

PARISH OF BANAGHER

Sunday of Advent – 8th December 2024

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Monday 9th December - Mass Times

Monday 9th December:

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 9.15am
St Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.30am
St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Foreglen: 7:00pm

Mass Times this Week

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 December 2024

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 7.00pm Vigil; 9.15am
St Mary's Church, Altinure: 10.30am

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

Rest in Peace We offer our sincere sympathies for the family and friends of Sean Mooney, RIP, Gortnahey, who was buried during the week.

Rest in Peace We offer our sincere sympathies for the family and friends of Gerry French, RIP, 98 Main Street, who was buried during the week.

A First Anniversary Mass will be celebrated for Philomena Reilly, RIP, in St Mary's Church, Altinure on Sunday 15th December at 10.30am.

Visitation of the Sick & Housebound will take place in Foreglen on Monday 9th December; Thursday 12th December in Altinure and Friday 13th December in Feeny & Carnanbane. Please let Fr Dermot know if you would not like a visit this month by contacting the Parochial House on 028 77781223

Baptism We welcome onto God's family Lana Mairead McCloskey.

Derry Diocesan Trust Job Opportunities

Diocesan Youth Coordinator

35 hours per week (including evening & weekend work)

1 Year Fixed Term Contract with possible extension

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 4.30pm on Wednesday 11th December 2024.

Parish of Buncrana Administrative Assistant

16 Hours Per Week

1 Year Fixed Term Contract with Possibility of Extension

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 4.30pm on Wednesday 18th December 2024.

Parish of Fahan Administrative Assistant

16 Hours Per Week

1 Year Fixed Term Contract with Possibility of Extension

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 4.30pm on Wednesday 18th December 2024.

For job descriptions and application packs for all of the job opportunities above, please contact: Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP, telephone (028) 7126 2302 or email: recruitment@derrydiocese.org.

Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

We welcome applications from all men and women and from members of all communities.

Prayer for Vocations For the future priests of the diocese of Derry that, like St John the Baptist, they will work to "... prepare the way of the Lord and make his paths straight.... so that all mankind can see the salvation of God."

Christmas Carols by Candlelight The Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother at Crossroads, Killygordon, invite you to Christmas Carols by Candlelight followed by Live Crib at 5pm, at St Patrick's Church, Crossroads, Killygordon, on Sunday 15 December. Hot Chocolate will be served! Everyone is welcome.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

30th November & 1st December 2024

St Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £1,030 St Mary's Church, Altinure: £665

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.

Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Workshops January – June 2025 January 24th/25th 2025; February 21st/22nd 2025; March 28th/29th 2025; April 11th/12th 2025; May 30th/31st 2025 & June 20th/21st 2025. All courses are now online for booking at www.accordni.com. Please note that ALL of these courses are in person and NOT virtual.

Aid to the Church in Need CN is making an urgent appeal for prayer and support for the Christian community and all residents of Aleppo, Syria, who are facing a worsening humanitarian crisis. "Basic services are paralysed, with only two hospitals operating for critical cases. Food supplies are insufficient, prices have soared, and the population faces the dual threat of bombings and insecurity on the ground," explained Marielle Boutros, ACN project manager for Syria. How you can help: Pray: Ask your parish, community and family to pray for Aleppo, and for peace in Syria. Donate: Your contributions will provide vital resources for food, shelter & medical care. Please visit <https://www.acnireland.org/syria-emergency-appeal>.

Mary's Meals Double the Love Appeal Amongst the many challenges we see in today's world, your little acts of love can bring hope to desperately hungry children with a daily school meal with Mary's Meals. At this time, all donations made to Mary's Meals are being doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £900,000. Please keep us in your prayers during this Advent season that we can reach even more children around the world with our life-changing school meals this Christmas. There are many ways to give, including our gift cards and online Christmas Trees of Hope. Find out more at marysmeals.org.uk or freephone 0800 698 1212.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025 led by Bishop Donal McKeown, from Monday 30 June to Friday 4 July, leaving from City of Derry Airport. Price £849 plus insurance and single supplement if required. The Pilgrimage Office at 164 Bishop Street, Derry BT48 6UJ will not be open for booking until Saturday 1 February 2025, 11.00am to 1.00pm (and each following Saturday and Thursday at the same time unless notified). However, Gift Vouchers are now available from the Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry. Also, enquiries can be made by email to derrypilgrim@outlook.com

Feast Days this Week

Monday 9th December: The Feast of the Immaculate Conception The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is the doctrine that the Virgin Mary was conceived without original sin, that twist in our nature that makes our will tend not to follow what it knows to be right. It was this grace that enabled Mary to give a true and considered "Yes" to the request, conveyed by the Angel Gabriel, that she should consent to be the mother of the incarnate God. Because it is so old, this is one of the Marian doctrines that Islam shares with the Catholic Church, though of course the theological details are very different. 'in a famous Hadith attributed to the Prophet, it is affirmed that: "Every child is touched by the devil as soon as he is born and this contact makes him cry. Excepted are Mary and her Son". From this Hadith and from verses 35-37 of Sura III, Moslem commentators have deduced and affirmed the principle of Mary's original purity.' (*Giancarlo Finazzo. L'Osservatore Romano, 13 April 1978*). The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception was almost universally believed over the centuries and formally defined as a doctrine of the Church by Pope Pius IX in 1854.

Tuesday 10th December: Our Lady of Loreto Since the Middle Ages veneration for the Holy House of Loreto, still today visited by many faithful pilgrims in order to nourish their faith in the Word of God made flesh for us. Before the image of the Mother of the Redeemer and of the Church, Saints and Blesseds have responded to their vocation, the sick have invoked consolation in suffering, the people of God praise and plead with Mary using the

Litany of Loreto, which is known throughout the world. In a particular way, all those who travel via aircraft have found in her their heavenly patron. Pope Francis decreed the optional memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Loreto. This celebration will help all people, especially families, youth and religious to imitate the virtues of that perfect disciple of the Gospel, the Virgin Mother, who, in conceiving the Head of the Church also accepted us as her own.

COMMUNITY NEWS

St Mary's GAC, Banagher: Lotto numbers for 3.12.2024 were 4, 7, 9, & 11. Winning £20 each were Bernadette O'Kane, Pauline McCusker, Annie O'Neill, Searla McGinty & Alison O'Neill. Thanks to everyone who continues to support our club Lotto. It is greatly appreciated. Next week's Jackpot is £1100.

Learmount Community Development Group: This incoming week in Park: **Monday 9th:** Time For Me 60+ Ladies: 10.30am - 12.30pm; Park Deed's Dementia Social Morning: 11am - 1pm; Men's Yoga: 8pm - 8.45pm; Art Class: 7.30pm - 8.30pm; **Tuesday 10th:** Craft and Crochet Club: 10.30am - 12.30pm; Men's Hobby Workshop: 10.30am - 12.30pm; Advice NW (Citizen's Advice): 2pm - 4pm; **Wednesday 11th:** Ladies' 50+ Social Evening with Dart Mountain Cheese: Cheese & Wine evening: 7pm; **Thursday 12th:** Post Office Outreach Service: 9am - 12pm (Resource Centre); Painting For Pleasure Art Class: 10.30am - 12.30pm; **Friday 13th:** Learmount Walking Group: 10.30am; **Saturday 14th:** Mini PAC Club (Toddlers): 10am - 11am; PAC Art Club: 11.30am - 1pm. Thank you to everyone who came along to our Christmas Event on Friday evening to see Santa. For further information on any of our classes, groups or events, contact Karen or Min at the Community Centre on 028 77781881 or 07592 995229 or email: admin@learmountgroup.org or / and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

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. Please 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.

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 PP

42 Gledra 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: 07593954973