

Beragh Parish Bulletin



Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday

28th March 2021

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Parish Office Opening Hours

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



Dear Parishioner and Gentle Reader,

Today we begin the celebrations of Holy Week with the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. This Sunday is called Palm Sunday signifying royalty and triumph; it is also called Passion Sunday signifying suffering and love. This is a week that swings from one extreme to another: Jesus is praised but very shortly he will be rebuked; voices of cheers shouting “Hosanna” soon become voices of jeers shouting “Crucify him”.

As we begin this special week, we recall the last painful days of Jesus, the man who was rejected, betrayed and abandoned. Holy Week brings us to the hill of Calvary on the outskirts of Jerusalem. Calvary is a place of brutality. It is the place of crucifixion where criminals were put to death, suspended on beams of wood and left to die for all the world to see.

Every year, the story of Jesus' suffering and death strikes a deep chord within us. As we remember his passion and crucifixion, and are moved by it, we should think of all suffering people - people we know and people we will never meet. We remember in a particular way all who are suffering from the coronavirus pandemic, we think of refugees driven from their homeland, we call to mind the women of South Sudan, who feature on this year's Trocaire box and we imagine countless families living in abject poverty. All of these are walking their own '*via dolorosa*' or '*way of suffering*' with Christ. May we walk in solidarity with them.

During this special week we are invited to look closely at Jesus - Holy Week is a week to be pondered. Every life is mirrored in the people and the events of this last week in the life of Jesus: the adulation of Palm Sunday; the leave-taking of Holy Thursday; the private Gethsemanes of anguish and fear; moments of Judas betrayals, Peter denials, the humiliations before Pilate and Herod; the abandonment of Good Friday; the clamour of the crowd demanding execution. And finally, the resignation and letting go: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit".

The pattern and the events of these days have been repeated often in the course of world history and in the experience of our own individual lives. This week gives us an opportunity to come in to contact with the power of the Passion and to be transformed from competitiveness to compassion, from fickleness to fidelity, from anxiety about the future to awe about the present.

At Three O'Clock

At three o'clock each afternoon I say a special prayer,
that God will keep my dear ones in his ever-loving care.

Because at three o'clock he died, one Friday long ago.

And there were those who did not weep and those who did not know.

I pray for relatives and friends who now have passed away,
and all who are silent echoes of a distant yesterday.

It may be Sunday, Monday or the last day of the week,
as I petition God to give the favour that I seek.

But every day at three o'clock I say that special prayer,
that he will keep my dear ones in his ever-loving care.

With every blessing for a holy week, Monsignor Colum.

Arrangements for Holy Week and Easter in Beragh Parish 2021

During the coming week all Masses and Ceremonies, which will be streamed on the webcam, will be celebrated without the presence of a congregation.

However, people who have no recent symptoms of covid related illness, are welcome to attend Mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beragh on Easter Sunday, 4th April at 9.00 am or 11.30 am.

Monday 29 th March	Masses 7.00 am and 9.00 am.
Tuesday 30 th March	Masses 7.00 am and 9.00 am.
Wednesday 31 st March	Masses 7.00 am and 9.00 am. Chrism Mass St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh (streamed only) 7.30 pm.
Thursday 1 st April	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30 pm.
Friday 2 nd April	Good Friday Ceremonies 3.00 pm. Stations of the Cross 7.30 pm.
Saturday 3 rd April	Holy Saturday Vigil (without Mass) 7.30 pm.
Sunday 4 th April	Public Mass 9.00 am. Public Mass 11.30 am.

Holy Week Ceremonies on RTE

Full schedule of streamed liturgies

Palm Sunday 28th March - RTÉ One / Radio 1 Extra / LW252 11.00 am.

Mass: Cathedral of SS. Patrick and Felim - Bishop Martin Hayes -
<https://www.churchservices.tv/cavancathedral> Monday - 29th March RTÉ News Channel, 10.30 am.

Holy Family Church, Ardfinnan, Co Tipperary - Fr Michael Toomey -
<https://www.churchservices.tv/ardfinnan> Tuesday - 30th March RTÉ News Channel, 10.30 am.

Mary Immaculate Refuge of Sinners, Rathmines Dublin - Fr Andrew O'Sullivan - <https://www.churchservices.tv/maryimmacdublin> Wednesday - 31st March RTÉ News Channel, 10.30 am.

The Star of the Sea Church, Riverchapel, Courtown, Wexford - Fr Tom Dalton - <https://www.churchservices.tv/riverchapel> Holy Thursday - 1st April RTÉ One, 16.40 (repeated Radio 1 Extra / LW252, 1900).

Fr Martin Smith (Carlow IT) with members of RTÉ Cor Linn Good Friday - 2nd April RTÉ One / Radio 1 Extra / LW252, 15.00 -16.00.

Solemn Liturgy for Good Friday from Knock Basilica. There is also a liturgy in Irish at the same time on Raidio na Gaeltachta. Holy Saturday - 3rd April RTÉ One / Radio 1 Extra / LW252, 23.00-00.15.

Easter Vigil Mass from Knock Basilica. Easter Sunday 4th April Live Mass 1000 to 1100, Pre rx Service 11.00 to 11.45 RTE News Special:

Easter 1916 Commemoration 11.55/12.00 to 12.25.

Pope's Easter Blessing - Urbi et Orbi - 12.25/12.30 to 12.55/13.00.

Easter Message from Archbishop Eamon Martin

For the second year running, Holy Week and Easter will be celebrated under the shadow of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite these challenges I wish you every blessing as we enter into this celebration of the Paschal mystery which stands at the centre of the Good News that we proclaim to the world.

Conscious that parishes here in the North are free in the coming days to make a **“cautious return”** to public worship, whilst those in the South are still under restriction, I invite you to join in prayer for each other and for all those struggling during these difficult times. The readings and prayers of the liturgy will speak into the darkness of these days, while offering the hope of resurrection and new life.

I encourage those who will be unable to attend the ceremonies in person, to follow the liturgy online from a local church or on radio or television.

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated by myself, Bishop Michael and the Vicars General in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, on Spy Wednesday 31st March at 7.30 pm, available via Armagh Parish Cathedral webcam at www.armaghparish.net.

Given the ongoing uncertainty about the public health situation and the gradual lifting of restrictions, it will be necessary for every parish and school to give careful consideration as to how the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation can be celebrated in a safe and appropriate manner. This includes ensuring that all the necessary catechetical preparations are made, rigorous risk assessments are undertaken and, where necessary, ceremonies are significantly reduced in scale.

It is important for all of us to be mindful of our health and to abide by all health authority guidance and government restrictions. I know that this has been a tough time for all of you. Thank you once more for all that you are doing. Please remember me in your prayers as Easter approaches.

Yours sincerely, Eamon Martin Archbishop of Armagh

Trócaire

Trócaire needs our help more than ever. Owing to the current restrictions it will be difficult for all boxes to be returned in the normal way during the Easter ceremonies. The Government this year has agreed to match-fund all donations that are received by Trócaire NI. There is, however, a cut-off date, so we are asked to ensure that donations are returned to the parish in the coming weeks of April early May.

Easter Holy Water

Holy Water will be available after Mass on Easter Sunday and during Easter Week. Please feel free to collect a bottle from Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beragh.

Grant them Eternal Rest, O Lord

All names on the Parish Dead List

Recently Deceased: Ellen Jane Conroy; Barney McKillion, Annie Conway.

Church of Immaculate Conception, Beragh

Sunday 28th March	11.30 am	Margaret and Joe Franey; Thomas and Kathleen Connolly and Mona Gallagher.
	7.00 pm	Lenten Devotions.
Monday 29th March	7.00 am	Private Intention.
	9.00 am	Private Intention.
Tuesday 30th March	7.00 am	Private Intention.
	9.00 am	Private Intention.
Wednesday 31st March	7.00 am	Private Intention.
	9.00 am	Private Intention.
	7.30 pm	Chrism Mass St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh (streamed only).

Thursday 1st April **7.30 pm** Barney McNelis.
(Mass of the Lord's Supper)

Friday 2nd April **3.00 pm** Ceremonies.
(Good Friday) **7.30 pm** Stations of the Cross.

Saturday 3rd April **7.30 pm** Vigil (without Mass).
(Holy Saturday)

Sunday 4th April **9.00 am** Ronan Kerr.

11.30 am Ellen Jane Conroy (MM);

Danny McDonald;

Barney O'Neill;

George, Brigid and Fr Sean McCartan.

Oratory, Sixmilecross

The Rosary and Masses from the Oratory are available on You Tube. Search for "sixmilecross oratory youtube".

Congratulations

We welcome into our Community, through the Sacrament of Baptism,
Dylan Francis McCabe.

Parish Finances and Covid 19

It is over a year since we first heard of Coronavirus. I don't think anybody could have predicted, back then, the impact it would have on all aspects of our lives.

Apart from the devastating effect of Covid related deaths and sickness, many people have suffered economically while others have struggled with a whole range of financial challenges.

All the more reason why I want to thank sincerely those parishioners who continued to offer their financial support by returning their envelopes, and in many cases backdating their contributions. I also include the growing number of parishioners who have opted to pay by standing order or direct debit.

It is understandable that the parish income for the past twelve months has been severely affected, especially when people were advised to stay at home and, for long periods of time, could not attend Mass. Unfortunately, there was no

reprieve for service utilities like water, oil and insurance, along with other sundry parish expenses.

New envelopes will be distributed shortly throughout the parish. Therefore, I am gently reminding parishioners, if you can, to complete outstanding envelopes from the current box and return them to Beragh chapel in the coming weeks. I would encourage parishioners to consider the advantages of online giving and I would remind everyone of the enormous benefit to the parish of signing up for GIFT aid. The relevant forms are available from the parish office.

Once again, I want to thank everyone who contributes in any way to the upkeep of the parish, especially in these challenging times. It is my prayer that ‘the Lord who sees all that is done in secret’ will reward you abundantly.

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

Lenten Devotions

People are invited to take part in Lenten Devotions on Sunday evening at 7.00 pm and Stations of the Cross on Friday evening at 7.30 pm by logging into the webcam page and selecting Mobile Camera at the bottom left.

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.

Divine Mercy Novena

Divine Mercy Novena commences on Good Friday, 2nd April, and concludes on Mercy Sunday, 11th April.

Holy Mass at 3.00 pm in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beragh. Celebrant is Fr McCallion. Chaplet recited before Mass.

Novena leaflets can be picked up at the back of all the clustering chapels.

If government restrictions are not lifted, it will be live streamed.

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.

Year of Reflection and Prayer

The ‘Year of Reflection and Prayer’, which was launched last January to begin the process of pastoral planning in the diocese, was due to conclude at the end of this month. Due, however, to the Covid-19 pandemic and to the ongoing restrictions on movement and gathering, the Pastoral Team has decided to extend this period of reflection until the end of June.

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