

Beragh Parish Bulletin



1st Sunday of Advent Year C

28th November 2021

Parish Priest Mgr Colum Curry PP VG

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Cardinal MacRory Pastoral Area

Priests of the Pastoral Area:

Mgr Colum Curry PP VG 028 8075 8206

Fr P Hannigan 028 8776 1211

Fr C Devenney 028 8555 7212

Fr M O'Dwyer 028 8555 7212

St Vincent DePaul Helpline: 07738 837 875

Parish Office Opening Hours

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



Dear Parishioner and Gentle Reader,

Today is the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of the Church's Liturgical Year. During the season of Advent, which runs from today until 24th December, we are preparing for the coming of Christ. While there is a tendency to concentrate on the Nativity as the celebration of Christ's historical coming into the world, I think it is important that we don't lose sight of the other aspects of his coming as well. During these days of Advent, we might reflect on the coming of Christ in a threefold way:

We commemorate the historical birth of Jesus as Son of God. "*The Word was made flesh and lived among us*". Jesus shared in our humanity so that we might share in his divinity.

We acknowledge the fact that Christ continues to come to us in mystery every day, especially in his Word and in his Sacraments. The Lord's abiding presence is with us and within us.

We look forward in hope to Christ's final coming at the end of time. The Lord will come again in glory and hand over the Kingdom to the Father.

In short - we celebrate Christ's coming in HISTORY at Bethlehem;
we celebrate Christ's coming in MYSTERY each day;
we celebrate Christ's coming in GLORY at the end of time.

In the meantime, society will propel us towards Christmas with alarming speed, giving us a regular countdown of the number of shopping days available. In the midst of all the many distractions, in addition to the concerns around Covid-19, we have to be careful not to miss 'the reason for the season'. As we acknowledge the annual slogan to - "*Put Christ back in to Christmas*", we have to be careful not to let our hearts "be coarsened" with "the cares of life".

With every blessing, Monsignor Colum.

9 Day Rosary Novena for Ireland

We are inviting you to join in a **9 Day Rosary Novena** beginning Tuesday 30th November and ending on Wednesday 8th December. People all over Ireland will pray the Rosary together each evening at 9.00 pm. On the final evening at 9.00 pm on Radio Maria the Primate of All Ireland Archbishop Eamon Martin will lead the final Rosary live.

If you are gathering to pray in groups we encourage you to gather safely - adhering to local Covid 19 regulations.

Lough Derg Online Shop

Lough Derg online shop offers unique Christmas Cards, featuring scenes of the Island from across the centuries and bespoke Gifts including a limited edition Lough Derg Christmas Candle. Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards are also available - Fr La, Prior, will offer a triduum of Masses beginning on Christmas Eve for all those who are enrolled. Visit www.loughderg.live/shop Telephone 071 9861 518. Delivery nationwide and Click & Collect Service available.

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.

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

‘Across The Hedgerow’ Project (NI)

Rural Support in partnership with Young Farmer Clubs of Ulster, launched the ‘**Across the Hedgerow**’ programme last year. This service provides older, vulnerable, and isolated members of the farming community with listening support and companionship via telephone calls. The aim is to improve the emotional wellbeing of the client. The winter months can be a very lonely and isolating time for older people; therefore, this service would provide them with the listening ear and companionship they need. If you know of any older individual, from a farming/rural community, who will benefit from this service please inform them of ‘**Across the Hedgerow**’.

The Rural Support Helpline: [0800 138 1678](tel:08001381678).

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.

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: £ 413

Loose Collection: £ 55

Other Collections

Mission Sunday: £ 70

Trócaire: £ 50

Candles: £ 150

Messenger: £ 132

Building Fund: £ 135

Priest's Dues: £ 40

Total: £1,045

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: Helen Kelly; Anne Dixon.

Church of Immaculate Conception, Beragh

Sunday 28th November **9.00 am** Mass for the People.
11.30 am Karen Rose Chand;
Maureen McClean;
Packie, Annie and Eileen Rodgers and
deceased members of the Rodgers
Family.

Tuesday 30th November **9.00 am** Private Intention.

Thursday 2nd December **9.00 am** Private Intention.

Friday 3rd December **9.00 am** Private Intention.

Saturday 4th December **10.00 am** Private Intention.

Sunday 5th December **9.00 am** Mass for the People.
11.30 am Sarah Logue;
Deborah Loughran.

Church of St Malachy, Seskinore

Monday 29th November **9.00 am** Private Intention.

Church of St Patrick, Drumduff

Monday 29th November **7.30 pm** Johnny Clarke.

Wednesday 1st December **9.00 am** Private Intention.

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.

Admissions 2022

Are you interested in joining our StOP family for Primary 1 or Nursery in September 2022?

We will be offering guided tours of our school for prospective parents on the week beginning Monday 6th December 2021.

Appointments are now available and can be booked by emailing the school on pmartin505@c2kni.net.

We look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school.

Beragh Red Knights GAA

Last week's lotto numbers were 6, 7, 19, 26 & 30. No jackpot winner this week but the £50 goes to Francis Farley. Next week's jackpot is £12,850 and tickets can be bought online on Klubfunder https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Beragh_Red_Knights_GAA or at local shops.

Today (Sunday) our Senior men are back in action. After last week's win against Aghaloo, the men travel to Killeeshil with throw in at 2.00 pm. With four teams set to drop down to division three, another win here will be a step closer for the men to secure their intermediate status.

Our indoor winter programme continues for the underage. If not already, we encourage all youth to attend.

The programme is as follows;

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| • U 9.5 Boys on Tuesday | 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm |
| • U13.5 Boys on Wednesday | 7.45 pm - 8.45 pm |
| • U14 Girls on Thursday | 6.15 pm - 7.15 pm |
| • U11.5 Boys on Thursday | 7.20 pm - 8.30 pm |
| • U15 Boys on Saturday | 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm |

On Sunday 19th December, between 5.30 pm - 7.30pm, Santa is in Beragh. Beragh Red Knights and Breacach Handball welcome all to come along and get their photo with the big man himself at St. Mary's Park.

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