

Beragh Parish Bulletin



32nd Sunday Year B

7th November 2021

Parish Priest Mgr Colum Curry PP VG

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Cardinal MacRory Pastoral Area

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Fr P Hannigan 028 8776 1211

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Parish Office Opening Hours

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



Dear Parishioner and Gentle Reader,

In today's readings - in the First Reading from the Book of Kings and then in St Mark's Gospel - we meet two women who are remembered for their generosity. From out of their extreme poverty, they gave everything they had. The widow woman in the Gospel who lived in a male dominated society would have been very vulnerable, without a husband to support her. So, by right she would have needed to hold on to the few coppers she had. Yet she didn't hesitate and very discreetly, as she thought, slipped in her two small coins.

And forever she takes her place in the Gospel, not because of the amount she gave, but because of the extraordinary generosity with which she gave it.

We might be inclined to think then that today's readings are about making sacrifices and giving to others and being generous and good natured - and that would be right, they are about all those things, but I think they also have to do with attitude and seeing life from a different perspective. The gospel incident is linked with Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom of God and the reversal of world standards. It reminds us that Jesus uses a separate yardstick and a different value system. It calls to mind the truth that money cannot buy everything we need. Money can buy a house but not a home. Money can buy a bed but not sleep. Money can buy medicine but not health. Money can buy cosmetics but not beauty. Money can buy books but not wisdom. Money can buy luxuries but not happiness.

And I like the story of the football club who were overjoyed when they heard that somebody was going to make them a donation of £10,000. But they got a shock when the cheque arrived - the name of the club was specified and the amount was mentioned but there was no name and no signature on the cheque because the donor wanted to remain anonymous!

With every blessing, Monsignor Colum

Trocaire East Africa hunger Crisis

A terrible hunger crisis is raging across East Africa, driven by escalating climate change, swarms of desert locusts and the Covid-19 pandemic. Over 30 million children, women and men are being pushed into starvation. People and livestock are dying. Without emergency food and aid, many more will not survive. Lives depend on our ability to reach them. Trocaire staff are on the ground in the worst-hit regions. They are rushing emergency assistance into devastated communities to keep people alive, but the human suffering is enormous. The Irish Bishops Conference has agreed for an Emergency Collection to be taken up this weekend to help Trocaire at this difficult time. In Beragh Parish we will donate the regular weekly collection to this cause, and if anyone would like to make a further donation, please help if you can. We will be making our returns after next Sunday.

Pathways - Adult Faith Development Programme

Two-year, part-time course, now enrolling for 2021-2023 intake. Have you ever thought about exploring your faith... or wished that you could broaden your understanding of your faith? Would you like to explore, discuss and reflect upon issues and questions of faith, the Church, and how to link faith to life? If the answer is "yes", then Pathways may be for you. The course runs one Saturday per month (10.00 am - 4.30 pm) from October to June, either in-house at Drumalis, Larne or online via Zoom.

Consider Your Call - Priesthood - QUB Chaplaincy 11th November

Consider Your Call - Priesthood is the first in an exciting line-up of events aimed at encouraging and supporting young people as they discover more about the definite service God may be calling them to. The project, entitled 'It's Your Call', will be complemented by a suite of online resources to help us learn more about vocation. Over the coming months, the 'It's Your Call' platform will look at five key pathways in life: Single, Married, Ordained, Religious and Consecrated - not just priesthood!

If you would like to learn more about priesthood, or simply support those who are considering this vocation, why not come along to *Consider Your Call - Priesthood* in the Catholic Chaplaincy, Queen's University Belfast on Thursday 11th November 2021 at 6.00 pm after 5.15 pm Mass. This project is supported by the Northern Area Committee of the Knights of St Columbanus and is open to people from any diocese.

Support the Benedictine Community

Buy your Christmas gifts at the shop of Holy Cross Abbey, 119 Kilbroney Road, Rostrevor, Co. Down BT34 3BN.

Candles and Soaps made by the monks, Books and a range of different gifts.

Shop opens 9.00 am - 11.00 am and 2.30 pm - 5.00 pm

www.benedictinemonks.co.uk

SMA Sponsorship

Due to the current COVID restrictions, the Annual Mass cannot be held this year. Therefore, please forward your annual subscription to your Head Sponsor.

Anyone willing to sponsor the education of a Missionary Priest for £10 minimum a year, please contact Rosemary (02880 758 616); Katrina (07787 561 422); Kathleen (02880 757 095) or Josie (02880 758 901).

November Dead List

The November Dead List forms are available at the back of the Chapel. These can be completed and returned by Friday 26th November. During the coming year, Mass will be offered each month for those people, and they will be prayed for every Sunday.

Beragh Parish Pastoral Council

In the past, Beragh parish has been well served by many people who worked on various Parish Councils and more recently on the Parish Pastoral Council. I want to pay tribute to those men and women and pray for those who are now deceased. In light of the Synodal Process referred to in Archbishop Eamon Martin's Pastoral Letter of last week, it is important that each parish has an active Pastoral Council. Therefore, I would like to encourage the formation of a Pastoral Council for Beragh Parish and I would be grateful to hear from parishioners who might like to be considered for this role. Before Covid 19, we had made some attempts to begin the process, but unfortunately that had to be postponed.

Very shortly there will be training and formation provided for those who might be interested in learning more, without any obligation. Please submit your name and contact details to the parish office beragparochial@btinternet.com before Friday 3rd December.

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.

Upcoming Events

Dromantine Retreat and Conference Centre

The following directed retreat and workshops will be led by Father Hugh Lagan SMA in November 2021. The retreat and workshops are open to everyone. Spaces are limited and the centre will operate in full compliance with all public health regulations.

Broken Open - How Difficult Times Can Help Us Grow (19 - 21 November £200/€230).

Mount St Anne's Retreat and Conference Centre, Co. Laois - Autumn Courses Online

All Courses are at 19.00 - 21.00 (Irish Time) on ZOOM

To book a place please email ceo@mountstannes.com

Celtic Spirituality: What is it? Has it any significance for life today?

November 10, 17, 24 (Michael Drumm).

There is a lot of talk today about Celtic Spirituality. But the question arises - what exactly is it? Does such a spirituality exist? Is it anything more than romantic nostalgia for a dead past? Who were the Celts? Can we access their spiritual insights?

During this course some characteristics of Celtic life will be identified which might legitimately form the foundations for a renewed Celtic spirituality today.

€100 for full course.

Exploring the Synodal Pathway: The Ongoing Reception of Vatican II

November 11, 18, 25 (Janet Forbes and Oonagh O'Brien).

This course will explore the upcoming Synod as the continuation of the Second Vatican Council with a particular focus on the Spirituality of Synodality; the participation of all, especially young people, and the need for structures and resources to support the local church.

Janet Forbes and Oonagh O'Brien featuring Sr Nathalie Becquart and Rafael Luciani. €100 for full course.

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.

Fundraising Update - Trócaire

In the coming weeks and months, it is possible that a Trócaire fundraiser may call to your home inviting monthly donations. Fundraising representatives will be wearing Trócaire blue branded jackets and face masks and will adhere to COVID compliance guidelines to ensure safety measures are met.

The door-to-door campaign allows us to reach people who have not donated to our Lenten appeal and also gives people the choice to donate in different ways. Monthly donations help Trócaire to plan ahead and have greater impact with the communities we exist to serve.

PS If you would like to contact Trócaire directly on any matter related to this initiative, you can contact Louise Walker on 00353 5053 225 or louise.walker@trocaire.org

Summary of Beragh Parish Collections

Weekly Envelopes: £675.62

Other Collections

Candles: £ 72.57

Building Fund: £ 58.00

Priest's Dues: £ 45.00

Total: £851.19

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: Conor Montague.

Church of Immaculate Conception, Beragh

- Sunday 7th November** **9.00 am** Mass for the People.
- 11.30 am** Seamus Donnelly;
 Mary Ann Owens.
- Tuesday 9th November** **9.00 am** Private Intention.
- Wednesday 10th November** **7.30 pm** Darryl Thompson.
- Thursday 11th November** **7.30 pm** Private Intention.
- Saturday 13th November** **10.00 am** Mick McAleer and deceased members
 of the McAleer Family.
- Sunday 14th November** **9.00 am** Mass for the People.
- 11.30 am** Thomas and Kathleen Connolly and
 Mona Gallagher;
 Sean Donnelly;
 Fr Arthur McAnerney;
 Maureen and Hugh Colton;
 Mona McCann and Mary McCartan;
 Joe Doherty;
 Seamus and Liam Heaney.

Church of St Malachy, Seskinore

- Monday 8th November** **7.30 pm** Willie and Lucy McElhatton and
 deceased members of the McMullan
 Family (Letfern).

Church of St Patrick, Drumduff

- Friday 12th November** **7.30 pm** Hanna and Mickey Ward.

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.

Youthscape Programme

Are you, or do you know of, someone aged 14 - 24 not in full-time education or work? Struggling to plan for the future, or just want to get out of the house? Youthscape is a 6-month, free, PEACE IV funded programme based in Enniskillen, Omagh, Dungannon and Donegal. Now accepting young people to start in November. Please ring 07557 178 162 or email marie.perrett@swc.ac.uk for more information.

Sponsored Indian Children

The Group wish to sincerely thank all those parishioners who continue to sponsor the education and the daily rice meal of a poor child in India.

We are proud to reach our 20th year sponsoring Indian children from Beragh Parish.

The total amount raised this year was £1,924.

If you would be interested in giving a donation, or to find out more information, please contact Kathleen on 02880 757 095.

Beragh Red Knights GAA

Last week's lotto numbers were 3, 14, 17, 29 & 30. No jackpot winner this week but the £50 goes to Peter Kelly (Loughmacrory), Terry Clarke and Gerard and Catherine McWilliams. Next week's jackpot is £12,700 and tickets can be bought online on Klubfunder [https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Beragh Red Knights GAA](https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Beragh_Red_Knights_GAA) or at local shops.

The U16 girls continue their league campaign this morning (Sunday) against Castledearg. Throw in at 11.00 am in Castledearg.

On Thursday (11th November) our Annual General meeting takes place in the pavilion at 8.00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

St Columbanus Award

Applications are invited for the St Columbanus Award - Sponsored by the Knight's of St Columbanus, Omagh.

The Award is open to individuals under 25 years of age, to groups from second level schools and colleges and groups from parishes within the area of Omagh Council.

Award aimed at projects which:

- (a) Encourage and inspire young people in the practice of their Catholic faith.
- (b) Develop leadership skills to encourage others to become more involved in their local community.
- (c) Reflects the ethos and Spirit of St Columbanus.

Application forms are available from: www.knightsofstcolumbanusomagh.co.uk

Closing date for completed applications: 20th November 2021.

Baxter School of Irish Dancing

Class continues for beginners and current pupils on Fridays (6.00 pm - 7.15 pm) in St Oliver Plunkett PS, Beragh. All new beginners are welcome.

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.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.

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