

31st January 2021 **Dungiven Parish Bulletin** No 1567

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SUNDAY MASS TIMES

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

Sun. 9.00 am. & 11.30 am.

Via the webcam.

FEASTS THIS WEEK

St. Brigid, Secondary patron of Ireland. – Mon. 1st Feb. *Crosses will be blessed via the webcam.*

Presentation of the Lord – Tues. 2nd Feb. *Candles will be blessed via the webcam.*

St. Blaise – Wed. 3rd Feb. *Blessing of Throats will be blessed 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.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY MASS

For Francie Brolly on Sat. 6th Feb. at 10.00 am. 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.*



BAPTISMS - Will take place in St. Patrick's Church on the following dates: **Feb. Sun. 7th. Sat. 13th, 20th & 27th. March: Sun. 7th. Sat. 13th, 20th & 27th.** (Sun. at 12.15 pm. and 4.30 pm. on a Sat.) *Drumsumn & Gortmaghey by arrangement, contact the parish office.*

- **Two weeks notice must be given.**
- **Only 10 persons (including children) per family in the church.**
- **There will be only individual baptisms.**

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

ST. PADRE PIO - HEALING MASS

Will take place on **Tuesday 2nd Feb. at 7.00 pm.** in St. Patrick's Church.

Via the webcam.

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION - Invitation to join online for a 20 minute gentle meditation each Monday at 7.00 pm. Please go to menmedia.tv open St. Patrick's Church and click on the Blessed Sacrament link.

DUNGIVEN PARISH: MISSIONARY OUTREACH TRUST

Under the guidance and direction of the Parish Finance Committee. We have set one third of the proceeds of the sale of the Tracey Farm into a Trust called "Dungiven Parish Missionary Outreach Trust". This Trust will generate £50,000 each year. Applications are invited for a share of this money from Charities working in the Third World and at home between **January 31st and March 31st 2020.** Applicants, on the approval of the Trustees, will receive donations from the Trust until the £50,000 is all distributed. For further information and application forms contact the parish office.

COVID 19 VACCINATION

Vaccination for the coronavirus is available now to book online.

KEVIN LYNCH H. C. - Lotto No's: 4, 8, 10 & 22. Lucky Dip: Ciaran Smyth. Jackpot £2,700.

CHILDREN IN CROSSFIRE'S ADVENT APPEAL - Donations can now be left at the Parish Office.

THE EAGLE THE TIGER AND COVID

Imaging God and Re-Calling Ireland

This book has been written by Carl Bradley and Fr. Neal Carlin. Copies are available at the parish office. Price £10.

CONFIRMATION 2021

Confirmation has been cancelled for the month of March. It will now take place on the weekend 18th – 20th June. Times will be arranged nearer the date depending on our Churches being open. After Consulting with our five Primary Schools, it was agreed that all Children should wear their School uniform for Confirmation this year.

LAST WEEKS COLLECTION: £1,733

Thank you to all who contributed.

GLENSHANE HOUSE

Winding Roe Magazine 2020 edition. If anyone would like a copy of the magazine and are unable to get to the shops we can forward by post. Tel: 028 777 42494.

If anyone has a bound copy of the old Benbradagh magazines entitled The Second Book of Dungiven that they wish to sell Tel: 028 777 42494.

ST. JOSEPH CONTINUED

A father "in the shadows," centered on Mary and Jesus

Taking a cue from The Shadow of the Father – a book by Polish writer Jan Dobraczyński – Pope Francis describes Joseph's fatherhood of Jesus as "the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father."

"Fathers are not born, but made," says Pope Francis. "A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child." Unfortunately, in today's society, children "often seem orphans, lacking fathers" who are able to introduce them "to life and reality." Children, the Pope says, need fathers who will not try to dominate them, but instead raise them to be "capable of deciding for themselves, enjoying freedom and exploring new possibilities."

This is the sense in which St Joseph is described as a "most chaste" father, which is the opposite of domineering possessiveness. Joseph, says Pope Francis, "knew how to love with extraordinary freedom. He never made himself the centre of things. He did not think

of himself, but focused instead on the lives of Mary and Jesus."

Happiness for Joseph involved a true gift of self: "In him, we never see frustration, but only trust," writes Pope Francis. "His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust." Joseph stands out, therefore, as an exemplary figure for our time, in a world that "needs fathers," and not "tyrants"; a society that "rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction."

True fathers, instead, "refuse to live the lives of their children for them," and instead respect their freedom. In this sense, says Pope Francis, a father realizes that "he is most a father and an educator at the point when he becomes 'useless,' when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied." Being a father, the Pope emphasizes, "has nothing to do with possession, but is rather a 'sign' pointing to a greater fatherhood": that of the "heavenly Father" (7).

A daily prayer to St Joseph... and a challenge
In his letter, Pope Francis notes how, "Every day, for over forty years, following Lauds [Morning Prayer]" he has "recited a prayer to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary." This prayer, he says, expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to Saint Joseph," on account of its closing words: "My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power." At the conclusion of his Letter, he adds another prayer to St Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray together:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.