

Errigal Parish Newsletter – 30th August 2020

Weekday Masses:

St. Mary's Church: Monday at 7pm. Tuesday - First Friday daily at 10am.

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

Parish Collections - Thank you.

340 boxes of envelopes in circulation. Returns - (Pink/121 White/82)

St. Mary's - Parish: £640 Renovation £350

St. Joseph's - Parish £441 Renovation £305

Thanks to those in recent months who continued to contribute to the parish finances by cheque/parish envelopes. Please note that collection baskets circulating during Mass are suspended presently. There is a collection box at the back of each church at the weekend Masses.

Sick Visitation: Fr. Crowley will attend the sick in his care on Thursday in the morning in Glenullin and the afternoon in Ballerin/Garvagh.

Sacrament of Confirmation: The Sacrament of Confirmation took place in our parish during the week, it marked the coming of the Holy Spirit to renew and confirm the powerful influence of God's Spirit, already received at Baptism. The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit, provide much needed strength and guidance at this very important stage of the candidate's lives, as they begin to grow up and take on responsibility for themselves. Moving to a new school and meeting the challenges and opportunities of the coming teenage years bring an excitement and also some anxiety. The Holy Spirit offers help to calm fears and fulfil the great potential and hope of children and parents alike.

We acknowledge with sincere gratitude the hard work and co-operation between children, parents, teachers, and the parish in learning and preparing for the ceremony. We offer a very special word of thanks and appreciation for the excellent way the teachers in our schools provides a focus for this vitally important witness of developing and handing on the Faith. The teachers and staff, as always have given of themselves in an inspirational way, especially in these challenging times. Also, a special word of thanks to our parish Confirmation team.

I would like to thank all who are participated in the ceremony. Those who prepared, cleaned and decorated the church. Thanks to those who provided the music. I offer my congratulations to all who received the Sacrament. We continue to pray for them and their families. We hope that the memory of this happy day when they received the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit will sustain them through the good and testing times ahead; as they and their families develop their talents and face the challenges of growing up.

DDS Mass: For deceased members of the Derry Diocesan Society will be offered in St. Mary's Church on Sunday 6th September at 10am.

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 5th September/3rd October. **St. Joseph's Church** (after Sunday Mass at 12.30pm) Sunday 6th September/11th October.

Baptism: We welcome into the Christian community Oisín Daniel McAlister, 22 Claragh Hill Grange, Kilrea, Dearbhla Petrine Mary Deighan, 24 Shanlongford Road and Aoife Frances Blaney, 9 Tirkeeran Road who were baptised last weekend.

St. Mary's Church Readers - 5th/6th Sept

Vigil 6pm. - Oran Bradley

Sunday 10am. - Seamus O'Kane

Eucharistic Ministers - 5th/6th Sept

Vigil 6pm. - Siobhan McIntyre & Kathleen Connolly

Sunday 10am. - Martina Bradley & Gillian O'Neill.

St. Joseph's Church Readers - 5th/6th Sept

Vigil 7.30pm. - Ciara Mullan

Sunday 11.30am. - Lawrence O'Kane

Eucharistic Ministers - 5th/6th Sept

Vigil 7.30pm. - Maria Healy & Eimear O'Kane

Sunday 11.30am. - Grainne O'Kane & John Heaney.

Face Coverings: At this time, both in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland, the governments have not made mandatory the wearing of face coverings at services of worship. However, following recent consultations with Public Health authorities, the leaders of the four main churches in Ireland decided to recommend and encourage the use of face coverings at Masses and other liturgical celebrations, from (this weekend) Sunday 30th August. Some people are exempt from the wearing of face coverings, even in situations which would otherwise be mandatory, as outlined at <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid19-face-coverings> and <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/aac74c-guidance-on-safe-use-of-facecoverings>. Please continue to observe social distancing, and to use the hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the Church.

St. Mary's Church - Altar Society for September: Josephine McKeown Nuala Mullan Michelle Doherty Amanda Mooney.

Counters for September: Tracey & Megan McGilligan.

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@gmail.com

Readings: First Reading: The prophet Jeremiah was, at times, a reluctant prophet. He would have preferred to be free of the burden of proclaiming God's word. But the same word burned within him like a fire in his heart, and he simply had to proclaim it. May God give his prophets the same ardour in our time. **Second Reading:** St. Paul condenses the entire life of discipleship into offering ourselves as a living sacrifice. For his original hearers, this was a ground-breaking idea, as a sacrifice was, a definition, put to death. We are asked to put to death everything in us that is not of God. **Gospel:** It was Peter's compassion that turned him into an obstacle to Jesus. he would have to learn to let his compassion be guided by prudence, and his desire to avoid suffering to be tempered by obedience to God's plan.

Reflection: 'How Great Thou Art!' How great thou art, dear Saviour; how grand are all thy ways. How wonderful thy mighty works; may the heavens sing thy praise ...
How great thou art, dear Saviour; come hold us close to thee ... Renew our faith, and firm our will, and set our spirits free. How great thou art dear Saviour; how precious is thy love. How bountiful thy blessings Lord, that rain down from above. How great thou art, dear Saviour; reach out to us below - Uplift our sad and downcast hearts and help our zeal to grow!

Ballerin GAA: There was no winner of the Lotto the Nos were 6 9 19 26 1st J/P 10,000 2nd J/P 10,000 3rd J/P £750 £50 winner Kirsty McCormick.