

PARISH OF TERMONAMONGAN (AGHYARAN)

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SUNDAY 7th MARCH 2021 – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

GOSPEL: ST JOHN 2:13-25 'THE CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE'

In St John's account of the Cleansing of the Temple today, Jesus confronts those who are abusing the sanctity of His Father's house – those who are selfishly using it as a place for uncharitable dealings, rather than for prayer, holiness and acts of righteousness.

In our homes this Lent we have created Sacred Spaces to help us in focussing on this penitential season. With our churches closed for public worship, our 'domestic church' settings for worship are indeed an opportunity that, in 'ordinary times', we might not consider or take up. Our homes are indeed the 'temple' where our faith journey starts and is, hopefully, nourished. We talk of 'handing on the faith' but, essentially, this means that, through the example of faith well lived, others might be inspired to mirror the virtues of the Gospel in their day to day lives and remain faithful to the sacraments. We ask God today for the grace to use well the Sacred Space in our homes, to create time and space for prayer and, more importantly, to listen to what God is saying to us so that our thoughts, words and actions will reflect the sanctity of our bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit and cleanse us in heart and mind.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses in St Patrick's, Aghyaran

Vigil 7.30pm (every Saturday)

Sunday morning 11.00am (7th March, 21st March)

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday 10.00am, Wednesday 10.00am, (Lent only) Thursday 10.00am.

You are invited to participate in these masses on the parish webcam

via webcam: www.parishofaghyaran.com

Weekend Masses in St Patrick's, Castlederg will be as follows: Vigil 6.00pm.

Weekday Masses in St Patrick's, Castlederg: Monday, 7.30pm, Friday, 10.00am, Saturday 10.00am (Lent only)

via webcam: www.castledergparish.com

Our church continues to remain open for private prayer.

Please continue to pray for one another and especially, for those who are sick

You are welcome to light a candle for your prayer intentions

THANK YOU for your generosity in last week's collection which amounted to **£612** and the Church Restoration Fund Collection totalled **£605**. Envelopes can continue to be left through the door of the Parochial House. Many thanks for the donation of **£50** received this week. Parish envelopes for the new year April 2021/22 are being updated over the coming weeks – if you would prefer to make your contribution to the church by Standing Order please contact the parish office for details. Likewise if you have not previously contributed to the collections and would like to do so – again please contact the parish office to have your name included and envelopes will be issued to you.

WALKING THE VIA DOLOROSA (WAY OF THE CROSS) WITH JESUS: Friday evening (12th) at 7.30pm, live-streamed this week from here in St Patrick's, Aghyaran. The theme of this Friday evening's liturgy will be *"The trial before Pilate"* Please join me on the webcam for this time of prayer. You can view or download the Participant's Prayer Leaflet in advance, during the week, on our parish website, www.parishofaghyaran.com

KNOCK SHRINE – ONLINE LENTEN PROGRAMME: a series of online discussions on the Thursday nights of Lent, at 8.30pm. Under the title 'Living Christian Faith – Lenten Conversations', these conversations are well worth tuning in to! Join in on Knock Shrine Facebook or on website, www.knockshrine.ie

CENSUS 2021: Churches have been asked to encourage households to complete the upcoming Census 2021. All households will (will have) receive(d) a census pack with details on how to complete. The pack will contain an access code. The census can be completed online or you can request a paper questionnaire. To find out more, visit www.census.gov.uk/ni or call free on 0800 328 2021.

TRÓCAIRE: If you haven't yet picked up your Trócaire Box, there are boxes available at the back of the church and also in O'Donnell's shop. It can form part of the Sacred Space in our homes this Lent, reminding us of our duty to be generous to those less fortunate than ourselves.

South Sudan is the focus of this year's Trócaire campaign. South Sudan is the world's newest country, having gained independence from Sudan in 2011 after many years of conflict. It is a diverse country, with sixty languages spoken by dozens of ethnic groups in a population of around eleven million. Each community/village belongs to an ethnic group. There were hopes that people in the world's newest country could finally put war behind them and move towards a brighter future. These hopes were dashed, however, in December 2013 when a civil war broke out between rival political factions. Almost four hundred thousand people were killed during this conflict. A peace agreement was signed in September 2018 but fighting continues in many parts of the country. About 3.8 million people in South Sudan – one in every three people – fled their homes and remain displaced within South Sudan or are living as refugees in neighbouring countries to this day.

This Prayer for Peace was written by Fr James Oyet Latansio, General Secretary of the South Sudan Council of Churches:

***As we move through the Lenten time, the time when we contemplate Jesus in the desert,
pray for us the people of South Sudan and pray for peace here.***

Accompany us, hold our hands, hold the hands of the Church in South Sudan.

***Hold the hands of our brothers and sisters in South Sudan, walk with us during this Lenten time.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.***

RADIO MARIA IRELAND, based at St Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22, is an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station with commercial-free broadcasting of Prayer, Catechesis, Music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies. If you are not already a follower of the station, Radio Maria Ireland encourage you to join their growing faith family! You can tune in to the station in a variety of ways:

- *Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210/ Freeview TV (Channel number varies per location in NI)*
- *Download FREE App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND"*
- *Streaming on website, www.radiomarie.ie (subscribe and donate here also)*
- *'Listen Live Radio' link on Facebook Page. (Like, Share and Follow us on Facebook)*
- *Phone – get live radio feed by calling 003531 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).*

Prayer and song requests welcome. "A Catholic voice in your home". Fr Eamonn McCarthy is Director.

ST. DAVOG'S CLUB

Draw: We had our first Club members monthly draw for 2021 last Saturday night when £700 was paid out to 7 lucky winners: - £250 (No 320), Liam Gallen Scraghey, £100 (No 289) John Moss England, £100 (No 152), Owen Nugent Kildress, £100 (No 21) Denis Dolan Killeter, £50 (No 100) Sean Corry Mullinabreen, £50 (No 372) Mairead Arkinson Castlederg, £50 (No 38) David Mc Hugh Carn Rd. Congratulations to all the winners and many thanks as always to everyone who supports our draw. There is still an opportunity in the next few weeks for newcomers to join. The monthly draw is a vital fundraiser for our club and helps us provide the services that we give to the young and old of our parish as best we can. If you feel you would like to join the draw please get in contact with any club committee member. The next monthly draw will take place on Saturday March 27th.

Last Person Standing: St Davog's Last Person Standing returns on Friday March 12th (Proceeds in aid of our training pitch fund). Entries must be in by midnight Thursday 11th March. We would ask that our Players, Committee and Club Members would please push this as our target is 300!!

In these pandemic times we hope that all our members and supporters are keeping safe and watch out for the wellbeing of every individual especially the old and vulnerable.

Each day of Lent everyone is encouraged to pray the Diocesan Lenten Prayer.

Loving Father,

**To prepare for His mission of proclaiming Your kingdom to the world
Your Son Jesus was guided by Your Holy Spirit to the quiet of the desert.**

**In these Lenten days, I pray that I will be guided by that same Spirit,
to a place of renewal in my heart and mind,
so that I will seek opportunities for daily personal prayer,
personal sacrifices and acts of kindness.**

**With Your help, may I too be truly prepared to share in the story of the
passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Your Son, our Lord.**

Amen.