

PARISH OF ARDSTRAW WEST AND CASTLEDERG

St Mary's, Dregish · St Patrick's, Castlederg · St Francis of Assisi, Drumnabey

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SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER 2020

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: MISSION SUNDAY

GOSPEL: St John 17:11, 17-23

The special Gospel selected for Mission Sunday is taken from Jesus' discourse with His disciples at the Last Supper about the spreading of the Gospel message. Just as the Father sent Jesus into the world to spread His love, Jesus will now send His disciples to carry on His earthly mission. He prays that they will know God's love and that they will be united with God and one another in their mission. As the disciples of today, we pray that, through our example, we will share and spread the Good News of the Gospel, so that others will get to know Jesus and the joy of building God's kingdom. Renewed in commitment to our missionary call, we pray:

'Let us be servants to one another, making Your kingdom come'

SUNDAY MASSES:

Vigil: Saturday 6.00pm Castlederg. Sunday: 9.00am Dregish, 11.00am Castlederg, 12.30pm Drumnabey
Mass in Castlederg on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month (11 & 25 October)

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday: 7.30pm, Castlederg, Friday: 10.00am, Castlederg

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

SUNDAY MASSES NEXT WEEKEND – 24 & 25 OCTOBER 2020

ST PATRICK'S, CASTLEDERG: Saturday 24 October – 6.00pm Vigil: Group C. Sunday 25 October – 11.00am: Group D. (Details of the Groups on reverse).

Parishioners from these areas should phone the Parochial House, between 11am & 2pm on Thurs or Fri, to book a place. If spaces are still available after 2pm on Friday, a Facebook notice will be posted, opening booking by email up to everyone (on a first come, first served basis).

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DRUMNABEY: Sunday 25 October – 12.30pm: Castlebane, Drumnabey Road, Scarvagherin, Goland, Drumnabey Park, Gamble Park.

ST MARY'S, DREGISH: Sunday 25 October – 9.00am: Drumlegagh, Baronscourt, Letterbin, Envagh, Leglands, Tullymuck.

It is most important that people who are vulnerable or unwell, and especially those with any symptoms that might suggest Covid-19 infection, stay at home. Under the new restrictions announced this week, everyone must wear a face mask when entering and leaving church. It is also strongly recommended that masks are worn while in church.

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Patsy McAleer, late of 14 Dergview, Castlederg

As a parish faith community, we offer our sympathy and our prayerful support to the brother and sisters, Seamus, Kathleen and Alice, to Violet, William and Debbie, and to the wider family circle and friends of Patsy, whose Funeral Mass took place in Castlederg last Sunday.

Nolie Hilley, late of 30 Kilclean Road, Castlederg

We offer our sympathy and our prayerful support to the sons, Pat and Kieran, to the grandchildren, brothers and sisters, daughters-in-law and wider family circle and friends of Nolie, whose Funeral Mass took place in Castlederg on Tuesday.

Kathleen Connolly, Parkview Care Home, and formerly of Dromore

We offer our sympathy and our prayerful support to the son and daughter, Eugene and Mary (McCroly), grandchildren and wider family circle and friends of Mary, whose Funeral Mass took place at Dromore on Friday.

May they rest in peace.

THANK YOU for your generosity in last week's collection, which amounted to 1,434. Envelopes can continue to be left through the door of the Parochial House, for those not attending Mass. Thank you also to all who contribute by Standing Order or online. If anyone would like to start contributing by Standing Order, a Mandate is available to download on the parish website, www.castledergparish.com. You can also collect one at the Parochial House, by prior arrangement.

THE NET: The October edition of The Net is now available online, on www.derrydiocese.org. As always, it features a wide variety of news, interesting and inspiring interviews, articles and photos from parishes across the diocese. You are invited to read The Net, on the diocesan website, at your convenience.

October is a month of special devotion to Our Lady and, in particular, to praying the Rosary.

Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.

TODAY IS MISSION SUNDAY: 'TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE'

In 1926, Pope Pius XI established Mission Sunday, a special day for Catholics in every church throughout the world to unite in their missionary responsibilities. We are called to bring our prayers, solidarity and financial help to Christian communities in parts of the world where they are most needed, so that others may hear and witness the Good News of the Gospel and, with our help, come to know Jesus. **'Together we can do more'** is the theme Pope Francis has chosen for today. Together, as communities of faith, through word, action, sacrament, witness, service and, essentially, love, we can make a difference.

Please remember in prayer the many people from Ireland and, in particular, those from our own diocese and this locality, whose vocation has called them to serve in the Church's missionary work abroad. We thank God for their witness.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH (MISSION SUNDAY) COLLECTION: There is a special envelope for this collection which is due today. The proceeds are channelled through World Missions Ireland, the official support organisation for the overseas mission of the Irish Catholic Church, bringing our support to Christian communities in other parts of the world.

See Pope Francis' Message for World Mission Sunday 2020, 'Here am I, send me', on www.wmi.ie

NOVEMBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

During the month of November it is customary for us to remember our beloved dead relatives and friends. In spite of the ever-changing sets of rules and regulations, I would like to ensure that we remember those who have died in the past year, by acknowledging them by name in a special Mass. We will have this **Mass in Castlederg on Friday 6 November at 7.30pm**. During this Mass we will light a candle in remembrance of the following, who have died in the past year:

Daniel Morris, Anna Kinloch, Kitty McGoldrick, Phyllis Irwin, Seamus Mannion, Bob Smith, Tony Harper, Finola Brook, Margaret Collins, Martin Arkinson, Canon Bernard Devine, Agnes Doherty, Bernie Anderson, Teresa Gallen, Eamon Loughrey, David Bonner, Reba Carlin, Ann Ramsey, Keith McLaughlin, Maureen Gilchrist, Hilary Lynch, Kathleen Hewitt, Paddy McGoldrick, Patsy McAleer, Nolie Hilley, Kathleen Connolly.

Due to the current restrictions we can only allocate one pew in the church for each family. This means a maximum of five or six people. In order to ensure the safety of our community, no-one should travel into the area for this Mass which will, of course, be streamed online and the stream will be recorded. It goes without saying that these arrangements may have to change at short notice in order to comply with instructions from the Public Health Agency.

Since the customary **'Blessing of the Graves'** did not take place this year, I will undertake to bless every grave in all the cemeteries in the parish during the first week of November. Unfortunately, this event will have to take place privately, since we are not allowed to gather in groups of more than 15.

ST PATRICK'S, CASTLEDERG: WEEKEND MASS BOOKING ROTA - OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2020

GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C	GROUP D
Sat 31 October, 6pm Sun 15 November, 11am	Sat 7 November, 6pm Sat 21 November, 6pm	Sat 24 October, 6pm Sun 8 November, 11am Sun 22 November, 11am	Sun 25 October, 11am Sat 14 November, 6pm Sat 28 November, 6pm
Castlefin Road Castlefin Park Churchtown Park Hillview Park Brooke Park Harpur Park Willowcrest Stoney Heights Priestsessagh Road Freughlough Road	Town Centre Ferguson Crescent Main Street Upper Strabane Rd Lower Strabane Rd Castleview Tce Mount Bernard Drive Derg Fold Castlegore Cashel Road Ganvaghan Road Drumquin Road Castlebane Road	Killeter Road Dergview Park Alexander Park Ashburn Park Kilclean Road Ashleigh Court Oakleigh Grove Kilcroagh Road Cavan Road Whiterock Park Mucklehill View Kilcurragh Park Greystone Avenue Moneygal Road Pollyarnon Road	Lurganbuoy Road Lurganbuoy Park Garag Hill Burnside Villas Young Crescent Hawthorn Park Crockett Park Hospital Road Breezemount Park

NEXT SUNDAY is the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Gospel we will listen to will be: St Matthew 22:34-40.

NEW COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS INTRODUCED IN NORTHERN IRELAND

As you know, additional restrictions were announced by the Executive this week, arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. There is no change to the existing restrictions on the opening of churches for public and private worship - in particular, the number that can be safely accommodated in a church for Mass, facilitating social distancing, has not been changed.

I wish to draw to your attention, however, that attendance at both Funerals and Weddings is now restricted to 25 people. While the logic behind this additional restriction for Funerals and Weddings has not been explained, I understand that it pertains to the level of additional social interaction that normally applies to these occasions.

"Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love."

"God does not so much look at the greatness of our actions, or even at their difficulty, as at the love with which we do them."

"My whole strength lies in prayer and sacrifice; these are my invincible arms; they can move hearts far better than words."

Quotes of St Thérèse of Lisieux, Patron Saint of Missions. St Thérèse, pray for us.