

## PARISH OF TERMONAMONGAN (AGHYARAN)

REV PAUL FRASER PP, 16 CASTLEFIN ROAD, CASTLEDERG, CO TYRONE, BT81 7BT

Tel: 028 816 71393 Email: [aghyaranparish@derrydiocese.org](mailto:aghyaranparish@derrydiocese.org)

Parish Website: [www.parishofaghyaran.com](http://www.parishofaghyaran.com) ♦ Facebook: @aghyaranparish

Diocesan Website: [www.derrydiocese.org](http://www.derrydiocese.org)

### SAFEGUARDING:

The Derry Diocesan Liaison Person, to whom any safeguarding concerns or allegations should be communicated is: Ms Marie Gormley, Email

Email: [marie.gormley@derrydiocese.org](mailto:marie.gormley@derrydiocese.org) Tel: 075 9650 0793

**SUNDAY 23rd JANUARY 2022**  
**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)**  
**GOSPEL: ST LUKE 1:1-4; 4:14-21 - JESUS THE TEACHER**

### MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 10.00am and Thursday 10.00am

Wednesday 10.00am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

#### WEEKEND MASSES (29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January)

**AREA A:** (Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm)

**The Corgaries, Ardarver, Tullycar Road, Essan Road, Tullycar, Meenakeerin  
Crilly Park, Ballymongan, Pollytean Road, Shanaghey, Trienamongan, Legatonegan,  
Aghyaran, Maghernageeragh and Mullinabreen**

**AREA B:** (Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 11.00am)

**The Laughts, Garvagh, McNally Park, Mournebeg, Carnoughter, Carndreen, Dreenan  
Killeter, Meenamullan, Scraghey, Segronan and Edenreagh areas**

All Masses are available via our parish webcam, [www.aghyaranparish.com](http://www.aghyaranparish.com)

#### St Patrick's, Castlederg

Vigil Mass Saturday 6.00pm

(Masses in Castlederg are livestreamed on [www.castledergparish.com](http://www.castledergparish.com))

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** will take place every Thursday, starting after 10.00am Mass and finishing at 12.00noon.

**THANK YOU** for your generosity in last week's collection which amounted to **£936** and **€30** and the Church Restoration Collection totalled **£755** Standing Orders and Online payments for December were: Weekly **£542** and **£465** for the Church Restoration Fund Total **£1,007**. Many thanks to all who make their contribution to the church by this method. Envelopes can continue to be left at the Parochial House or can be brought to the church by those attending for Mass

**SACRAMENTS: Confirmation** for the children of St Caireall's P.S. will be **Saturday 30th April**, at **1.00pm**. **First Holy Communion** for the children of St Caireall's will be on **Sunday 15th May** at **1pm**.

### **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2022 – 23rd -30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**

**Theme - Catholic Schools: Living Life to the Full'.**

*For school communities, the past two years have been incredibly challenging and, while there is still uncertainty, the theme for Catholic Schools Week this year is one of hope. We commend the St Caireall's primary school community here in the parish – the staff, children and parents – for their resilience, patience, determination and, simply, for doing their very best for the children in very difficult circumstances.*

*In return, we offer them our prayerful support. On **Thursday, 27th January**, at our **10.00am Mass** we will offer prayers for the intentions of everyone who is part of our school community – the children, teachers, ancillary staff, and the parents, grandparents and family members who support the children in so many ways, especially during these past two years. Our school will be represented at this Mass and I invite parents, grandparents and family members to come along, if at all possible. For those who can't come along, the Mass will, of course, be livestreamed on our webcam.*

## UPCOMING DATES IN THE CHURCH CALENDAR

**Tuesday 1st February** is the *Feast of St Brigid*, Patroness of Ireland. For those who make St Brigid's crosses, you should bring them along to the 10.00am Mass on Tuesday to be blessed.

**Wednesday, 2nd February** is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple - *Candlemas Day*: Candles will be blessed at our **Thursday** morning Mass (**3rd February**).

**Thursday 3rd February** is the *Feast of St Blaise*, Patron Saint of throat ailments. While blessing of throats can not take place in the usual manner, there will be a general blessing ceremony at our 10.00am Mass.

St Brigid's crosses will be blessed during the 7.30pm Mass in Castlederg on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January. Candles will be blessed at the Friday morning Mass (4th Feb) and there will also be a general blessing of throats ceremony at the Friday morning Mass. You are welcome to join any of these via the Castlederg parish webcam.

## SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

In 2019, Pope Francis declared the **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time** as **Sunday of the Word of God**, to encourage amongst us a better understanding, knowledge and love of the message of the Bible.

While many Catholic families own a Bible, traditionally, we are not known to be avid Scripture readers. In trying to change the 'thinking' on the Bible and its relevance to our lives, Pope Francis reminds us that, "*The Bible is not just a beautiful book to keep on a shelf. It is the Word of life to be sown, a gift that the Risen Jesus asks us to accept in order to have life in His name*". The Pope invites us never to take God's Word for granted but, instead, to "let ourselves be nourished by it, in order to acknowledge and live fully our relationship with Him and with our brothers and sisters."

So, on this Sunday of the Word of God, we are invited to get to know Jesus through deepening our understanding and knowledge of the Bible. We familiarise ourselves today with some general information on it:

**What is the Bible?** The Bible was written over many centuries by many different human authors, inspired by the Holy Spirit. It is the written expression of the Word of God. While it appears as one book, it actually contains *seventy-three* books, but it is a *unified whole*, in that all its books together reveal God's plan of salvation. The books are grouped under two headings - the *Old Testament* and the *New Testament*. The word 'testament' can be translated as *covenant*.

**What does the Old Testament of the Bible contain?** The Old Testament contains 46 of the 73 books of the Bible. These are made up of: The Books of *Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy* (*these first five books are called the Torah, or Pentateuch*); Historical books (*eg, Judges, Kings*); Wisdom books (*eg, Psalms, Ecclesiastes*); Prophets (*eg, Isaiah, Jeremiah*). The Old Testament tells how God made a series of 'covenants' (binding oaths) with His people Israel, in which He promised blessing in return for loving obedience. At our Sunday Mass the First Reading is usually taken from the Old Testament. There is usually a strong link between the First Reading and the Gospel.

**What does the New Testament of the Bible contain?** The New Testament comprises 27 of the 73 books of the Bible. These are made up of: the four Gospels (Sts Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) and the Acts of the Apostles (written by St Luke); St Paul's letters (epistles) to the early Christian churches (*eg, to the Romans, Corinthians, Ephesians*); 'Pastoral Letters' (*eg, Timothy; Hebrews*); 'Catholic letters' (*eg, James, Peter, John*); the Book of Revelation. The New Testament tells how God fulfilled His promise of blessing through a new and everlasting covenant in His Son, Jesus Christ. The Second Reading at our Sunday Mass is taken from the New Testament.

### What do the Scripture references at the top of Scripture Readings mean?

Each book of the Bible is divided into chapters, and each chapter is made up of a series of numbered verses: *eg, Genesis 1:1* means The Book of Genesis, Chapter 1, Verse 1; *Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21* (today's Gospel) means St Luke's Gospel, Chapter 1, verses 1 to 4 and Chapter 4, verses 14 to 21.

**"Not to know the Scriptures is not to know Christ". St Jerome.**