

PARISH OF TERMONAMONGAN (AGHYARAN)

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SUNDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2020

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

THE PARABLE OF THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD (*Matthew 20:1-16*)

The core message of the *Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard* is that God's love and mercy are a gift open to all of us. Sometimes we can be judgemental about others; we make judgements on who is 'entitled' to God's love and mercy. As baptised Catholics, God calls all of us to be workers in His vineyard, to help build His kingdom. However, just like the workers in the parable, we don't always pull our weight or give it our best effort. God does not punish us for that, however: He always welcomes us back into His fold when we turn to Him once again and do our best. In summary, in God's eyes, we are all equal and He wants all of us to build His kingdom together, in a spirit of love, generosity and understanding. In particular, today's parable challenges us on *envy* – it asks that we be grateful to God for the blessings He gives us, rather than being resentful of others' possessions and blessings or being judgmental about what others 'deserve'.

SUNDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:

Vigil: Saturday 19th September 7.30pm Sunday 20th September: 11.00am

WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:

Tuesday 10.00am

Thursday 10.00am

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

SUNDAY MASS NEXT WEEKEND – SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.30p.m.

(AREA A) The Corgaries, Ardarver, Trienamongan, Legatonega and Shanaghey area

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 **£746** and the Church Restoration Fund. Collection totalled **£607** Envelopes can continue to be left through the door of the Parochial House, for those not attending Mass.

PIONEER ASSOCIATION Anyone interested in joining the Pioneer Association, especially any of the children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation recently should please contact any of the following members of the Association – Barney Byrne, Jim Falls, James Patrick Collins or Mary Gallen

ST. DAVOG'S CLUB NOTES:

Football: Well done to our minor boys for showing great heart after falling well behind in the first half to then go on and overcome a talented Badoney team in Gortin last week. At the final whistle five points separated them Aghyaran 4-12 Badoney 4-07 These boys have now progressed to the league semi-final. The season for the Under 16 boys ended on Thursday evening in the league semi-final - Killeeshil 2-17 Aghyaran 3-08. Well done to the lads and their managers Kevin Moss and Kevin McMenamain and look towards 2021.

It was mixed results away to Beragh in Garvaghey last weekend - the Reserve team was beaten and our Seniors came home with a victory winning 0-12 to 0-7. Our reserve team travel today (Saturday) to play Aghaloo and we wish them well as they play in the first round of the Reserve KO championship. The next outing in the league for our senior and reserves is another trip to Aughnacloy to play Aghaloo on Sunday 27th (Res)2.15pm (Sen)3.45pm.

Ladies: Our minor girls were defeated in the league final against Naomh Eoghan (5-04 to 3-05) last week and credit must go to these young girls winning all their league games to top the group with maximum points. Our team captain and senior player Maria Mc Hugh received a foot injury in a senior game a few weeks ago and we all wish Maria a speedy and full recovery

THE NET: The September edition of The Net is now available online, on www.derrydiocese.org. As always, it features a wide variety of news, interesting interviews, articles and photos from parishes across the diocese. There is a 'Remembering Bishop Lagan' feature and a 'Remembering John Hume' article in the September issue. You are invited to read The Net, on the diocesan website, at your convenience.

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.