

# Beragh Parish Bulletin



**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year C**

**5<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

Parish Priest Mgr Colum Curry PP VG

Telephone: 028 8075 8206

Email: [beraghparochial@btinternet.com](mailto:beraghparochial@btinternet.com)

Website: [www.beraghparish.com](http://www.beraghparish.com)

Facebook: Parish of Beragh - Co. Tyrone

Cardinal MacRory Pastoral Area

Priests of the Pastoral Area:

Mgr Colum Curry PP VG 028 8075 8206

Fr P Hannigan 028 8776 1211

Fr C Devenney 028 8555 7212

Fr M O'Dwyer 028 8555 7212

St Vincent DePaul Helpline: 07738 837 875

## **Parish Office Opening Hours**

Mondays: 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm; Fridays: 9.00 am - 1.30 pm.



**Dear Parishioner and Gentle Reader,**

The worst kind of phone call or text message is the one that comes in the middle of the night - the one that is not expected. It sends a shiver through you, and while you might be wondering to yourself, “Who could be calling at this time of the night?” you are immediately suspicious there is something wrong. “Who in the house hasn’t come home yet?”

Too many Sunday mornings when we turn on the radio, we hear that some family in some part of the country has indeed got that ominous call in the middle of the night. There are an increasing number of young people being killed in overnight accidents, accidents that could be avoided. People, who only a few hours earlier, had so much to look forward to, so much of life still to live. For some family, no matter how hard they try, it won’t be a happy Christmas.

In recent years there has been much debate about drink driving, speed regulations and traffic safety, while television campaigns have confronted us with horrific images of road carnage and the terrible lifelong consequences of such tragedies. But in a world where time cannot be wasted, life too often is.

This is a question of morality, a morality of the modern age. Each of us has a responsibility to take care on the roads whether we are cyclist, motorist or pedestrian. In the lead up to Christmas it might mean slowing down, taking extra time and being courteous to other road users in order to save life. While it is true that some accidents cannot be avoided, it is also true that many can.

Let us give a gift this Christmas to somebody, who might not even know we are giving it to them. By taking more care on the roads, let us offer to somebody, maybe even somebody close to us, maybe even to ourselves, the greatest gift of all - the gift of life.

**With every blessing, Monsignor Colum.**

### **Important Dates for 2022**

Providing there are no Covid restrictions, it is hoped to celebrate First Holy Communion on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May and Confirmation on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Beragh Parish Team Covid 19**

There will be a short meeting of the Covid 19 team on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 8.15 pm to discuss arrangements for Christmas Masses this year.

### **Digital Advent Calendar**

A popular resource for prayer and reflection during Advent is the interactive digital calendar which is now available on [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie). This year's calendar theme focuses on the theme of 'Hope'. Each day during Advent a virtual door can be opened on the calendar containing faith content, including an audio/video reflection. Now in its eighth year, this digital calendar is a well-received resource for families, schools and parishes as it offers suggestions for prayer, charity and penance during this special liturgical season.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

There will be opportunities for people to avail of Confessions at various times in preparation for Christmas. This week there will be Confessions on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 6.00 pm to 7.15 pm and on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December 10.30 am; 12 noon and 6.00 pm. More times next week.

### **Sick and Housebound**

In the coming weeks I hope to attend sick and housebound people in their homes. These visits will be sufficiently spaced in compliance with Covid restrictions. If there is anyone who has not been able to come to Mass for some time and would like to receive Holy Communion, I would ask them to pass on their details and I will include them.

### **Lough Derg Online Shop**

Lough Derg online shop offers unique Christmas Cards, featuring scenes of the Island from across the centuries and bespoke Gifts including a limited edition Lough Derg Christmas Candle. Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards are also available - Fr La, Prior, will offer a triduum of Masses beginning on Christmas Eve for all those who are enrolled. Visit [www.loughderg.live/shop](http://www.loughderg.live/shop) Telephone 071 9861 518. Delivery nationwide and Click & Collect Service available.

### **Pathways - Adult Faith Development Programme**

Two-year, part-time course, now enrolling for 2021-2023 intake. Have you ever thought about exploring your faith... or wished that you could broaden your understanding of your faith? Would you like to explore, discuss and reflect upon issues and questions of faith, the Church, and how to link faith to life? If the answer is “yes”, then Pathways may be for you. The course runs one Saturday per month (10.00 am - 4.30 pm) from October to June, either in-house at Drumalis, Larne or online via Zoom.

### **Support the Benedictine Community**

Buy your Christmas gifts at the shop of Holy Cross Abbey, 119 Kilbroney Road, Rostrevor, Co. Down BT34 3BN.  
Candles and Soaps made by the monks, Books and a range of different gifts.  
Shop opens 9.00 am - 11.00 am and 2.30 pm - 5.00 pm.  
[www.benedictinemonks.co.uk](http://www.benedictinemonks.co.uk)

### **‘Across The Hedgerow’ Project (NI)**

Rural Support in partnership with Young Farmer Clubs of Ulster, launched the ‘**Across the Hedgerow**’ programme last year. This service provides older, vulnerable, and isolated members of the farming community with listening support and companionship via telephone calls. The aim is to improve the emotional wellbeing of the client. The winter months can be a very lonely and isolating time for older people; therefore, this service would provide them with the listening ear and companionship they need. If you know of any older individual, from a farming/rural community, who will benefit from this service please inform them of ‘**Across the Hedgerow**’.

The Rural Support Helpline: [0800 138 1678](tel:08001381678).

### **Covid 19 Wakes and Funerals**

When a person has died as a result of Covid 19, new regulations governing arrangements for wakes and funerals have come into effect from September 2021. Where there is a negligible risk of transmitting the Covid 19 infection, the remains of the deceased are allowed to be taken home and viewing is permitted. They can also be brought to the church for the funeral Mass. However, the regulations regarding numbers permitted to gather, social distancing, hand hygiene and face coverings must be observed. Anyone who has had a positive Covid 19 test result or anyone who is symptomatic should not attend.

### **Week-end Masses**

I am aware that some people in the parish are quite annoyed there is no Mass in St Malachy's, Seskinore on Sunday and no Mass in St Patrick's, Drumduff on Saturday evening, as was the practice in recent years. I share their disappointment, but unfortunately the situation is outside my control. I would love to be able to reinstate the arrangements we had prior to Covid-19. However, the current regulations regarding places of worship are determined, not by numbers in attendance, but by capacity. It is the responsibility of the parish to ensure that the building can safely accommodate people by ensuring the stipulated social distancing, in addition to the other protocols regarding signage, ventilation, and sanitisation etc. Given the size of Seskinore and Drumduff churches, it is not possible to have public week-end Masses until the Health Authorities and the Executive relax the present guidelines.

### **Covid-19**

While the Executive has decided to ease the restriction of face coverings in places of worship, Church leaders are encouraging people to continue to use them as a precautionary measure against the spread of infection.

### **Fundraising Update - Trócaire**

In the coming weeks and months, it is possible that a Trócaire fundraiser may call to your home inviting monthly donations. Fundraising representatives will be wearing Trócaire blue branded jackets and face masks and will adhere to COVID compliance guidelines to ensure safety measures are met.

The door-to-door campaign allows us to reach people who have not donated to our Lenten appeal and also gives people the choice to donate in different ways. Monthly donations help Trócaire to plan ahead and have greater impact with the communities we exist to serve.

PS If you would like to contact Trócaire directly on any matter related to this initiative, you can contact Louise Walker on 00353 5053 225 or [louise.walker@trocaire.org](mailto:louise.walker@trocaire.org)

## Summary of Beragh Parish Collections

Weekly Envelopes: £ 592

Loose Collection: £ 60

### **Other Collections**

Candles: £ 70

Messenger: £ 44

Building Fund: £ 200

Priest's Dues: £ 100

**Total: £1,066**

### Parish Envelopes

To make it easier for Parishioners, Counters and Admin - if you are returning envelopes for past weeks/months, please put your total contribution in one envelope. Envelopes are always counted and recorded against the date for which they are received.

### Grant them Eternal Rest, O Lord

All names on the Parish Dead List

**Recently Deceased:** Helen Kelly; Anne Dixon.

### Church of Immaculate Conception, Beragh

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 9.00 am** Mass for the People.

**11.30 am** Sarah Logue;  
Deborah Loughran.

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 9.00 am** Johnny and Mary Broderick.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 9.00 am)** Feast of the Immaculate Conception.  
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**7.30 pm)**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 7.30 pm** Private Intention.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December 10.00 am** Jimmy, Teasie and Aggie Donnelly and deceased members of the Donnelly Family.

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 9.00 am** Mass for the People.

**11.30 am** Barney Colton;

Mary McSorley and Brigid and Mick Keenan;

Gusty McMackin.

### **Church of St Malachy, Seskinore**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 7.30 pm** Private Intention.

### **Church of St Patrick, Drumduff**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 7.30 pm** Marion Kerr.

### **Oratory, Sixmilecross**

The Rosary and Masses from the Oratory are available on You Tube. Search for “sixmilecross oratory youtube”.

### **Defibrillator**

The Defibrillator has now been installed at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beragh.

### **Admissions 2022**

Are you interested in joining our StOP family for Primary 1 or Nursery in September 2022?

We will be offering guided tours of our school for prospective parents on the week beginning Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

Appointments are now available and can be booked by emailing the school on [pmartin505@c2kni.net](mailto:pmartin505@c2kni.net).

We look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school.

## **Beragh Red Knights GAA**

Last week's lotto numbers were 5, 8, 22, 28 and 29. No jackpot winner this week but the £50 goes to Elaine Donnelly, Rosemary McMullan and Anthony Lyttle. Next week's jackpot is £12,900 and tickets can be bought online on Klubfunder [https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Beragh Red Knights GAA](https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Beragh_Red_Knights_GAA) or at local shops.

We are in the final two weeks of our indoor underage winter programme. Even at this late stage, if not already, we encourage all youth to attend.

The programme is as follows:

- U9.5 Boys on Tuesday 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm
- U13.5 Boys on Wednesday 7.45 pm - 8.45 pm
- U14 Girls on Thursday 6.15 pm - 7.15 pm
- U11.5 Boys on Thursday 7.20 pm - 8.30 pm
- U15 Boys on Saturday 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm

Santa is in Beragh on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December from 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm.

Beragh Red Knights and Breacach Handball welcome all to come along and get their photo with the big man himself at St Mary's Park.

## **Baxter School of Irish Dancing**

Class continues for beginners and current pupils on Fridays (6.00 pm - 7.15 pm) in St Oliver Plunkett PS, Beragh. All new beginners are welcome.

## **Radio Maria**

Thank God and sincere thanks also to our many listeners and supporters as RADIO MARIA IRELAND continues to grow. As an Irish run Catholic Talk Radio Station we enjoy commercial free broadcasting. We offer Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting Music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies. So do join our growing faith family. Here is how you can listen:

- 1 Via Digital TV - Saorview 210
- 2 Download our **free** App "Radio Maria Ireland"
- 3 Streaming on our website - [www.maria.ie](http://www.maria.ie)
- 4 Via our "Listen Live Radio" link on our Facebook page
- 5 Via phone - get live radio feed by calling 353 (0) 14373277 (no extra charges apply)

Why not drop a line to our Priest Director, Fr Eamonn McCarthy, at Maria Ireland, St Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22

## **Prayer by Telephone**

The Sisters of Mercy at "Bethany" House of Prayer, 34 Point Road, Dundalk, welcome any person who may wish to request prayer, especially during these difficult times. Telephone 00353 (42) 9331602, from 9.00 am to 9.00 pm daily. One of the Sisters will be happy to listen and pray with you. All requests are confidential.

## **Important Information about the Parish Webcam**

The web camera in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beragh has been upgraded. Anyone wishing to watch Mass etc. being streamed from Beragh Parish should go to the parish website [www.beraghparish.com](http://www.beraghparish.com) for the new link or go to [www.churchmedia.tv](http://www.churchmedia.tv) Anyone with a set top box should search for Church Media to add that channel. Any problems with the set top box, please call 07879 606 583. You will also notice on the bottom left hand corner an additional camera choice: "Baptismal" which focuses on the baptismal font for the celebration of baptisms and "Mobile" which is available for Devotions and is only available when streaming is active.

## **Mass arrangements for Beragh Parish**

All Masses from Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beragh are streamed via webcam.

To log on please go to: [www.beraghparish.com](http://www.beraghparish.com)