Parish of Errigal – Newsletter 12th July 2020

Weekday Masses:

St. Mary's Church: Monday at 7pm. Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday at 10am.

St. Joseph's Oratory: No weekday Mass presently.

Baptism Dates:

Going forward we will give advanced notice of Baptism dates in each church so that families can arrange with family members to plan for the Baptism.

St. Mary's Church (before the Vigil Mass at 5pm) Saturday 25th July.

St. Joseph's Church (after Sunday Mass at 12.30pm) Sunday 26th July.

The weekends leading to the end of this month are already booked for Baptisms.

Ministry Details...

Readers - 18th/19th July

St. Mary's

Vigil 6pm. - Mary Mc Laughlin.

Sunday 10am. - Joshua O' Neill.

St. Joseph's

Vigil 7.30pm - Ciara Mullan.

Sunday 11.30am. - Adrian Culleton.

Eucharistic Ministers - 18th/19th July

St. Mary's

Vigil 6pm. - Don Robinson & Irene McIntyre

Sunday 10am. - Amanda McGilligan & Kate Lagan.

St. Joseph's

Vigil 7.30pm. - Nadine McNicholl & Mary Conway.

Sunday 11.30am. - Margaret Rose Hasson & Declan McNicholl.

Parish Collections - Thank you.

360 boxes of envelopes in circulation. Returns - (Pink/237 White/156)

St. Mary's - Parish: £1215 Renovation £1050

St. Joseph's - Parish £870 Renovation £870

Sacraments of Initiation - Dates: Confirmation will be celebrated on Wednesday 26th August in St. Mary's Church at 5pm. (this church has internet to facilitate webcam and Facebook access). **First Communion** - St. Mary's Church Saturday 29th August at 11am. St. Joseph's Church Saturday 5th September at 11am.

Parish Envelopes: If anyone wishes to sign up for a box of envelopes, who did not 'sign-up' when we began this process - please place your name/address/tel no in a sealed envelope and place in the collection basket. Please mark envelope - 'Parish Collection'. The data base must be up to date for the purposes of claiming Gift Aid/Covenant from the Inland Revenue. (Census cards are in some of the new boxes which were delivered at the beginning of March currently in circulation - if there is a card in your envelope box we request that you complete the card and return - additional census cards are available in each sacristy). Direct debit forms are available if you request one via the parish email address - errigalparish@qmail.com

PARISH OF ERRIGAL - REOPENING OF BOTH CHURCHES

The times of Masses will be as existed prior to St. Patrick's Day. (Hence, we will return to two Vigils during the summer months, and not the rotation as in previous years).

St. Mary's Church - Saturday Vigil at 6pm and Sunday at 10am.

St. Joseph's Church - Saturday Vigil at 7.30pm and Sunday at 11.30am.

I would like to thank especially those who gathered the names of the volunteers in recent weeks to enable both our churches to open together last weekend. This is only possible thanks to those who have become volunteers in the roles of (1) Church Cleaners (2) Ushers (3) Stewards (I will explain their role and function in each church below).

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge and extend my appreciation to all those who fulfil different ministries and functions in each of our churches, we have met in each church recently. You provide and offer a valuable service in the witness to our community. If I have a regret, it is I would wish to encourage that more volunteers would 'step up and step forward', to engage with those who it would seem are left to 'do the heavy lifting' without corporate support from others who despite their own commitments to family and work could offer to participate in a role and function in the service of their parish community – all be it in a limited capacity – every offer of help will contribute to the effort. I request that consideration might be given by new volunteers to this proposal!

And to this endeavour each of our churches need more ushers/stewards/cleaners to manage this effort going into an unknown future! (details whom to contact Melinda Robinson (Ballerin) 07858959039 or Sheena McKeown (Glenullin) 07983155786. Details also available on the webpage and Facebook page on previous messages).

I greatly appreciate those who have come forward as volunteers in recent weeks to enable both our churches to open the same weekend.

FUNCTION OF ROLE: (1) **CLEANERS** These need to be additional cleaners from the normal rota of church cleaners. After each weekend Mass we request that they wash each seat, and the porch and handles of the church. All cleaning materials are provided. **(USHERS)** They will guide/direct parishioners to their seat. You will be asked at the door the number in your entourage and invited to seat accordingly. (Social Bubbles/Members from the same family sit together). Ushers will also guide/direct parishioners for the reception of Communion respecting social distance. **(STEWARDS)** Their role is primarily outside the church and the porch area. Guiding parishioners towards the Ushers in appropriate numbers. Both ushers and stewards will be wearing arm bands. **I ASK THAT YOU WE FOLLOW THE**

IMPORTANT – I ask if you are intending to return to worship at this time please no not arrive at the last moment if possible, because the allocation of seats will be 'first come first served', and stewards and ushers need time to allocate you to a seat. It is important also that as the seating will be allocated throughout each church, the seat behind the occupied seat will be empty therefore respecting social distancing – meaning 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 seat etc will be occupied, and the even number seat will be empty. (THE UNOCCUPIED SEAT WILL HAVE NOTIFICATION TO THIS EFFECT). Please note also those wearing armbands will facilitate how you exit the church in your turn.

I ask due to the circumstances of the way we are gathering to worship in these times we need to do so respecting the safety of yourself and those around you. Please use the sanitiser provided in each church on the way into the church and when you exit. You are welcome to bring your own sanitiser and face mask to wear if you deem appropriate to do so.

When receiving communion from me or a Eucharistic Minister as before the lock-down you can only receive communion on your hand. Also, we will wear face coverings for the distribution of communion. Church choirs and the St. Joseph's Young Church Group are not permitted at this time to function, in any case it is the summer recess.

Newsletters are now available from this weekend; however, we are not advised to use missalettes at this time. Parish newsletters are our primary mode of communication, as well as the parish Facebook page (errigalparish) and the parish website - www.errigalparish.com email address - errigalparish@qmail.com

I ask for your patience and co-operation in these uncertain times, it is easy to 'close down' following the outbreak of Covid19, it will not be as easy to 'open-up' under the current directions and guidance that must be followed for our own welfare and safety. Thank you.

Coronavirus: Until further notice restrictions of holy water in the fonts of each church are not available. Holy water is still available to bring home from the containers. Eucharistic Ministers will not be offered the chalice; and are not currently bringing communion to the sick at the weekend. We are also to refrain from offering the sign of peace. We are endeavouring to apply good practice as directed in these uncertain times.

Lough Derg Lakeshore and Ancient Pilgrim Path: Reopens for visitors. Walk and pray the Ancient Pilgrim Path with the Prior on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th July. Guided Contemplative Walk begins at noon. Approx. 4hr, 12k moderate loop. Booking essential, full details www.loughderg.org or email info@loughderg.org