.columbabooks.com or by calling 01.687.4096 price €16.99/£14.99.

### Saints' Feast Days This Week

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December: St Fachanan** Although little is known with certainty about Fachanan, a strong tradition from early times links him with Kilfenora and records that he founded a church or monastery there in the sixth century. He is venerated as the patron of the diocese of Kilfenora, now part of Galway.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December: Saint Peter Canisius,** 1521 - 1597, was born in Nijmegen (now in the Netherlands) in 1521. He studied at Cologne and joined the Society of Jesus: he was ordained priest in 1546. He was sent to Germany, where for many years he worked hard to defend and strengthen the Catholic faith both by writing and by preaching. He wrote many books, of which The Catechism is particularly noteworthy. He died at Fribourg in Switzerland on 21 November 1597.

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December St John of Kęty,** 1390 - 1473, was born in Kęty in the diocese of Kraków in 1390. He became a priest and for many years taught at the University of Kraków; later he became parish priest of Olkusz. He taught and researched in physics, theology and scripture

and excelled in holiness and in charity towards his neighbour, in which he was an example to his colleagues and pupils. He died in 1473.

**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 and St Mary's Church, Altinure are available online. Parishioners should note that the first three rows of seats are visible online in St Joseph's Church, Fincairn and the first six rows of seats in St Mary's Church, Altinure.

**If you have any concerns** with regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church please contact Marie Gormley, the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) at 07596 500 793 or at the Safeguarding Office, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6UJ or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services: Duty Social Worker, Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Learmount Community Centre** The Learmount Group would like to thank you for supporting us throughout the year by coming to classes and events and using the services we facilitate. A special thank you to all our volunteers, without whom we couldn't operate. Happy Christmas everyone and a peaceful New Year.

**St Mary's GAC, Banagher:** Winning Lotto Numbers for 13/12/22 were: 11,17,18 & 19. Winning £35 each was, Grace Guy, Una Feeney McCullagh x 2. Money can be collected in the shop. Thanks very much to everyone who continue to support our club lotto, much appreciated. Next week Jackpot is £7,900. Our drive in Bingo continues on Sunday at 4pm. There will be a free draw to say a big thankyou for your continued support.

**Glenshane House - OCN Level 2 Award** in Introduction to Mindfulness & Reducing Anxiety in Children starting January, Wednesday nights from 7-9 (6 weeks). To register Tel 028 777 42494

**New Alcoholics Anonymous** group starting up in the new year. First meeting is on Monday 2nd of January 2023 in Glenelly House, Plumbridge at 8:30pm. If you need support before this or have any enquiries, please reach out to Brian on 07738063344.

### PARISH CLERGY

Fr Micheál McGavigan Adm. JV  
42 Glenedra Road, Feeny, BT47 4TW  
Tel: 028 7778 1223

Email: mcgavigan@derrydiocese.org

Retired Priests Residing in the Parish

Fr Seamus O'Connell PEm.  
028 7778 1228

Fr Michael Collins PEm.  
028 7778 1776

Fr Arthur O'Reilly PEm.  
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.

**Parish Office** hours this week: Monday, Tuesday & Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm. Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 4.30pm.

**Mass is Live on the Webcam at [www.banagherparish.com](http://www.banagherparish.com)**

**SVP Confidential Helpline: 07593954973**