

Beragh Parish Bulletin



3rd Sunday of Lent (Year B)

7th March 2021

Parish Priest Mgr Colum Curry PP VG

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Cardinal MacRory Pastoral Area

Priests of the Pastoral Area:

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St Vincent DePaul Helpline: 07738 837 875

Parish Office Opening Hours

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



Dear Parishioner and Gentle Reader,

Today's gospel will undoubtedly dispel some of our softer images of "little Jesus, meek and mild". When this man came into the Temple he was overcome with emotion and went wild with rage. Are we disturbed by this outburst? How can we reconcile such behaviour with someone who advocated compassion and asked his followers to turn the other cheek? I think it is important to appreciate the context and try to understand why Jesus' anger was roused.

The Temple was a sacred place, a place intended for the worship of God, but over time it had become a marketplace. Jesus was angry because the traders had not only desecrated this holy place, but they were exploiting the poor in the name of religion. The greedy hucksters and the crafty moneychangers were making huge profits from poor people's piety.

A prophet from a previous time had said that true religion means to act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with your God. In standing up for the truth by challenging the abuse of the sacred and defending the rights of the poor, Jesus was in effect signing his own death warrant.

On this third Sunday of Lent we might reflect on those temples we have turned into marketplaces today. Where have we turned sacred events into secular activities? We only have to think of the manic expenditure connected with weddings; the Christening parties that have become huge social events; the extravagance associated with First Communion and Confirmation ceremonies. Of course, all of that was before Covid 19 imposed its own restrictions and hopefully brought us to our senses. We pray in the words of Pope Francis, “May God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people. And may God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done”.

With every blessing, Monsignor Colum.

Lenten Devotions

People are invited to take part in Lenten Devotions on Sunday evening at 7.00 pm and Stations of the Cross on Friday evening at 7.30 pm by logging into the webcam page and selecting Mobile Camera at the bottom left.

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.

International Women's Day, Monday 8th March

You are cordially invited to join us on International Women's Day, Monday 8th March, online from 7.00 pm for a 40 minute event to launch 'White Ribbon', a collaborative anthem co-written by pianist **Ruth McGinley** and songwriter **Duke Special**, reflecting the voices and experience of women affected by domestic abuse.

White Ribbon is a global movement to end male violence against women and the 'White Ribbon' anthem has been commissioned by Northern Ireland Opera, working jointly with the Ulster Orchestra and Women's Aid ABCLN, in response to the devastating impact of domestic abuse witnessed at this time.

To register and receive your link for the launch simply email events@womensaidabcln.org.

The 2021 Census

The 2021 Census takes place on 21st March 2021 and is co-ordinated by the NI Statistics & Research Agency (NISRA). The census happens only once every ten years and provides a picture of all the people and households in Northern Ireland. Next week all households in Northern Ireland will receive a census pack with details on how to complete.

The pack will contain an access code for completing online or details on how to request a paper form. Your answers are important and completely confidential. Your personal data will never be shared. As soon as you receive your pack you can complete your census.

If you don't receive a pack, have lost your access code or have any questions call the contact centre for free on **0800 328 2021** or visit the website at www.census.gov.uk/ni. Here you can find out about the support available to help you complete - including guidance in Braille, Easy Read, British and Irish Sign Language and large print questionnaires.

Trocaire 2021 "Until love conquers fear"

This year the focus is on the suffering people of South Sudan, depicted by the two mothers Ajak and her friend Awut, who feature on the Trocaire box. Widowed by war and trapped in poverty, they are now fearful of the Covid pandemic. They have no hope without help.

This is what Fr James in Sudan writes, "We are going through deep pain. This is my cry to you: please do not leave us alone. Please give your support this Lent to my people in South Sudan. In their poverty, in their fears of war, in their traumatised spirit they are trying their best to come out of it. The child who is crying may be the future leader of this country who will transform this whole situation. We shall not give up and we shall always pray for you. Hold our

hands. Walk with us. We need your prayers. We need your support. With your help a good day can come for South Sudan.”

Trócaire Lenten Talks

Lent Lecture with Cardinal Tagle, Tuesday 9th March at 6.30 pm. Registration is essential and the link to register is https://trocaire-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bLnu0_aLSYSONMPEi3AYpg

Trócaire is hosting a number of Lent webinars/workshops. To sign up click the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsitZjQ6LENkWcgfhJng9VHUF FtxTTSq4jelHAZRpCgzqLWQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Neighbour Policing

The local Police Officer for Beragh is Constable Sean Cunningham who can be contacted on mobile 07833 451 487 or by Telephone 101 and asking for extension 56233 Email: Sean.cunningham@psni.police.uk

Congratulations

We welcome into our Community, through the Sacrament of Baptism,
Enda Samuel Kerr.

Amount received by Standing Order Payments during the month of January was **£2,203.**

Grant them Eternal Rest, O Lord

All names on the Parish Dead List

Recently Deceased: Peter McSwiggan; Frank Poyntz (funeral last Monday in Drumquin); Ellen Jane Conroy (funeral in Beragh on Wednesday).

Church of Immaculate Conception, Beragh

Sunday 7th March	11.30 am	Jim Franey; Rose Conlon.
	7.00 pm	Lenten Devotions.

Monday 8th March	7.00 am	Private Intention.
	9.00 am	Private Intention.
Tuesday 9th March	7.00 am	Private Intention.
	9.00 am	Private Intention.
Wednesday 10th March	7.00 am	Private Intention.
	9.00 am	Margaret McAleer.
Thursday 11th March	7.00 am	Private Intention.
	9.00 am	Private Intention.
Friday 12th March	7.00 am	Private Intention.
	9.00 am	Private Intention.
	7.30 pm	Stations of the Cross.
Saturday 13th March	10.00 am	Eamon Maguire.
Sunday 14th March	11.30 am	Patsy, Rose, Liam and Damien Heaney and Baby Breannan Grimes; Frank McCartan.
	7.00 pm	Lenten Devotions.

Oratory, Sixmilecross

The Stations of the Cross and the Rosary will be available on YouTube during Lent ... ALL DAY EVERY DAY ... (24/7).

Search YouTube OR your internet browser for sixmilecross oratory rosary stations.

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 for the new link or go to 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.

Year of Reflection and Prayer

The 'Year of Reflection and Prayer', which was launched last January to begin the process of pastoral planning in the diocese, was due to conclude at the end of this month. Due, however, to the Covid-19 pandemic and to the ongoing restrictions on movement and gathering, the Pastoral Team has decided to extend this period of reflection until the end of June.

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