

Saints of the Coming Week: Monday: St Paul Miki and his companions, martyrs; **Tuesday:** St Mel of Ardagh, bishop; **Wed:** St Jerome Emiliani, priest; St Josephine Bakhita, virgin; **Friday:** St Scholastica, virgin; **Saturday:** Our Lady of Lourdes; St Gobnait, virgin
Pilgrimage to Medjugorje 7th June 2023 - 7 nights £635. Full religious programme.
Lourdes 7th - 13th July 2023 £799; **Fatima** 12th - 19th 2023 £899. Savings scheme available. Contact Margaret 07732468511.

Gamblers Anonymous Is gambling affecting your life? Perhaps we can help. Tel 71351329
Alcoholics Anonymous Can't stop? There is a solution. Tel AA 90351222 or email csoofaa@btinternet.com. Website: www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie

A Silent Retreat for Men *Friday 10th - Sunday 12th February* in the Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca. Cost: £90. Everyone welcome. Tel 71262512.

A Ladies' Lenten Retreat, conducted by the Apostles of the Sacred Heart, will take place from Friday 24th - Sunday 26th February in the Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca. Cost: 90. Everyone welcome. Tel: 71262512.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts, hopes, concerns and prayers of women from all parts of our world. Theme: *'I Have Heard About Your Faith'*. The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. A service to celebrate World Day of Prayer will take place on Friday 3rd March at 7.30 pm in First Derry Presbyterian Church. All welcome. Visit wwdp.org.uk

Ards Friary will host a residential retreat, 'Things that Matter', on the first weekend in Lent, 24th - 26th February, led by Philip McParland. Cost €175. To register, tel 074 91 38909 or email: info@ardsfriary.ie. Enquiries / further information can be obtained by emailing: philipmcpaerland@hotmail.com

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH, PENNYBURN

Sunday 6.00 pm: (Sat) Vigil; 10.00 am & 12.00 noon: Mass

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7.30 am: Mass, 10 am: Mass followed by Rosary

Wednesday 7.30 am: Mass; 10.00 am: Mass followed by Rosary; 7.00 pm: Mass

Saturday 10.00 am Mass

ST BRIGID'S CHURCH, CARNHILL

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

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8.50 am: Rosary; 9.15 am: Mass

Thursday: 6.30 pm: Mass;

Saturday 10.30 am: Rosary; 11.00 am: Mass

Confessions after 11.am Mass on Saturdays

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, GALLIAGH

Sunday 7.00 pm: (Sat) Vigil; 9.00 am & 11.00 am: Mass; 6.30 pm: Youth Mass

Monday - Friday 10.30 am: Rosary; 11.00 am: Mass

Thursday 7 pm: Holy Hour for the Unborn & Expectant Mothers (in Our Lady's Chapel).

Marriages 3 months' notice must be given to the parish before date of marriage.

Baptisms Please contact the Parish office by phone to book.

Safeguarding If you have any concerns with regard to safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church, please contact Maire Gormley, the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) at tel: +447596 500 793 or email: maireregormley@derrydiocese.org or PSNI (Police Service of N Ireland) 101 or Social Services: Western HSC Trust, +442871314090 (Ask for the Duty Social Worker).

Parish of the Three Patrons

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A - 5th February 2023

Parish Clergy

Fr Michael McCaughey, PP – 028 71262360 – stpatricks@threepatrons.org
Fr Sean O'Donnell, CC – 028 71351261 – stbrigids@threepatrons.org
Franciscan Friars of the Renewal - 028 71419980 - facebook: [derryfranciscans](https://www.facebook.com/derryfranciscans)
www.threepatrons.org [threepatronsfacebook](https://www.facebook.com/threepatronsfacebook)

Being Salt and Light

Every Christian is called by God to be an influence for good on the world around them. Jesus began teaching this concept early in his ministry when he told his disciples that he would make them fishers of men (Matthew 4:19). Then, in the Sermon on the Mount, he used the illustrations of salt and light (Matthew 5:13-16). Both salt and light have properties which affect things around them. Salt is used to enhance flavour, and as a preservative. To 'be salt' means to deliberately seek to influence the people in one's life by showing them the unconditional love of Christ through good deeds. Light is a symbol used to mean awareness, knowledge and understanding. To 'be light' means to be a witness to others concerning the truth of God's Word, especially about who Christ is and how he died and rose again for our salvation.

When Jesus taught these things, his audience was composed of Israelites. As God's chosen people, they possessed the Word of God, and were salt and light in the world. Gradually, throughout Jesus' teaching ministry, he refined this idea that each one who followed him was to have a spiritual impact on those around them. He sent them out to all the towns around them to preach repentance and the coming of the Kingdom of God.

By the end of his earthly ministry, Christ had made it clear that the gospel was to have a universal application. He commanded his followers to go and teach all nations, to baptise them, and teach them everything he had taught. (Matthew 28:18-20). This has properly been taken as a mandate for all Christians to spread the gospel of Christ to everyone. This includes both concepts of salt and light. We are to do as much good in the name of Christ as we can, and we are to share the light of the gospel with as many as we can.

More than just a command, what is known as the Great Commission is also a wonderful privilege. Christ offers eternal life as an incomparable gift. Sharing the good news of that gift with others is one of the greatest joys of the Christian life.

My Jesus, the true Light of the World, please shine brightly in my life so that I will see clearly and be preserved from the darkness of sin. As You fill me with Your light, please use me as an instrument of Your love and mercy to a world filled with chaos and confusion. Dispel the darkness, dear Lord, and help me to be an authentic disciple of Yours, not drawing attention to myself, but to You, the source of light and life. Jesus, I trust in You.



Requiescant in Pace Sean Lafferty, The Hawthorns; Aidan Heaney, Ardnarea Cres; Kathleen McCloskey, Drumleck Dr / Summerhill Gr; Tommy Conaghan, Carnhill; Martin Doherty, Carnhill, Greg McKinney, Barry St; Rosemary Macari, Maybrook Pk; George Ryan, Ederowen Pk / Marlborough St

Anniversaries Martin & Michael McTernan, Joseph Devlin, Rosemary Kearns, Tina Rodgers, Danny Patterson, Mary McCloy, Vera Rankin, George Scott, Valerie Kelly, Siobhan Rainey Downey, Hugh Fraser, Frank Dorrian, Marie O'Neill, Liam Irwin. May they rest in peace.

Readings for 12th February: 1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 15:16-21; **Psalm:** 118 (119): 1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34; **2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 2: 6-10; **Gospel:** Matthew 5:17-37

The Next Irish Mass will be celebrated today (Sunday) at 12.30 pm in St Joseph's Church, Galliagh. Everyone welcome.

A Holy Hour for the Unborn & Expectant Mothers will take place on Thursday at 7 pm in Our Lady's Chapel, St Joseph's Church, Galliagh. All welcome.

Monthly Mass in honour of St Pio will be celebrated on Monday 6th February at 7 pm in St Patrick's Church, Pennyburn. We ask God's blessing on all through the intercession of St Pio. Everyone welcome.

Be Still - Men's Prayer and Friendship Group ... *"it was not you that chose me, but I who chose you ..."* John 15:16 Our MISSION as a group is that all men be drawn out of the darkness and into the light of Christ, Our AIM is to provide a safe place where men can pray and share in a confident and supportive setting. We meet every Thursday from 8 pm - 9.15 pm in Our Lady's Chapel, St Joseph's Church, Galliagh. All welcome.

Eucharistic Adoration takes place on Mondays after 11 am Mass until 11 pm in St Joseph's Church, Galliagh. Everyone welcome.

Thank You for your generosity to the offertory collection last weekend.

Diocesan Vocations "It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit and then you will be my disciples." Are you being called to love the Lord and His people as a diocesan priest? If you are considering such a vocation, contact your local priest or Fr Pat O'Hagan, PP Bellaghy, at pgoh2111@gmail.com or the National Vocations Office: info@vocations.ie *We pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood in the Derry diocese, for those called to be 'the salt of the earth' and 'the light of the world', charged with preaching the Good News to the poor, that they may be filled with faith and the power of the Holy Spirit.*

The Next Monthly Holy Hour for Vocations will take place in St Eugene's Cathedral on Friday 10th February, and will be led by Deacon Stephen Ward. All welcome.

The Matt Talbot Prayer Society (*Praying for those suffering from addiction, those affected by addiction, especially families*). To join, you are invited to enrol the name of the person to be prayed for and the addiction we pray that they will be freed from. Those enrolled will be prayed for every day. Mass will be offered for those enrolled on the first Monday of every month. You will also receive an enrolment card to enable you to join in the prayer. To enrol someone in the Society please email vita@matttalbotprayersociety.com or private message St Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page or tel 71262894/71365712. Next Matt Talbot Mass will be celebrated in St Eugene's Cathedral on Mon 6th February at 7.30 pm.

52nd Mass in Memory of Sr Clare Crockett will be celebrated on Sunday 12th February at 7 pm in Termonbacca. Mass streamed live via Termonbacca's YouTube channel.

World Day for the Sick takes place on 11th February. The day was introduced by St Pope John Paul II to remind us to pray for all those who are ill and for their caregivers. He chose this day because it coincides with the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes commemorates the first of 18 appearances of the Virgin Mary to a 14-year-old French girl, Bernadette Soubirous in 1858, where she identified herself to St Bernadette as the Immaculate Conception. Pilgrimages to the grotto were authorised in 1862 and many healing miracles have taken place in Lourdes since then.

As the Church journeys along the synodal path, Pope Francis is inviting the faithful to reflect on the fact that "it is especially through the experience of vulnerability and illness that we can learn to walk together according to the style of God, which is closeness, compassion, and tenderness". He makes the call in his Message for the 31st World Day of the Sick. The theme of this year's observance, which will be celebrated next Saturday, is "Take care of him: Compassion as a synodal exercise of healing", drawn from the Gospel of Luke on the Parable of the Good Samaritan. You can read the full text of the Pope's World Day of the Sick message at **Pope's Message for World Day of the Sick 2023 - Catholic Grandparents Association**

Novena Prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes (to be prayed for nine consecutive days) Immaculate Mary who appeared to Saint Bernadette at the Grotto of Lourdes, continue in our time to be Mother of Mercy, Health of the Sick, Refuge of Sinners and Comforter of those who are suffering. At Lourdes, you created a sanctuary for people seeking God's healing touch. I come before you today, asking you to intercede with Jesus your son, for those I care about, for those who have asked for prayers, for those wanting to be healed (mention your intentions here). O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you. Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. Saint Bernadette, pray for us.

Rosary on the Coast will take place on Sunday 5th February at 3 pm at Lisfannon beach for world peace and the protection of unborn babies. All welcome.

Franciscan Friary, Rosstown Healing Service on Sunday 5th February. Rosary at 2.45 pm followed by Mass / Healing Service at 3 pm. Confessions 2 pm - 5 pm.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 3rd - 7th July 2023 For booking forms call at or write to the Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop St, Derry, BT48 6UJ (open Saturdays from 11 am - 1 pm) or leave a message with your address and number of forms required on 71260293 or email derry pilgrim@outlook.com. We regret that we are not in a position to provide medical, nursing and personal care as was customary in the past. It is hoped that these services will be restored in 2024.

Anam Cara Donegal, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Meeting for Bereaved Parents on Thursday 9th February at 7.15 pm in the Raddison Blu Hotel, Letterkenny. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online service. Call 00353 (01) 4045378.

Older People's Forum, The Resource Centre, Derry Have you or a loved one been affected by the current cost of living crisis? Come and join us at this free event to have your say on this issue on Thursday 9th February from 10 am - 1 pm in St Brigid's Hall, Carnhill. Refreshments will be provided. Also, SCAM AWARENESS - Hear from professionals on how to spot a scam and tips on crime prevention. Contact 028 71352832 or laura.mcnulty@resourcecentrederry.com.

