

## PARISH OF TERMONAMONGAN (AGHYARAN)

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### SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020

#### TWENTY- FOURTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

##### THE PARABLE OF THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT (*Matthew 18:21-35*)

Jesus' teaching on mercy and forgiveness through the *Parable of the Unmerciful Servant* conveys a stark message which tells us that, when it comes to showing mercy and forgiveness towards others, it is not about 'picking and choosing' or about setting limits beyond which we will not move. When we do that, we are missing the point of Christian living. In the Lord's Prayer, which Jesus left us, He said, '*forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.*' We pray the Lord's Prayer today for ourselves and for others, that we will always be humble enough to open our hearts to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to help us to experience the transforming power of forgiving, of reconciliation and of God's loving and merciful ways. *Our Father, who art in heaven .....*

#### SUNDAY MASS THIS WEEK:

Vigil: Saturday 12th September 7.30pm

#### WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:

Tuesday 10.00am

Thursday 10.00am

All our Masses continue to be live-streamed: [www.parishofaghyaran.com](http://www.parishofaghyaran.com) or [www.castledergparish.com](http://www.castledergparish.com)

#### SUNDAY MASSES NEXT WEEKEND – 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020

(Saturday 7.30pm) - **AREA D** The Laught's, Garvagh and McNally Park

(Sunday 11.00am) - **AREA E** Carnoughter, Carndreen, Dreenan, Killeter and Meenamullan

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.

#### FACE MASKS

**It is strongly recommended that with the exception of those who are exempt from wearing face masks everyone should wear them in church, for the foreseeable future.**

**THANK YOU** for your generosity in last week's collection, which amounted to **£712** and the Church Restoration Fund. Collection totalled **£839** Envelopes can continue to be left through the door of the Parochial House, for those not attending Mass.

#### ST. DAVOG'S CLUB NOTES:

**Ladies:** This year the Senior ladies made great strides in the top tier of Tyrone football having topped their section with maximum available points and reached the semi-finals of both the league and championship. However, a combination of playing against top drawer teams and not playing to our potential would see us lose out to Errigal Ciaran and Killeeshil respectively. The girls should now take confidence from how far they have progressed and the experience that they have gained in 2020 and come back stronger and more determined than ever for 2021.

Minor championship Quarter final Aghyaran 3-12 Naomh Eoghan 2-13. Well done to the boys for a battling performance which saw them win out with two points against a strong Naomh Eoghan team

**U'8 and U'10 Go Games:** Our young boys and girls played two games against Castlederg on Saturday morning and it was great to see the talent, commitment, and discipline which was on show from both teams, Well done to the boys and girls and of course to all of their coaches and indeed to their parents as well.

**Meeting:** The club members Monthly meeting for September will take place this Monday night (14<sup>th</sup>) at 8.30pm.

**Source to Tap Information Evening** - Attention all farmers in the Aghyaran, Killeter, Castlederg and Ardstraw area. There will a source to tap water open evening from 3-6 to discuss weed wiping of which a demonstration will be given. The information day will be held on Wednesday 16th September 2020 in the Blacktown Arms, Scraghey Road, Castlederg. Everyone welcome. Contact Anne: 02881671561

## 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, Trienamongan,  
Legatonegan and Shanaghey Area

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

### AREA B

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

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October**

### AREA C

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

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September, Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October, Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

### AREA D

The Laught's, Garvagh, McNally Park

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

### AREA E

Carnoughter, Carndreen, Dreenan, Killeter and Meenamullan

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November.**