

10<sup>th</sup> January 2021 **Dungiven Parish Bulletin** No 1564

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#### MESSAGE FROM NORTHERN BISHOPS

Following further briefing today by the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Officer, and in consultation with The Executive Office, we are very concerned at the current serious public health position in which Northern Ireland finds itself: with the extremely high level of transmission of the Covid-19 virus; the continuing escalation of numbers in hospital and intensive care; the number of associated deaths; and, the increasingly unsustainable pressure on our healthcare staff. The clear message from health officials is that this situation is going to worsen significantly over the coming weeks. We recognise the efforts of so many in our parishes who have been working to ensure that our gatherings for public worship are as safe as possible and we welcome the continuing engagement between the faith communities and the NI Executive which has led to consensus between us on the importance of people being able to gather in person for worship. At this time, however, we acknowledge and support the unequivocal message from public health authorities that the movement and gathering of people should be minimised and that as many people as possible *stay at home* for the sake of health, life and the Common Good.

In light of our ongoing consultations and of the current serious and worsening situation, and in line with clear public health guidance that people should *stay at home*, we have decided that for a limited period from midnight on Thursday 7 January until Saturday 6 February 2021, subject to review in late January, the celebration of the Eucharist and other liturgies should take place without the physical presence of the faithful - with the exception of marriage, funeral,

baptismal liturgies and drive-in services (subject to regulations). Arrangements for recording and/or live streaming, and making individual visits for private prayer are also permissible in accordance with regulations. We encourage parishes, where possible, to continue to broadcast the celebration of Mass - and other devotions and prayer services - online and on other media, knowing that faith and prayer can be a tremendous support to individuals and society during these difficult times.

We make this decision reluctantly, conscious that not being able to gather for public worship can cause pain for all the faithful, but in the hope that this limited period of sacrifice will be for the protection of life and health and for the greater good of all. We once more ask for prayers for the sick, the bereaved and all those whose livelihoods have been particularly impacted by the pandemic. We keep in our prayers all health workers, carers, chaplains and other essential workers. We welcome the announcement that a similar position is being taken by the leaders of the Church of Ireland, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Methodist Church in Ireland and many other denominations and faith communities in response to the unequivocal message from public health authorities that as many people as possible stay at home at this time.

**Most Rev Eamon Martin DD,**

*Archbishop of Armagh & Primate of All-Ireland*

*Apostolic Administrator of Dromore*

**Most Rev Noel Treanor DD**

*Bishop of Down and Connor*

**Most Rev Donal McKeown DD**

*Bishop of Derry*

**Most Rev Larry Duffy DD**

*Bishop of Clogher*

**Most Rev Michael Ruter DD**

*Auxiliary Bishop of Armagh*

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

**St. Patrick's:** Sat. Vigil 6.00 pm.

Sun. 9.00 am. & 11.30 am.

*Via the webcam.*

**WEEKDAY MASSES: ST. PATRICK'S**

Monday - Saturday 10.00 am.

*Via the webcam.*

***Please sanitize your hands when you come into the chapel for private prayer.***

**THE LATE FR. MICHAEL MULLAN**

Mass will be offered for the late Fr. Michael Mullan at a suitable date when churches re-open.

**MONTHS MIND MASS**

For Gertie McCloskey on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 6.00 pm. in St. Patrick's Church. Via the webcam.

**CONFESSIONS: ST. PATRICK'S:** *There will be no confessions until further notice.*

**THE ROSARY:** Mon. - Sat. at 9.35 am. in St. Patrick's Church via the webcam.

**BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL**

The Blessed Sacrament Chapel is open for private prayer. **Please note! Only 4 persons allowed in the chapel at any one time.** Seats/chairs has been marked/placed were you must sit, please do not move the chairs.

***Please sanitize your hands when you come into the chapel for private prayer.***



**BAPTISMS** - There will be no baptisms until February.

† **DEATHS** - We extend our sympathy to the Gunn/McHenry family circle on the death of Mary Kathleen Gunn, Bradagh fold. May she rest in peace.

**PRIEST'S COLLECTION: £1,903**

**CAROL SERVICE COLLECTION: £1,455**

*Thank you to all who contributed.*

**MONTHS MIND & ALL ANNIVERSARY MASSES**

Can be celebrated at any of the online Masses (including weekends) **during lockdown.** *Please book through the parish office.*

**SCRIPTURE MEDITATION:**

Invitation to join online for a 20 minute gentle meditation each Monday at 7.00 pm. beginning 11<sup>th</sup> January. Please go to mcmedia.tv open St. Patrick's Church and click on the Blessed Sacrament link.

**RE: ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH, DRUMSURN**

Preparations are under way for necessary work of repair and extension to St. Matthew's Church, Drumsurn; these construction works will be the subject of tender action in the coming month.

Building Contractors who wish to be considered for inclusion in the tender action should provide, in the first instance, the following information to F. M. Corr and Associates, Chartered Architects, via email to [info.fmcrr@gmail.com](mailto:info.fmcrr@gmail.com), not later than Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021:

Company name and address, contact number, and email address.

**BENEDY CENTRE**

CSR One Day Training course on Sat. 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan. & Sat. 6<sup>th</sup> Feb. Contact Mary on 777 43737 or 0784 330 5959 to secure your place.

**KEVIN LYNCH H. C.**

*Lotto No's: (22<sup>nd</sup> Dec.) 1, 11, 26 & 27. Lucky Dip: Geraldine Steele.*

*Lotto No's: (29<sup>th</sup> Dec.) 9, 16, 23 & 24. Lucky Dip: Anne McCloskey.*

*Lotto No's: (5<sup>th</sup> Jan.) 2, 5, 11 & 12. Lucky Dip: Davy McCloskey. Jackpot £2,625.*

**S.V.P. - HELPLINE: 079 279 299 23**