

## St. Anne's Parish

Pastoral Community of Derriaghy & Colin

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

The Baptism of the Lord

Our Church is closed until Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Sunday Eucharist: Vigil 5pm and 11am

Mass this week: Tues, Wed & Thurs 10am

All Masses are live online



**Reminder:** The Obligation to attend mass is still suspended!

Parish Office: Mon to Fri 9am to 1pm
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.

<u>Recently Deceased</u>: Betty McCaughan (Ballycastle), Ciaran Devlin (Armoy).

<u>Anniversaries</u>: Patrick & Patricia O'Hare, Eugene Casey, Jimmy & Annie Catney.

#### **Baptisms**

Baptisms continue to be celebrated within the Covid-19 regulations. Please email the parish office with your request for baptism and we will be in touch.

**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.

#### St. Vincent de Paul

Anyone wishing to donate can do online:

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

Account No. 65576181 Sort Code: 938300.

The Parish Conference of St. Vincent de Paul would like to sincerely thank all the parishioners who continue to donate during these uncertain times. We were particularly overwhelmed by your generosity during the Christmas period. As you can imagine, we had huge demands this year and all your donations were greatly appreciated. The conference will keep you and your families in our prayers.

#### Your Giving

This w/end - Weekly Offering

 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 <a href="mailto:standing-order-standing-ord

**OR Donate Online** to St. Annes Parish

A/C No. 07707787 Sort Code 93 83 00

Your continued generosity is much appreciated.

#### **Sanctuary Lamp**:

This week our lamp burns in memory of Catherine Stewart

## St. Anne's Primary School and Nursery Unit - Enrolment in Nursery Unit and Primary 1 for September 2021.

#### **Nursery**

Children born on or between 02/07/17 and 01/07/18 are eligible to apply for a place in a pre-school education provider. The application procedure opens on Thurs 7th January 2021 at 12noon, with the online portal available from that time. Application portal closes at 12 noon on Friday 29th January 2021.

#### **Primary 1**

Children born on or between 02/07/16 and 01/07/17 must begin their Primary education in September 2021. The application procedure opens on Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021 at 12noon, with the online portal available from that time. The application portal closes at 12 noon on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are unable to hold our usual Open Days for the Nursery Unit and the Primary School. Please contact the school office on 02890615414, to register interest for our online prospectus, which includes a virtual tour of the Nursery Unit and Primary 1. You will also find further presentations regarding the school and the admissions process on our website. The website will also provide you with other insights into the life of St. Anne's Primary School and Nursery Unit. The website address is www.saintannesps.com

Please feel free to contact the school office for help during the process



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

- John gives an example of humility as a person confident in his own role but not seeking to claim to be more than he is. He acknowledges that Jesus is greater. There is a freedom in being able to acknowledge the gifts of others without losing a sense of one's own giftedness. Recall times when you were able to do this.
- The baptism of Jesus was an extraordinary religious experience for him. Something happened that was a major step forward for Jesus in coming to know that he was the beloved Son of God. We all have events in our lives that are milestones along the road of discovering who we are. What have been these milestones for you?
- 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'
- Bring to mind experiences in which you knew you were the beloved (of God or of another person) and that the one who loved you was well pleased. Remember these experiences with gratitude, knowing that the only proper response to love received is thankfulness. Perhaps you have also given that experience to another.
- It is easy to lament the growing secularisation in the world today, but the Spirit of God who spoke loudly to the world in the Christ-event is active today. How can we be open to the new things the Spirit is saying to the church today?

John Byrne OSA



#### The Baptism of the Lord

The Baptism of the Lord. Jesus is anointed with the Spirit and his power. He is proclaimed Messiah. He now goes about doing good, working the signs that make him known as the Servant of God. He is the one who brings good news to the poor and tells of salvation. Through our Baptism each one of us is ordered to the life of Christ — Priest, Prophet and King — and the Father looks on us with favour.

#### **FIRST READING**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 55:1-11

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David. See, I have made of you a witness to the peoples, a leader and a master of the nations. See, you will summon a nation you never knew, those unknown will come hurrying to you, for the sake of the Lord your God, of the Holy One of Israel who will glorify you. Seek the Lord while he is still to be found. call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way. the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts,

my ways not your ways — it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

Ps Is 12:2-6. I v.6



**Response:** With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

Truly, God is my salvation,
 I trust, I shall not fear.

 For the Lord is my strength, my song,
 he became my saviour.
 With joy you will draw water
 from the wells of salvation. Response

 Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
 Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
 Declare the greatness of his name. Response
 Sing a psalm to the Lord
 for he has done glorious deeds,
 make them known to all the earth!
 People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
 for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. Response

#### **SECOND READING**

A reading from the first letter of St John 5:1-9



Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us:

has commanded us; this is what loving God is keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult,

because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world — our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood: with the Spirit as another witness since the Spirit is the truth so that there are three witnesses, the Spirit, the water and the blood, and all three of them agree. We accept the testimony of human witnesses, but God's testimony is much greater, and this is God's testimony, given as evidence for his Son.

#### **Gospel Acclamation** *Jn 1:29*

Alleluia, alleluia!
John saw Jesus coming towards him and said:
This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the World Alleluia!

#### **GOSPEL**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:7-11



In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'



### "As many people as possible stay at home for the sake of health, life and the Common Good."

- Catholic Bishops of Northern Ireland

# Catholic Bishops of Northern Ireland: "As many people as possible stay at home for the sake of health, life and the Common Good"

Following further briefing today by the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Officer, and in consultation with The Executive Office, we are very concerned at the current serious public health position in which Northern Ireland finds itself: with the extremely high level of transmission of the Covid-19 virus; the continuing escalation of numbers in hospital and intensive care; the number of associated deaths; and, the increasingly unsustainable pressure on our healthcare staff. The clear message from health officials is that this situation is going to worsen significantly over the coming weeks.

We recognise the efforts of so many in our parishes who have been working to ensure that our gatherings for public worship are as safe as possible and we welcome the continuing engagement between the faith communities and the NI Executive which has led to consensus between us on the importance of people being able to gather in person for

worship. At this time, however, we acknowledge and support the unequivocal message from public health authorities that the movement and gathering of people should be minimised and that as many people as possible stay at home for the sake of health, life and the Common Good. In light of our ongoing consultations and of the current serious and worsening situation, and in line with clear public health guidance that people should stay at home, we have decided that for a limited period (from midnight on Thursday 7 January until Saturday 6 February 2021, subject to review in late January), the celebration of the Eucharist and other liturgies should take place without the physical presence of the faithful – with the exception of marriage, funeral, baptismal liturgies and drive-in services (subject to regulations). Arrangements for recording and/or livestreaming, and making individual visits for private prayer are also permissible in accordance with regulations. We encourage parishes, where possible, to continue to broadcast the celebration of Mass – and other devotions and prayer services – online and on other media, knowing that faith and prayer can be a tremendous support to individuals and society during these difficult times.

We make this decision reluctantly, conscious that not being able to gather for public worship can cause pain for all the faithful, but in the hope that this limited period of sacrifice will be for the protection of life and health and for the greater good of all. We once more ask for prayers for the sick, the bereaved and all those whose livelihoods have been particularly impacted by the pandemic. We keep in our prayers all health workers, carers, chaplains and other essential workers. We welcome the announcement that a similar position is being taken by the leaders of the Church of Ireland, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Methodist Church in Ireland and many other denominations and faith communities in response to the unequivocal message from public health authorities that as many people as possible stay at home at this time.

#### **Most Rev Eamon Martin DD**

Archbishop of Armagh & Primate of All-Ireland
Apostolic Administrator of Dromore

Most Rev Noel Treanor DD
Bishop of Down and Connor

Most Rev Donal McKeown DD
Bishop of Derry

Most Rev Larry Duffy DD
Bishop of Clogher

Most Rev Michael Router DD
Auxiliary Bishop of Armagh



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