

# PARISH OF ARDSTRAW WEST AND CASTLEDERG

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

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## SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2020

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

In the *Parable of the Two Sons* that we hear today (*Matthew 21:28-32*), the saying with which we are all familiar, '*actions speak louder than words*' is the core message of Jesus. In this parable, neither son does what he says he will do, but the first son then re-thinks his initial decision and goes to the vineyard, as asked by his father.

The ability to change our mind is an essential element of all healthy relationships. A mind that is closed to change – for example, one that refuses to admit to mistakes, one that refuses to apologise and change ways – lacks the virtue of humility. It can destroy relationships. We think today of any relationships in our lives that remain fractious because of our inability to change our mind – perhaps our inability to admit to our own weaknesses and address them or our inability to drop a grudge or forget a wrongdoing. Act today:

*'The first to apologise is the bravest, the first to forgive is the strongest, the first to forget is the happiest'*

### SUNDAY MASSES:

Vigil: Sat 6.00pm Castlederg. Sunday: 9.00am Dregish, 11.00am Castlederg, 12.30pm Drumnabey  
Mass in Castlederg on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month (13 & 27 Sept, 11 & 25 Oct)

### WEEKDAY MASSES:

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

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

## SUNDAY MASSES NEXT WEEKEND – 3 & 4 OCTOBER 2020

### ST PATRICK'S, CASTLEDERG:

**Saturday 3 October – 6.00pm Vigil Mass: Group C** - 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.

**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: Sun 4 October** – 12.30pm: Listymore Park, Oakland, The Crewe, Garvetagh & Lisleen, Coolcreaghy.

**ST MARY'S, DREGISH: Sun 4 October** – 9.00am: Dunteague, Glassmullagh, Lisnacreight.

*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. Masses in Castlederg continue to be live-streamed via webcam. It is strongly recommended that, with the exception of those who are exempt from wearing them, face masks should be worn by everyone in church.*

*Taking the increasingly worrying situation into consideration, Masses in the parish at this time are intended for parishioners only – those who reside within the confines of the parish. I appreciate that this may be disappointing for some families, especially in the case of the celebration of Month's Mind and Anniversary Masses, but the safety of everyone is paramount, and your co-operation in this recommendation is greatly appreciated. Fr Paul.*

**THANK YOU** for your generosity in last week's collection, which amounted to £720 (further monies to be counted). Envelopes can continue to be left through the door of the Parochial House, for those not attending Mass. Thank you to those who contribute by Standing Order.

**Today, 27 September, is the Feast Day of St Vincent de Paul**, patron saint of charitable societies. It is an opportunity for us to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to those in our parish who help others on an ongoing basis through their work with the St Vincent de Paul Society, especially in this year of pandemic, and to say thank you to all who support the Society through donations of any kind. The local helpline number for SVP is 028 7138 4488. St Vincent de Paul: *pray for us.*

*"Charity is the cement that binds communities to God and individuals to one another" St Vincent de Paul*

## SEASON OF CREATION: 1 September – 4 October 2020 Theme: Cultivating Hope

Pope Francis has said that our commitment to the care of our common home is not some kind of add-on to our faith or optional extra; instead, he reminds us that the care of God's creation is at the centre of our Christian faith. The Pope asks us to use the Season of Creation as a springboard to cultivate hope for our planet and its future. The Gospel today calls us to *action*, rather than words. How can we, in our everyday lives, respond today to the Holy Father's call to action? If each of us takes one extra simple action in our homes, then, together, we can make a difference.

**World Day of Migrants and Refugees: Sunday 27 September 2020**

**Theme: "Forced like Jesus Christ to flee "**

In the Catholic Church, World Day of Migrants and Refugees is celebrated today. As we focus today on those fleeing in desperation from hunger, war and other grave dangers, in search of security, dignity and a safe life for themselves and for their families, we note the words of Pope Francis in his Message for this Day: "In each of these people, forced to flee to safety, Jesus is present as he was at the time of Herod. In the faces of the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the sick, strangers and prisoners, we are called to see the face of Christ who pleads with us to help (cf. Matthew 25:31-46). If we can recognise Jesus in those faces, then we will be the ones to thank Him for having been able to meet, love and serve Him in them."

**An Immigrant Prayer**

Dear Jesus, our journey through life is long and hard. We cannot make this trip alone; we must walk together on the journey.

You promised to send us a helper, Your Spirit. Help us to see Your Spirit in those You send to journey with us.

In the refugee family, seeking safety from violence, let us see Your Spirit.

In the migrant worker, bringing food to our tables, let us see Your Spirit.

In the asylum seeker, seeking justice for himself and his family, let us see Your Spirit.

In the unaccompanied child, travelling in a dangerous world, let us see Your Spirit.

Teach us to recognise that as we walk with each other, You are present.

Teach us to welcome not only the strangers in our midst but the gifts they bring as well:

the invitation to conversion, communion, and solidarity. This is the help You have sent: we are not alone.

We are together on the journey, and for this we give You thanks. Amen.

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

<b>GROUP A</b>	<b>GROUP B</b>	<b>GROUP C</b>	<b>GROUP D</b>
<b>Sun 11 October, 11am</b>	<b>Sat 17 October, 6pm</b>	<b>Sat 3 October, 6pm</b> <b>Sat 24 October, 6pm</b>	<b>Sat 10 October, 6pm</b> <b>Sun 25 October, 11am</b>
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 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 Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A). The Gospel we will listen to is St Matthew: 21:33-43 - The Parable of the Tenants in the Vineyard: 'It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone'. Familiarising ourselves with the Word of God before we hear it at Sunday Mass is a good way of giving ourselves an opportunity to better understand what God is saying to us in the Sunday Scriptures. If you are interested in looking at the Scripture Readings in advance of Sunday Mass, you can access them on website: [www.catholicbishops.ie/readings](http://www.catholicbishops.ie/readings). (The weekday readings are also available on this site).

**MONTH OF MISSION**

Thursday of this week is the start of **October**, the month universally celebrated in the Catholic Church as **Month of Mission**. Thursday (1 October) is also the Feast Day of St Thérèse of Lisieux, Patron Saint of Missions.

Scripture is steeped in examples of Jesus reaching out in love and care for the poor, the vulnerable, the marginalised and those who had no-one to look out for them. Mission Month, the theme of which is, "Together we can do more", calls on us to be Christ-like in our care for those much less fortunate than ourselves: we are called in particular to pledge special support, prayerful and financial, to the missions in developing countries so that, together, we can make a difference.

Missionary work, however, is not confined to developing countries or, indeed, to other people. By virtue of our baptism, all of us are called to be missionaries, that is, to witness to the virtues of the Gospel in our everyday lives - in our homes, in our families, our neighbourhood, our places of work, our church and parish.

*St Thérèse of Lisieux, pray for us. St Francis Xavier, pray for us.*