

Beragh Parish Bulletin



2nd Sunday Year C

16th January 2022

Parish Priest Mgr Colum Curry PP VG

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Parish Office Opening Hours

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



Dear Parishioner and Gentle Reader,

A few random thoughts associated with today's readings:

The Wedding Feast at Cana is linked to recent celebrations -

The story of the Wedding Feast at Cana repeats the message of the Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord. "Jesus let his glory be seen" - the first 'revelation' was to the shepherds at Bethlehem, the second was to the Magi, who travelled from the East, the third at the river Jordan, and today he let his glory be seen to the disciples at Cana.

Keeping the good wine...

Life is a journey that is made up of many journeys. Each journey has its own births, deaths, and struggles. Sigmund Freud, the famous psychotherapist said that the test of your maturity is that, if you had a choice you would want to be the age you are. Old age can be beautiful, when it brings mellowness, wisdom, and quiet

contentment. In that sense the best wine of life is kept to last.

Someone else maintains that a definition of a good life is when you were born, you alone cried, and everyone else was very happy.

Therefore, you should live your life in such a way that when you die, you will be very happy and everyone else will be crying! Mark Twain also remarked that you should live your life in such a way that when you die, even the undertaker will be sorry! I reference to the Gospel of this Sunday, we can settle for a lifestyle that is as insipid as water, or we can open our hearts to the abundant life which Jesus offers us and celebrate that gift with ever increasing joy.

Choosing a marriage partner.

The freedom of each person to choose to unite is crucial for a healthy union. Two people who can manage to be alone but choose to be together will have a stronger relationship than two people who feel pressured to be together because they feel inadequate when they are apart. In fact, a personal bond is only possible when it is freely given.

Cana - the foretaste of more to come.

At the wedding of the young couple Jesus changed water into wine. This was a foretaste of the many changes that would take place during his ministry:

At Nain he would change the grieving tears of a poor widow to tears of joy...

At Jericho he would change the selfishness of Zacchaeus into a lifestyle of generosity and honesty...

At Calvary he would change the despair of the repentant thief into the assurance and hope of heaven...

On Easter morning he would change death into the glory of New Life.

With every blessing, Monsignor Colum.

The Sacred Heart Messenger

The Sacred Heart Messenger is a long-established magazine that has made its way into countless homes down through the years. Today it continues to provide a wealth of information on important social and religious issues along with topical articles relating to everyday living. The annual subscription for twelve editions is £22. Elizabeth Montague is our Parish Promoter and does a marvellous job in distributing the magazine, with the kind assistance of Sean McCabe, Seskinore and Brian McCullagh, Drumduff. Those who already get it are asked to renew their subscription at this time and anyone who would like to receive the Sacred Heart Messenger or offer it as a gift to a friend, are invited to give their details. It is warmly recommended for families with children and young adults.

Sunday Missal

Because we are still not allowed to distribute parish bulletins in paper form, some people regret not being able to follow the readings and prayers during Sunday Mass. It might be opportune, therefore, to consider purchasing a Roman Missal for the New Year, which would cover the 3-year cycle.

If anyone would like to place an order, please do so by e mail beraghparochial@btinternet.com or contact the Parish Office on 02880 758 206.

Important Dates for 2022

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

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.

‘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.

Summary of Beragh Parish Collections

Weekly Envelopes: £ 543.00

Other Collections

Candles: £ 118.77

Bishop's Collection: £ 5.00

Christmas Day: £ 45.00

Sick and Retired Priests: £ 177.00

Building Fund: £ 327.50

Priest's Dues: £ 242.00

Total: £1,458.27

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.

Congratulations

We welcome into our Community, through the Sacrament of Baptism,
Eddie Pat Sawyers.

Grant them Eternal Rest, O Lord

All names on the Parish Dead List

Recently Deceased: John Sweeney; Bernie Coyle; Annie Mulholland; Hughie McMahon; Peter McAleer; Petey McNamee; Peter Finnegan; Nathan Corrigan; Bernadette Grimes; Margaret Denise Smyth; Sean Kelly; Paddy McGinley (Funeral in Lisbellaw on Monday).

Church of Immaculate Conception, Beragh

Sunday 16th January	9.00 am	Mass for the People.
	11.30 am	Elizabeth McGarrity, her son Maurice McGarrity, Alice McGarrity and Mary Ellen Shields; Fr James Grimes and his parents Margaret and Patrick; Dermot, Peter and Catherine Meenagh; Patricia Kelly; Brian Teague.
Tuesday 18th January	9.00 am	Minnie and Seamus McCrystal.
Thursday 20th January	7.30 pm	Private Intention.
Friday 21st January	9.00 am	Private Intention.
Saturday 22nd January	10.00 am	Private Intention.
Sunday 23rd January	9.00 am	Mass for the People.
	11.30 am	Christopher Mullin and deceased members of the Mullin Family; Bridget Gartland; John Breen.

Church of St Patrick, Drumduff

Wednesday 19th January **9.00 am** Michael Cunningham and Sadie Farley.

Church of St Malachy, Seskinore

Monday 17th January 9.00 am Private Intention.

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.

St Oliver Plunkett Nursery and Primary School

Admissions for September 2022

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

Applications are open on the EA website and the closing date for applications is Friday 28th January 2022.

Beragh Red Knights GAA

Last week's lotto numbers were 8, 12, 16, 22 and 23. No jackpot winner this week but the £50 share went to Niall Owens (Drumduff), Paul Grimes, Cara Franey, Carmel Mullin and Geraldine Owens. Next week's jackpot is £13,200 and tickets can be bought online on Klubfunder https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Beragh_Red_Knights_GAA or at local shops.

The Beragh Health and Well Being Sub Committee are inviting all Club members, friends and family to take part in a five week walking challenge. This challenge begins on Wednesday, 19th January - in order to complete the challenge our Club must walk 400 km. So every step counts. See our Club social media for more information.

The Mick Kerr memorial tournament took place last weekend and was a great success. Well done to all involved, particularly the Breacach Club and Kerr family for the organisation of the event and congratulations to the eventual winner, Martin Mulkerrins.

The Beragh and Sixmilecross areas have experienced a particularly tough winter with the tragic deaths of several community members, resulting in a great sense of loss throughout our local community and Club. It is therefore highly important that we continue to support each other through these challenging times. Please remember that whatever is ahead there is always someone to talk to if needed. There are organisations on hand 24 hours a day if you feel like talking to someone else. Below are a couple of numbers - put them in your phone. You never know when you or someone else may need them. You can contact Samaritans at 116 123, while their website is www.samaritans.org. Lifeline are also available at 0808 808 8000 and www.lifelinehelpline.info

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
- 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 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.

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