

PARISH OF BANAGHER

4th Sunday of Lent – 15th March 2026

Mass Times:

Monday: St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: 9.30am



St. Patrick's Day Mass Times

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

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

St. Peter's & St. Paul's Church, Foreglen: **Tuesday 11.30am**

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 22nd March 2026

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

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

Baptism We welcome into God's family Rion Gerard McCormack.

Visitation of the Sick and Housebound will take place this coming week:

Wednesday afternoon in Foreglen and Carnanbane. **Thursday** in Park.

Friday in Feeny.

Fr. Dermot kindly invites all Sacristans, Assistant Sacristans, Altar Server Leaders, Secretaries, Eucharistic Ministers, Collectors, Readers, Children's Liturgy Facilitators, Pope John Paul II Award Leaders and Parents (who are involved in programmes), Parish Council members, SVDP members, Choir Members, Cleaners, Ground Workers and all those interested in Safeguarding to a Safeguarding Children Information Meeting in the Parish Hall, Feeny on **Monday 23rd March at 7.30pm.**

Derry Diocesan Trust

Three Patrons Parish – Parish Catechist

35 hours per week Permanent – 3 years Fixed Term Contract

Reporting to the Parish Priest, Three Patrons Parish is recruiting a **Parish Catechist.**

For application packs please contact: Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP, 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 Tuesday 24th March 2026.**

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

Holy Hours for Vocations There will be a Holy Hour for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life in St. Columb's Church, Chapel Road, Derry, on **Monday 16th March** at 8.00pm. All are welcome to join us for this time of prayer.

There will also be a Holy Hour for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life in St. Mary's Church, Coolcalm, Desertmartin on **Monday 23rd March** from 7.00pm to 8.15pm, including Mass at 7.30pm. All are welcome to join us.

Eucharistic Healing Conference 'Remember Me' – 20th, 21st and 22nd March in the Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran. Programme of events include Holy Mass, Adoration, Confessions and Surrender to the Cross with guest speakers Fr. Enabong, Deacon Thady O'Connor, Ms Colette Furlong and others. Registration is on Friday 20th March at 10am and is €50. For further information, contact Fr. John Keane on 00353 86 315 2460 or Mr Aidan Byrne on 00353 86 154 6099.

'An Lasair Chríost' Conference (Flame of Christ) Young Adults' Conference will take place on Sunday 22nd March at St. Columb's College, Bunrana Road, Derry, beginning with Mass at 11.30am in St. Patrick's Church, Pennyburn. Fr. Conor McGrath will be the keynote speaker at the conference, with Bishop McKeown celebrating the Mass. It will be a great opportunity to meet other young people in a faith setting. All are welcome and no tickets required.

'Shepherding Talent' Online Programme - Aspire to Serve, Inspire to Lead: In partnership with St. Mary's University Twickenham, the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre is offering this programme. 'Shepherding Talent' is a pioneering programme from the university, in which teaching professionals with leadership potential are challenged to explore their vocation to lead. Aimed at all teaching professionals in Catholic schools, this programme is delivered in the context of Catholic School education. It will be delivered over five weeks, each session is two hours. The first session takes place on Wednesday 29th April, 4.30 – 6.30pm. The total cost is £250. For more info & registration, email: tferry@derrydiocese.org.

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: derry pilgrim@outlook.com as soon as possible.

Offertory Collection

7th & 8th March 2026

St. Joseph's Church, Fincairn: £985 St. Mary's Church, Altinure: £690

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.

Foyle Hospice 'Make a Will Month' During the month of March local solicitors very kindly agree to waive their usual will-writing fee in return for a suggested £100 donation to the Foyle Hospice. A list of participating solicitors can be found at foylehospice.com/make-a-will/ or by calling Kathleen at the Foyle Hospice on 028 7135 9888. The purpose of Make a Will Month is to encourage people to write their Wills, whilst also raising much-needed funds for Foyle Hospice. Money raised will ensure Foyle Hospice can continue to deliver high quality specialist palliative care and end of life care to those in our community with life-limiting illness.

Accord Facilitators Needed Accord is inviting volunteers to train as facilitators for its Marriage Preparation Programmes, supporting couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Facilitators work as part of a small local team and help lead up to four programmes each year. Free professional training is provided. To find out more or apply: Tel: 01 505 3112 Email: marriagepreparation@accord.ie. Closing date for applications: 29th May 2026. Please consider supporting couples to prepare for marriage by sharing your experience.

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.

Feast Days

Tuesday 17th March: Saint Patrick, Bishop, Missionary (385 - 461) was born in Roman Britain around the end of the 4th century and died in Ireland about the middle of the 5th century. As a missionary bishop, he endured many hardships and faced opposition even from his friends and fellow Christians. Nevertheless, he worked hard to conciliate, to evangelize, and to educate local chieftains and their families. He is remembered for his simplicity and pastoral care, for his humble trust in God, and for his fearless preaching of the gospel to the very people who had enslaved him in his youth.

Thursday 19th March: Saint Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary Nothing is known of St. Joseph except what is said of him in the Gospels. He was a carpenter; he accepted the will of God; and he supported Mary and brought up Jesus. From the human character of his son we can see that he was a good and responsible father. He is widely venerated as a patron of artisans who honourably do good work with the gifts God has given them, and of workers in general. To those who exercise the role of an adoptive parent, whether formally or informally, whether over one child or as the support of a whole family, he is a source of inspiration.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Learmount Community Development Group: Timetable for the week commencing 16th March 2026: **Monday 16th:** 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); Evening Art Class: 7.30-9.30 pm; **Tuesday 17th March:** CENTRES ARE CLOSED FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY- **12.30 pm**; Couch 2 5K Week: Session 17 (7 pm) at Craighane Walkway; **Thursday 19th:** Post Office Outreach service (9 am - 12 pm); Painting for Pleasure: (10.30 am - 12.30 pm); Park 60+ Group (12 - 4 pm); Couch to 2 5K Week 9: Session 18 (7 pm) at Craighane Walkway; Slow Sewing Class: (7 pm- Community Centre); Easter / Spring Wreath making/table decoration workshop (7 - 9 pm - RESOURCE CENTRE); **Friday 20th:** Learmount Walking Group: Meet at 10.30 am at the Community Centre; **Saturday 21st:** Sperrins Walking Festival - Guided ecology walk through Learmount Forest: Meet at 11 am at the Community Centre; Children's Youth Trip to Bowling Alley: Meet at 10 am Resource Centre - Contact Karen to book. Sawel Sisters Spring Equinox Well-being Workshop: Park Hall from 10 am (WhatsApp Catherine on 077 3846 3420 to book). For further information or to book any of our classes: Tel. 028 7778 1881 /DM/email: admin@learmountgroup.org.

Epilepsy.ie In Ireland today, over 45,000 people live with epilepsy. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie. Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on Thursday 26th March.

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.

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 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