



# St. Anne's Parish

Pastoral Community of Derriaghy & Colin

Fr. Peter O'Hare, PP  
Rev Pat McNeill, Deacon  
Sr. Mary Murray, Parish Sister

Parish Office: 02890610112  
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Parish Centre: 07745169205  
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27<sup>th</sup> September 2020

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year

**W/end Masses: Saturday 5pm Vigil & 11am Sunday**

**Masses this week: Tues, Wed & Thurs 10am**

**YouTube** –All our masses continue to be uploaded onto our parish YouTube channel.

**Outside Speakers!** – As our available seating inside the church is reduced due to social distancing, we have our mass relayed outside to the carpark. Communion will be distributed at the door of the church. Bring a chair, a cushion (we have some available!) or just sit in your car and listen!.....you will still be part of our parish celebration! All are welcome!

**We Remember them**

**Month's Mind:** Jim Richardson, Ray Brady.

**Anniversary:** Isabel Smith, Pat Boden, Charlotte Toner.

**Parish Office: Opening Hours: 9am to 1pm Mon to Fri.**

**Parish WhatsApp Group** – Keep up to date with what is happening in our parish community .....text your name and number to 07714691281 to be added to our WhatsApp group.

**Bereavement Support Group:** Have you suffered the pain of loss and bereavement? Talk in confidence – call 90610112 and a member of the Group will contact you.



**Our Church is open!!**

**Tues, Wed and Thurs 10am -12pm**

- Our church is open for public masses – this is possible because of our many **stewards and cleaners** - who help us all to stay safe when we come together as a faith community.
- **We would ask that all those attending St. Anne's to please wear masks/facecoverings.**

The **Obligation to attend mass is still suspended** and we would encourage our older parishioners and those who would feel more vulnerable, to come along to one of our weekday celebrations!

**and ..... celebrating the Sacraments – good news!**

**First Holy Communion**

**First Communion for children in St. Anne's PS**

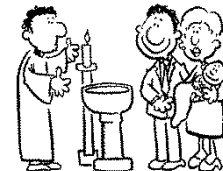
**Sat. 3rd October - Mrs Cullen's class**



**First Communion for Children with Special Needs:  
Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> at 11am.**

**First Communion for Children in St. Gerard's School:**

**Friday October 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>**



**Baptisms:** Please email the parish office with your request for baptism and we will be in touch. **Baptisms are celebrated one at a time on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.**

**Weddings:** If you have had to re schedule a previously planned wedding, please email the parish office to update the arrangements.



### **St. Vincent de Paul**

Due to the present circumstances we are unable to hold our usual collections after the weekend masses. Anyone wishing to donate can do so online:

Account Name: St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. Anne

Account No. 65576181 Sort Code: 938300

Thanking you for your generosity.



### **Your Giving**

This w/end - **Weekly Offering & Church Renovation Fund**

- We would recommend that you set up a **Standing Order**. Call the parish office on 028 90610112 and leave your details or email us on [stannes@downandconnor.org](mailto:stannes@downandconnor.org)



**OR** **Donate online** to St. Annes Parish  
A/C No. **07707787 Sort Code 93 83 00**

**OR** **Envelopes – a collection box available at mass**  
Your continued helpful generosity is much appreciated.

**OR** Use the “**Donate**” button on our home page

### **Prayer for Grandparents**

Lord Jesus,  
help families and society to value the presence and roles of grandparents.  
May they never be ignored or excluded,  
but always encounter respect and love.  
Help them to live serenely and to feel welcomed  
in all the years of life you give them.

### **FACE COVERINGS IN CHURCHES**

All Church leaders, are recommending and encouraging the use of face coverings at all Masses and other liturgical celebrations, along with the ongoing maintenance of 2 metre physical distancing.....

..... It should however be noted that some people are exempt from the wearing of face coverings, as outlined in public health agency guidance:

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-face-coverings>

It has become increasingly clear that the wearing of face coverings, in conjunction with hand washing etc, is likely to reduce the spread of Coronavirus, thus helping to protect others. The use of face coverings is therefore one way in which we can evidence protection for the most vulnerable, support for our health workers and practical love for our neighbour.

- **We would ask that all those attending St. Anne’s to please wear masks/facecoverings.**

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### **Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel**

- 1.** It is possible to be a dutiful and observant Christian, and yet feel there is something missing. Does it not make a huge difference when your heart is in what you are doing? It is so much better than just going through the motions. Where do you experience that most in your life?
- 2.** The desire of Jesus for us is that we grow in that kind of committed, enthusiastic involvement in life. What encourages you to grow in this way? Recall times when your relationship with God, or with another person, was something that gave you energy, hope or joy. What lessons do you learn from those memories?
- 3.** The elders probably thought well of themselves in contrast to the tax collectors and sinners. Perhaps you know some unconventional people, ones who appear to ignore the ‘right’ way of doing things, and yet they have taught you something about true goodness.

## **Readings**

**First Reading:** Ezekiel offers us words and ways that will restore our relationship with God.

**Second Reading:** St Paul charts a way for us so that we always consider the other person to be better than ourselves.

**Gospel:** The gospel asks our opinion about God's will and our own way of response. Jesus makes a startling statement about the sort of people who will make their way into the kingdom of heaven. We are in for major surprises and shocks....when....if we get there!!!

## **Scripture Theme**

*God gives us the gift of repentance. In the parable of the two sons, Jesus holds up the example of the public sinners in his time being converted while the establishment figures refuse to listen to his message. Ezekiel reminds us that repentance is always possible, for the Lord remembers his mercy.*

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## **FIRST READING**

A reading from the book of Ezekiel 18:25-28



**T**he word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: You object, "What the Lord does is unjust".

Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed.

When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest,

he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.

## **Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 24*

## **Response**

*Remember your mercy, Lord.*

1. Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. *Response*

2. Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
Do not remember the sins of my youth.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord. *Response*

3. The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor. *Response*

## **SECOND READING**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 2:1-11

**I**f our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, So that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other s people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:  
His state was divine,  
yet he did not cling  
to his equality with God but emptied himself  
to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are;



and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,

should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Gospel Acclamation**    *Jn 14: 23*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew    21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today".

He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went.

The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go.

Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said.

Jesus said to them,



'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you.

For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did.

Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.

Like all of Jesus' parables, this one is just waiting to be turned on us. Or, as Jesus says by way of introduction to his parable: What is your opinion? Like the second son in the parable, our presence here at Mass says 'yes' to the Father:

- We gather together. This is a 'yes' to community, to neighbourliness, to care for others.
- We acknowledge our sinfulness. This is a 'yes' to authentic tolerance, rather than the mere PC impostor. If we stand in need of mercy, we realize that others have the same need.
- We listen to God's word. This is a 'yes' to being challenged by God's way of thinking, and a willingness to leave aside some of our spontaneous reactions and mindsets.
- We share at the Lord's table. This is a 'yes' to 'communion' with others, and all that this means; it is a 'yes' to being strengthened by the Lord so that we might live in his truth and in his love.
- We pray the Lord's prayer together, and in that prayer we say 'yes' to forgiveness, even when it is difficult; we agree not to write anyone off.
- We pray for peace and offer each other a sign of peace. This is a 'yes' to being peacemakers in our homes, our workplaces, our schools, our clubs, our neighbourhoods.

So then, what is your opinion? All those ways in which we say 'yes': will they stack up? Will they find traction? During this coming week, will the 'yes' we speak here leave a visible trace in our lives and in the lives of others? In a work of theology he wrote before becoming Pope Benedict XVI, Joseph Ratzinger coined a lovely phrase: he wrote about the need to be 'constant in the Yes.' The future Pope pointed out that the only way to be constant is to be always willing to change, to be continually converted away from our tendency to say 'no' to the things of God.





***'Hope in Him, hold firm and take heart.' Psalm 27***

There were 6,666 abortions in the Republic of Ireland in 2019 and over 200,000 in Great Britain, including significant numbers from the island of Ireland. We, the Catholic Church, have a message of hope and a story of love; together, we can promote a culture of life.

We grieve the loss of life due to abortion. We seek a change of minds and hearts about the innate dignity of the child in the womb and the care of pregnant women. Pope Francis writes, 'The gift of a new child, entrusted by the Lord to a father and a mother, begins with acceptance, continues with lifelong protection and has as its final goal the joy of eternal life ... For God allows parents to choose the name by which He himself will call their child for all eternity.' (Amoris Laetitia - The Joy of Love, 166)

## **How can Catholic parishes and communities be places of welcome, assistance and support?**

On this 25th anniversary of St John Paul II's letter *Evangelium Vitae* (The Gospel of Life), we renew the call for respect and celebration of all life.

The parish is a 'family of families,' (*Amoris Laetitia*, 87). We ask our parishes to be places of welcome, where we can support pregnant women and celebrate the precious gift entrusted to them. We recognise that family is often 'a challenging mosaic made up of many different realities, with all their joys, hopes and problems.' (*Amoris Laetitia*, 57).

We want to provide support for women and men who face difficult circumstances, as well as those who have experienced abortion and seek comfort in the Lord and their community.

### **Our Pledge**

'As a Catholic, I promise to foster a culture of welcome and acceptance of new life. I will pray and work for better legal protections for pregnant women and the child in the womb.'

### **Hope and Healing after Abortion**

God does not withhold his forgiveness from those who seek it with a sincere heart. But, even when we confess our sins and receive absolution, we are not always ready to forgive ourselves. There are many women and men still living, years later, with the emotional and spiritual scars of abortion. Our mission to promote a culture of life must include helping these women and men to be reconciled with themselves, with their lost child, and with the God who has never stopped loving them.

In the Lord we can find peace: 'Hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.' (Romans 5:5)

'My name is Caitlin\* and I am 28 years old. When I became pregnant for the first time five years ago, I had an abortion. I have carried the pain from this experience, as well as feelings of loss, confusion and loneliness. When attending a Rachel's Vineyard retreat, I was given the time and space to name the child that I lost and to find healing and forgiveness in the Lord.'

\*The name has been change to protect the identity of the mother.

To learn more about Rachel's Vineyard go to [www.rachelsvineyard.ie/](http://www.rachelsvineyard.ie/)

If you are concerned about an unborn child with a life-limiting condition, go to: [www.everylifecounts.ie](http://www.everylifecounts.ie) OR [www.onedaymore.ie](http://www.onedaymore.ie)  
Access the Day for Life Resources on: [www.councilforlife.ie](http://www.councilforlife.ie)

*About Day For Life Day for Life is celebrated yearly by the Catholic Church in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition.*



[https://s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/lpress-craft/images/retreats/3MR\\_logo.png](https://s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/lpress-craft/images/retreats/3MR_logo.png)

- **3-Minute Retreats** invite you to take a short prayer break right at your computer. Spend some quiet time reflecting on a Scripture passage.

Knowing that not everyone prays at the same pace, you have control over the pace of the retreat. After each screen, a Continue button will appear. Click it when you are ready to move on. If you are new to online prayer, the basic timing of the screens will guide you through the experience.

- **Sacred Space app**

The Sacred Space daily prayer is available on [Apple/iOS](#) and [Android/Google Play](#) devices - you can click on the links to install the app on your device. The site is also responsive and accessible on handheld devices.

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sacred-space-daily-prayer/id1050192048?ls=1&mt=8>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.gmail.techadmin.SSapp>

- **Pray As You Go**

- This is a daily prayer session, designed to go with you wherever you go, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly whilst travelling to and from work, study, etc.
- A new prayer session is produced every day of the week and one session for the weekend. It is not a 'Thought for the Day', a sermon or a bible-study, but rather a framework for your own prayer.
- Lasting between ten and thirteen minutes, it combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection.  
Our aim is to help you to:
  - become more aware of God's presence in your life
  - listen to and reflect on God's word
  - grow in your relationship with God

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/>



Sunday 27 September 2020  
Matthew 21:28-32  
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus tells the story of a man who had two sons. He asks each son to work in the vineyard for the day. The first son says, "NO, I will not go" but then decides he will go and help. The second son says, "YES, I will go" but then doesn't. Actions, not words are what matter.

# I WILL HELP!

Which son?

Which is the **FIRST** son and which is the **SECOND**? What did each son say?

\_\_\_\_\_ son      \_\_\_\_\_ son

Which son actually did what his father wanted?  
The \_\_\_\_\_ son

## Spot the difference

Teagan's mum asked her to tidy her bedroom. At first she said "Yes" but did not do it. Later, after thinking better of it, she tidied up.

Can you spot ten differences?



## Grape message

There are five bunches of grapes hidden around the sheet. Each bunch has a word on it. Put the words in the right order to find an important message.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## I will help

Although he said he wouldn't help, the first son has changed his mind. Help the son do what his father asked and go to work in the vineyard.



## A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, help me to say "yes" and mean it when people ask for help. Help me to put my words into action. Amen.

Answers: Second son said "Yes". First son said "No" but did what his father wanted. Spot the differences: sock, book, birds on floor, bed unmade, pillow, teagan picture, curtain, shirt and hanger, wardrobe door. Grape message: Say yes and help people.