

14<sup>th</sup> March 2021 **Dungiven Parish Bulletin** No 1573

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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.*

#### SOLEMNITY OF ST. PATRICK Wed. 17<sup>th</sup> March.

*This is a Holy Day of Obligation.*

St. Patrick's: Tues. Vigil 7.00 pm. Wed. 10.00 am. & 11.00 am.

*(The 11.00 am. Mass will be in Irish)*

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

St. Patrick's: Mon. 10.00 am. & 7.30 pm. Tues. 7.00 am. & 10.00 am. Vigil 7.00 pm. Wed. 10.00 & 11.00 am. & 7.30 pm. Thurs. 7.00 am. & 10.00 am. Fri. & Sat. 10.00 am.

#### FIRST ANNIVERSARY MASSES

For John Brolly on Fri. 19<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00 am. in St. Patrick's. For Jacqueline O'Hara on Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> March at 11.30 am. in St. Patrick's. *Via the webcam.*

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

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St. Patrick's: Friday after 10.00 am. Mass.  
*No Stations of the Cross on Wednesday.*



**BAPTISMS** - We welcome into our Christian Community: Joseph Francis McCloskey, Teavin Road.

**BAPTISMS** - Will take place in St. Patrick's Church on the following dates: **March: Sat. 27<sup>th</sup>. April: Sun. 4<sup>th</sup>, Sat. 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>.**

† **DEATHS** – We extend our sympathy to the Murphy/McGonigle family circle on the death of Desmond Murphy, Claudy. May he rest in peace.

**TROCAIRE BOXES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.**



**Happy Mother's Day  
to all our Mothers.**



#### WALKING WITH JESUS ALONG THE VIA DOLOROSA

#### SUNDAY LENTEN PROGRAMME

Please join us at **3.00 pm. via our webcam.** *Please use the leaflet that accompanied last weeks bulletin.*

**PRIEST COLLECTION LAST WEEK: £2,178**

**HOLY SHRINES COLLECTION: £465**

*Thank you to all who contributed.*

*Please Note: There is an envelope in your box for Wed. 17<sup>th</sup> March for Clerical Education and Ongoing Formation.*

**KEVIN LYNCH H. C. Lotto No's: 4, 10, 11 & 19. Lucky Dip: Séan Kelly. Jackpot £2,850.**

#### Saint Patrick • 17 March

The Book of Armagh tells us that Patrick wished the Irish to have two phrases on their lips, Kyrie Eleison and Deo Gratias; Lord have mercy and Thanks be to God. It is between these two prayers that we will find the fullness of life – trusting in the forgiveness of the One who loves us and eternally grateful for everything.

*Early Irish Saints – John J. Ó Riordáin CSsR*

**Confession of Patrick** • I am Patrick, a sinner, the most rustic and least of all the faithful, the most contemptible in the eyes of a great many people. My father was Calpornius, a deacon and the son of the presbyter Potitus. He came from the village of Bannaventaberniae where he had a country residence nearby. It was there that I was taken captive. I was almost sixteen at the time and I did not know the true God. I was taken into captivity to Ireland with many thousands of people. We deserved this fate because we had turned away from God; we neither kept his commandments nor obeyed our priests who used to warn us about our salvation. The Lord's fury bore down on us and he scattered us among many heathen peoples, even to the ends of the earth. This is where I now am, in all my insignificance, among strangers. Taken from *Patrick in his Own Words*, Bishop Joseph Duffy.

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

#### 14 MARCH 2021 • LAETARE SUNDAY

1. Jesus speaks of himself being lifted up, a term that can mean a physical lifting, or also exaltation. By this play on words the evangelist explains to us that Jesus' gift of himself in the passion was a glorious revelation of love, despite all its injustice and brutality. Bring to mind occasions when the love shown by Jesus in his passion was a sacrament of God's love for you.

2. It would be very cushy for us if we could be a source of life to others without cost to ourselves. True life-givers know that they need the generosity of being lifted up by giving their lives so that others may have life. Recall when you have had that generosity and give thanks for others who have been like that for you.

3. We receive life from God when our faith enables us to trust in God's love for us. We give life to one another when the love between us is trustworthy. Recall memories of that kind of trustworthy love. For whom have you been able to be a 'Jesus person' and give a love that another could trust? Who has shown that kind of love to you and been for you a sacrament of God's love?

#### WORDS (FR. JOSEPH VARGHESE)

We celebrate the feast of St Joseph on 19<sup>th</sup> March and this feast invites us to meditate about Saint Joseph. Joseph was a humble carpenter about whom we know few details. We depend on snippets of information to help us build a mental picture of him. Joseph was a descendant of David. He followed the Law assiduously and was guided by its teachings and the instructions of those in authority. Joseph was betrothed to a young woman named Mary and was preparing for marriage. He received a great shock when Mary told him the story of the annunciation. After serious thoughts he decided that to divorce her quietly would be the best course of action. Before this happened, he had a dream in which an angel appeared to him and explained the situation. Joseph accepted this and took Mary as his wife. Doubtless there were numerous remarks from those around, but no word of complaint from Joseph about this. However, an angel appeared to him in a dream and explained God's plan for Mary

and him and he agreed to marry Mary irrespective of what anyone thought or said. He just accepted that this was God's plan and that he should be guided by it.

When we reflect on the dilemma facing Joseph we realise that he must have been an upright man, someone well versed in Jewish Scripture and filled with discernment about interpreting them. The message given to Mary was by the Angel Gabriel. She was aware of a presence; for Joseph, his message came in a dream. He could have dismissed this as just that, a senseless dream. In terms of the psychology at work one could dismiss it as a subconscious reflection of his fear following Mary's disclosure. There might be a case for thinking that his dream was just the anxiety over what he should do. However, his natural anxiety would have been to 'send her away quietly' (Mt. 1:19). But, in the dream the very opposite is proposed. Joseph through his deeply held religious gift of discernment is able to read the dream as divine intervention. We should not underestimate the importance of the decision Joseph has to make. He is being chosen as part of some divine plan that is beyond his comprehension. The Angel addresses him as 'Joseph, son of David' surely a confirmation of the biblical dimension of the task he is asked to fulfil. 'Do not be afraid' he is assured, the same words spoken to Mary, 'to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit' (Mt.1: 20)

In the course of the dream Joseph is instructed with the 'fatherly' task of naming the child; 'Mary will bear a son, and you shall call him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins'. (Mt.1: 21) This is the same name the angel Gabriel indicated to Mary should be the name of the child, thus confirming for Joseph the authenticity of his dream experience. Let us call upon Saint Joseph, for the world, trusting that the heart of the humble workingman of Nazareth.

**Faithful St. Joseph:** Teach us to listen and not be afraid to trust as you did in God's promise.

**Loving St. Joseph:** Teach us to love courageously with a heart that is free and just.

**Protector St. Joseph:** Teach us to protect one another and all that belongs to God.

**Dreamer St. Joseph:** Teach us to dream a world where all are neighbours; a vision illuminated by God's light.

**Teacher t. Joseph:** Teach us to keep the Word of God close to our hearts, and to proclaim it in word and action.