

PARISH OF TERMONAMONGAN (AGHYARAN)

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SUNDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2020

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

'Where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them' (Matthew 18:20)

Sometimes we think that we know other people and their life story well, but we realise all too well from our own lives that many of the 'invisible' crosses people carry are known only to themselves or perhaps to close family members. However, whatever our crosses are, whatever our weaknesses, wherever we are on our journey, we are a community blessed with faith. When we come to Mass, each of us comes with our own joys and blessings, our own worries, our own crosses, weaknesses and failings, but all of us, while on our own individual faith journey, gather together as a community of believers, with one voice, to praise the Lord and to share in the Eucharist.

We pray today for everyone in our parish community, especially for those who struggle with their faith, those for whom God may seem distant, those who feel excluded from our love or from God's love. In the knowledge is a place of welcome for all, may each of us be a person of welcome, support and encouragement for others at all times

SUNDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:

Vigil: Saturday 5th September 7.30pm Sunday 6th September: 11.00am

WEEKDAY MASS THIS WEEK:

Tuesday 8th September: No Mass

Thursday 10th September: 10.00am

All our Masses continue to be live-streamed: www.castledergparish.com or www.parishofaghyaran.com

SUNDAY MASS NEXT WEEKEND – SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.30p.m.

(AREA C) Aghyaran, Maghernageeragh, Mullinabreen, Scraghey, Segronan and Edenreagh

Please note that the weekend Mass schedule has now reverted to the 'pre-Covid' schedule, ie: 7.30pm every Saturday and 11.00am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. A revised rota consisting of five areas, is displayed on the noticeboard of the church and details are also on the reverse of this newsletter. Please take time to check it carefully.

THANK YOU for your generosity in last week's collection, which amounted to **£811** and the Church Restoration Fund. Collection totalled **£661** Envelopes can continue to be left through the door of the Parochial House, for those not attending Mass.

ST. DAVOG'S CLUB NOTES:

Ladies: St Davog's senior ladies will play Killeeshill in the senior league knockout Semi Final in Dolan Park today (Sunday) at 12 noon. On Tuesday evening (8th) our minor girls play Naomh Eoghan in Pairc Mhic Sioghair (Strabane) in the minor league knockout final at 6.30pm. Get out and give these girls your support. The minor girls will travel to Gortin on Tuesday (8th) to play Both Domhnaigh in the minor league with a 6.45pm start.

Draw: The club members Monthly draw for August took place in the club rooms on Saturday night and the winners were - £250 (No 60) Charles Mc Hugh (Stoney Hgts) ,£100 (No 170) Caroline and Jonathan Mc Hugh, £100 (No 420) Ronan, Eimear and Finnan Mc Guire (Killeter), £100 (No 143) Seamus Mc Glinchey (Laughtfogy), £50 (No 284) Anthony Mc Hugh (Churchtown Pk), £50 (No 149) Tommy Campbell (Dreenan) ,£50 (No 352) Charlie Goan (McNally Park). Next club members draw will be on Saturday 26th September.

Sympathy: The committee and members of Aghyaran St Davog's would like to send our condolences to the families of the late Rose Cannon nee Mc Hugh (Scotland/Mullinabreen and the late Hilary Lynch (Young Crescent Castlederg). Mary Queen of the Gael pray for them.

NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS PILGRIMAGE 2020 at Knock Shrine will be broadcast live on Sunday 13 September at 3.00pm from the Basilica. Grandparents and their families are invited to join online at www.knockshrine.ie/watch

ROUTINE PASTORAL VISITATION OF THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Those who are visited as part of the "First Friday" Visitation of the Sick and Housebound will know that, since the start of the COVID-19 lockdown, this has not taken place. In the past week, Bishop McKeown issued the following guidelines to the priests of the diocese, in respect of the routine monthly visitation, for the coming months. See excerpt below:

"I have concluded that the routine visitation of the sick and housebound should not take place, at the moment, due to the following factors:

1. The sick and housebound are disproportionately elderly, a group which is especially vulnerable to serious COVID-19 infection; this group is also more likely to have significant comorbidities, which may also make them more susceptible;
2. Routine visitation involves moving from one house to another, which risks infection being spread to multiple households;
3. Daily infection rates, both north and south, are trending upwards, after the relatively low number of infections during the summer."

As many parishioners already know, I am very happy to make home visits to anyone who is seriously ill. I am also visiting the housebound on a more 'casual basis', calling at one house each day whenever possible. It goes without saying that I make hygiene and safety my number one priority. I fully endorse the guidelines and factors as stated by the bishop (above) at this time. As such, I will not be doing the routine house-to-house calls for the time being.

However, please do not hesitate to ask me to call if you have reason to be concerned.

HOSPITAL VISITATION

In a separate communication, Bishop McKeown advised the priests of the diocese last week that parish clergy may not visit WHSCT hospitals or care homes during the current crisis. Bishop McKeown writes:

"Hospital chaplains are permitted to visit patients, when called in emergency, wearing PPE, in the use of which they have been trained, and can visit patients in a more 'routine' manner, wearing scrubs and appropriate levels of PPE. The hospital is not open to routine visits by non-chaplain clergy. Whilst this may be a limitation on usual pastoral practice, given the increase in COVID-19 cases in recent weeks it is an understandable limitation, with the risk of unwittingly bringing infection to patients who may not be able to fight it off. I understand that the same restrictions apply to Waterside Hospital, the Omagh hospitals and to other Trust-run properties."

While hospital visitation cannot take place at this time, I would, nonetheless, be glad to know if a parishioner is in hospital so that I can remember them in prayer and at Mass.

These ongoing restrictions are regrettable, but they are in place for the safety and wellbeing of everyone. I am grateful for your understanding as we continue to embrace these challenging times. Please do get in touch with me if there is anything I can do for you or for your families.

Please keep the sick and housebound, and all who are feeling lonely, isolated or anxious in your prayer.

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. St Bernadette, pray

ST PATRICK'S, AGHYARAN WEEKEND MASS ROTA - SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2020

(Saturday Vigil Masses 7.30pm - Sunday Morning Masses 11am)

AREA A

The Corgaries, Ardarver, Trienaongan,
Legatonegan and Shanaghey Area

Saturday 5th September, Saturday 26th September, Sunday 18th October

AREA B

Tullycar Road-Essan, Tullycar, Meenakeerin, Crilly Park,
Ballymongan and Pullytean Road

Sunday 6th September, Saturday 3rd October, Saturday 24th October

AREA C

Aghyaran, Maghernageeragh, Mullinabreen, Scraghey,
Segronan and Edenreagh Area

Saturday 12th September, Sunday 4th October, Saturday 31st October

AREA D

The Laught's, Garvagh, McNally Park

Saturday 19th September, Saturday 10th October, Sunday 1st November

AREA E

Carnoughter, Carndreen, Dreenan, Killeter and Meenamullan

Sunday 20th September, Saturday 17th October, Saturday 7th November.