



Parish of the Three Patrons

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR - YEAR A - 26th JULY 2020

Parish Clergy

Fr Michael McCaughey PP - 028 71262360 - stpatricks@threepatrons.org

Fr Gerard Mongan CC - 028 71351261 - stbrigids@threepatrons.org

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www.threepatrons.org threepatronsfacebook

The Real Treasure

Unlike most precious jewels, pearls are products of living creatures. They are found in the shells of oysters in the warmer seas of the world. In ancient times pearls were regarded as jewels of prime value, and precious possessions of any kind were compared with them.

Jesus told stories that gave his followers an insight into life.

He compares the kingdom of God to a priceless pearl found after a long search by a merchant, so enthused by his discovery that he is willing to sell all his earthly belongings in order to purchase it. The point of the story is that no sacrifice is too great, no price too high to pay for the timeless treasure and precious pearl of the kingdom of heaven.

This is a practical invitation to put aside all the distractions that can take the place of God in our hearts. It may be power, possessions, prestige or the comforts of an easy life. While they are important, if we overvalue them we devalue God. Nothing in the world should take priority over our pursuit of God's kingdom. There is a pearl for everyone, and the price to be paid to acquire it is the ability to detach ourselves and walk away from what we cherish most without any regrets. What counts when we die is not the possessions we have acquired in life but the type of people we have become in the process of living. The pearl of great price is to be found in doing God's will which brings meaning, direction, happiness and peace into our own lives and in discovering this we find our true selves.

As a Christian community we are surrounded by the blessings of God's kingdom. Our pathway through life is studded with the rich symbols of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist and other Christian sacraments. For the want of making space for God in prayer, they may have become treasures we have overlooked, taken for granted and failed to recognise. In the gospel Christ is urging us not to let our faith in the kingdom of God lie buried in the seabed. He is inviting us to open our eyes and become aware of the treasure each of us has received. We are being called to come back to God and to put Christ and his teaching first in our lives.

Lord, help me to seek first your kingdom. May I recognise the priceless value of your kingdom, and put it before all worldly wealth and power, Amen.

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention: Universal Prayer Intention for August - The Maritime World: We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

Monthly Mass in honour of St Pio will be celebrated on Monday 3rd August at 7 pm in St Patrick's, Pennyburn. We ask God's blessing on all through the intercession of St Pio.

Matt Talbot Prayer Society St Eugene's Cathedral launched the Matt Talbot Prayer Society to pray for people suffering from, recovering from or affected by any form of addiction. To join the Matt Talbot Society, you are invited to enrol the name of the person to be prayed for and the addiction from which we pray they will be freed. Those enrolled will be prayed every day by members of the Society. Mass will be offered on the first Monday of every month in St Eugene's Cathedral at 7.30 pm. You will also receive an enrolment card to enable you to join in the prayer. To enrol please contact 71262894 or steugenes@btconnect.com or private message St Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page.



We welcome people back to the public celebration of the Eucharist in the three churches of our parish. For those who prefer to do so, we invite you to join us via webcam in Three Patrons' Parish by watching our live streaming which can be viewed online at churchservices.tv/pennyburn, churchservices.tv/carnhill, churchservices.tv/galliagh or the parish website at www.threepatrons.org/webcam. Please note change of Mass times to facilitate fair distribution of people attending Masses. We encourage you to use the three churches of our parish to ensure adherence to social distancing regulations.

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH, PENNYBURN

Sunday 26th July - Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

6.00 pm: (Sat) Vigil; 8.00 am, 10.00 am & 12 noon: Mass

Monday - Friday

7.30 am: Mass

9.40 am: Rosary

10.00 am: Mass

Saturday

9.40 am: Rosary

10.00 am: Mass

Sunday 2nd August - Eighteenth Sunday of the Year

6.00 pm: (Sat) Vigil; 8.00 am, 10.00 am & 12 noon: Mass

ST BRIGID'S CHURCH, CARNHILL

Sunday 26th July - Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

6.00 pm: (Sat) Vigil; 10.30 am & 12.30 pm: Mass

Monday - Saturday

9.00 am: Mass followed by Rosary

Sunday 2nd August - Eighteenth Sunday of the Year

6.00 pm: (Sat) Vigil; 10.30 am & 12.30 pm: Mass

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, GALLIAGH

Sunday 26th July - Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

7.00 pm: (Sat) Vigil; 9.00am & 11.00 am: Mass

Monday - Friday

11.00 am: Mass followed by Rosary

Please visit the Franciscan Friars' facebook 'derryfranciscans' for their schedule.

Sunday 2nd August - Eighteenth Sunday of the Year

7.00 pm: (Sat) Vigil; 9.00am & 11.00 am: Mass



It is very important at this time that we pray asking God for protection. Perhaps individuals or families could commit to praying the Rosary each day for relief of this crisis.

A Prayer in the Time of the Coronavirus by Fr Brian Grogan S.J

Dear God, in 1879 the Apparition at Knock gave hope and courage to the people of Ireland in difficult times. We ask that Our Lady may now protect your beloved people from the coronavirus. May its victims be strengthened by the spiritual support of the Christian community and restored soon to full health. We also pray for the medical personnel who deal with the virus. This we ask in confidence through Christ Our Lord. Amen. *Our Lady of Knock pray for us. St Joseph pray for us. St John the Evangelist pray for us. Amen.*





AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

"My Jesus, I believe that you desire to make your home within me and that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace your love as if you were already there, and I unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen."

Requiescant in Pace We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Paddy Gallagher, Carnhill, Rose Patricia Donegan, Ferndale Court, Anne Ferguson, St John's Park, Noel Lindsay, St Brigid's Avenue



Anniversaries Mona Large, Christina Friend, Ron Desmond, Mary Margaret Callaghan, John Callaghan, Bridget McChrystal, James Kelly, Mary Anne McCaughey, Cecilia Coyle, Tony Doherty, Jacqueline McCloskey, Gonnie Toland, Charlie Carlin, Michael Mallett, Peter McAnena, William Walters, James Grant, Philomena Murphy, Michael McElholm, Louis Brown, Mona McMonagle, Denis McGilloway, Patrick O'Connor, Frances Griffiths, Eithne Doherty, Paschal Harper, Liam Foy, Bernadette Duffy, Conor McDermott, John Page, Harry Coyle, Lynn Harty. May they rest in peace.



Baptisms We welcome into God's family

Clodagh Lauren Quigley	Corey Tiernan McConnell
Fódhla Ríoga O'Neill	Sophie Kam
Blake Lee Wade	Eric Medhurst
Ísla Matilda Cunningham	Connor Stephen Ramsay
Eabha Alex and Tom Michael Power	Killian Neil McClenaghan

Saints of the Coming Week **Wednesday** St Martha, **Thursday** St Peter Chrysologus, bishop and doctor of the Church, **Friday** St Ignatius of Loyola, priest, **Saturday** St Alphonsus Liguori, bishop and doctor of the Church

A Prayer of St Ignatius of Loyola

O Christ Jesus, when all is darkness and we feel our weakness and helplessness, give us the sense of Your presence, Your love, and Your strength. Help us to have perfect trust in Your protecting love and strengthening power, so that nothing may frighten or worry us, for, living close to You, we shall see Your hand, Your purpose, Your will through all things.

Anniversary Masses and Prayers If you wish to have an anniversary Mass offered or a Mass or prayers offered for any intention, please email the parish offices at stpatricks@threepatrons.org or stbrigids@threepatrons.org or phone the parochial houses at St. Patrick's (028 71262360) or St. Brigid's (028 71351261).

Supporting Your Parish Thank you for your ongoing generosity to the offertory collection through envelope, standing order, online payments and the 'donate' button on our parish website. Thanks also to those who have returned Gift Aid declaration forms. Your support is greatly appreciated. **Boxes are available in our three churches to return your parish envelopes.** If you require information about any of the above methods of supporting Three Patrons Parish, please contact the parish office - stpatricks@threepatrons.org or 028 71262360. The bank account details for Three Patrons' Parish are: sort code: 90 49 74; account number: 51442271.

Readings for Sunday 2nd August, Eighteenth Sunday of the Year

1st Reading: Isaiah 55:1-3; **Responsorial Psalm:** 144:8-9,15-18;

2nd Reading: Romans 8:35-39; **Gospel:** Matthew 14:13-21

Accord (Catholic Marriage Care Service) Accord is offering a Covid-19 Couples and Relationships Support Line. If you need to speak with an experienced Couples and Relationships Counsellor during this time of unprecedented stress and pressure on family life, contact 003531 5313331 or 028 95680151 or 003531 9059555 (Monday - Friday 9 am - 8 pm). Calls charged at local rate.

Mary's Meals Step by Step Walk 2020 Mary's Meals is an international charity whose vision is that every child should have a daily meal in a place of education. Each year they walk across Ireland raising awareness and seeking support. This year the walk to Knock is on a much reduced scale to ensure compliance with Covid-19 regulations. They hope however that walkers can still participate by joining a local virtual walk to Knock. Why not walk with them? For information on taking part in the physical Malin / Derry to Knock walk or on organising your own local virtual walk or to make a donation **visit: sbs4marysmeals.ie or email info@sbs4marysmeals.ie or contact Helen 07814441701.** The walks continue over nine days, starting 7th August and arrive together at Knock on 15th August. Today Mary's Meals are feeding 1,667,067 chronically hungry children while attending school. The average cost to feed a child for an entire school year is €18.30 or 10c per meal. Thank you for your support.

Foyle Hospice Virtual Half Marathon This year's Waterside Half Marathon has been cancelled but you can still join the Foyle Hospice Virtual Half Marathon taking place the first week of September. Walk or run, solo or in a relay team of 3, you have a week to complete 13.1 miles adhering to all government Covid-19 guidance. Why not join us and support your Hospice by opening a JustGiving page or share on Facebook and ask family and friends to sponsor you per mile? Remember this is not a race or about time - it's a personal challenge for you and your chance to get your hands on the lockdown virtual event medal 2020 while helping Foyle Hospice in our time of need. Visit <https://foylehospice.com/events/foyle-hospice-virtual-half-marathon> to register.

Derry Youth Community, a faith-based Gap Year opportunity for young adults aged between 18 - 25, is now open for applications for the year starting September 2020. DYC offers the opportunity to live in community, to develop and be formed in faith and be involved in youth ministry in parishes. The three main aspects of DYC are Accompaniment, Community and Encounter. If you are interested in this Gap Year or would like some more information, please email dyc@derrydiocese.org.

The Youth 2000 Summer Festival will take place online this year from 14th - 16th August. As part of this unique event, Youth 2000 Ireland has received support and input from Catholic speakers, Fr John Harris, OP, Scott Hahn, John Pridmore and more. The Summer E-Festival will be streamed live and will not be available post event. To take part you can register now at youth2000.ie/summerfestival2020/. You will receive your welcome pack and exclusive access code. Registration and access is FREE as always at Youth 2000. We rely solely on donations so that we can remove barriers to our young people experiencing the joy, and the plan God has in store for them and their lives.

The July / August Edition of The Net Newspaper is available online on the diocesan website, www.derrydiocese.org. It covers a wide range of events, loads of interviews and photos, and plenty of news from parishes and people from all around the diocese.

The July Edition of The Messenger is available online at <https://issuu.com/messengerpublications/docs/messengerjulyv11.3lowres>.

Libraries NI offer the Kids' Silly Squad: Summer Reading Challenge Summer 2020. Join in at <https://www.librariesni.org.uk/Children/Pages/Summer-Reading-Challenge.aspx>.

'Our Days and Nights' This reminiscence project, facilitated by Cross Border Shared Heritage Peace IV Project, where we cast our minds back to days of childhood and growing up, takes place in a safe, small social gathering on Thursday 30th July, 27th August & 10th September at an Inishowen venue (to be confirmed) and on Saturday 1st August, 29th August & 12th September at a Derry venue (to be confirmed). If you are interested in this free programme and are over 50 please contact Tracey McRory at tracey@inishowen.ie or tel 003537493 62218 or 00353868529707. Refreshments and lunch included. We will also have a Heritage Reminiscence Day and a cultural concert.