

Beragh Parish Bulletin



3rd Sunday Year C

23rd January 2022

Parish Priest Mgr Colum Curry PP VG

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Cardinal MacRory Pastoral Area

Priests of the Pastoral Area:

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Fr P Hannigan 028 8776 1211

Fr C Devenney 028 8555 7212

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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,

Before a president or a prime minister take office, they usually give their inaugural speech. They outline their policies and speak about what they hope to achieve during their term of office. In today's Gospel something similar happens when Jesus stands up in the synagogue at Nazareth. He reads a passage from the prophet Isaiah to indicate the spirit of his ministry; it is radical, and it is revolutionary - it is good news for the oppressed and the afflicted. Jesus states that his concern will be with the poor, the blind, the troubled and those in captivity; there will be a social dimension to his ministry.

And so it was. All during his ministry Jesus showed a consistent concern for those people who lived on the margins of society and life. He has a vision of a new social order based on service and humility. As it states in one of the Mass Prefaces: "He always showed compassion for children and the poor, for the sick and for sinners, and he became a neighbour to the oppressed and the afflicted".

In our own time that same need is very real. Television and other media platforms allow us to be haunted by the terrible reality of injustice, poverty, famine, and climate disaster. As Christians we believe that God cannot abide any one of his children being oppressed or disadvantaged; each human person has a radical dignity because Christ lived, died, and rose to new life for all of us. As the same Preface concludes: "By word and deed Jesus announced to the world that God is our Father and that he cares for all his sons and daughters".

When the gospel speaks of the poor, we are thinking of more than those who are without money. The poor includes all those who are wounded by life in any way, the little ones who are weighed down by difficult circumstances and those who wish to be unburdened. Above all, the poor are those people who recognise that all is not well and are prepared to admit their need for salvation and healing. The Pharisees did not have that attitude; they were so bloated by their own pride and self-importance that they felt they had no need for redemption.

One of the challenges we face is that of discouragement; the canvas of problems can be so enormous that we might fear we can do nothing about them. It's a bit like when Mother Theresa of Calcutta was once asked by a high-ranking government official: "How are you going to feed ten thousand hungry people?". She replied, "One by one". Each person has the responsibility to make the vision of Jesus a reality. It may be little, but it can be a start.

With every blessing, Monsignor Colum.

Catholic Schools Week 2022

This year, 23rd January to 30th January, we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. The past year has once again been a very challenging year for pupils and indeed the whole school community. We salute the determination and courage of our principals and teachers who have gone out of their way to reach out to our young people in very difficult circumstances. This year the theme is ***“Catholic Schools: Living Life to the Full”***. The purpose of this week is to highlight and celebrate the distinctive richness and diversity Catholic schools make to our local community and society in general. We pray God’s blessing on all pupils, teachers and staff who work in the schools of our parish, and we pay tribute to parents, governors and many others who support the great enterprise of Catholic education.

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.

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: £1,260.00

Other Collections

Candles: £ 97.69

Messenger: £ 290.00

Sick and Retired Priests: £ 87.50

Building Fund: £ 175.00

Priest's Dues: £ 150.00

Total: £2,060.19

Amount received by Standing Order Payments during the month of December was **£2,403.34**.

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: Hughie McMahon; Bernadette Grimes;
Margaret Denise Smyth; Sean Kelly;
Paddy McGinley; Dolores McAtasney (Funeral
Last Monday in Killeeshil).

Church of Immaculate Conception, Beragh

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.
Tuesday 25th January	7.30 pm	Petey McNamee (MM).
Thursday 27th January	7.30 pm	Annie Mulholland (MM).
Friday 28th January	7.30 pm	Peter McAleer (MM).
Saturday 29th January	10.00 am	Private Intention.
Sunday 30th January	9.00 am	Mass for the People.
	11.30 am	Ellen McKeron; James and Ellen Grimes.

Church of St Patrick, Drumduff

Wednesday 26th January 9.00 am Cassie McCullagh.

Church of St Malachy, Seskinore

Monday 24th January 7.30 pm 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 1, 3, 5, 12 and 21. No jackpot winner this week but the £50 share went to Seamus O'Keefe, Aaron Duffy and Connie Bishop. Next week's jackpot is £13,250 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 Wellbeing Sub Committee are inviting all Club members, friends and family to take part in a five week walking challenge. This challenge began during the week - in order to complete the challenge our Club must walk 400 kms. So every step our Club members walk counts.

A Hatha Yoga course with Amy Conway will begin on Monday 7th February at 7.00 pm in Beragh Community Hub. Hatha Yoga is a practice that involves breathing, yoga poses and mediation. Open to all age groups, the course will be £30 which can be paid on the first night. Due to COVID restrictions the class must be booked to secure your space.

On Tuesday 8th February at 6.30 pm in Beragh Community Hub, beginner Irish lessons are taking place. The programme will last 6 weeks and is open to all age groups.

Follow our club social media pages to keep up to date.

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.beraghpriest.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