

# St. Anne's Parish

Pastoral Community of Derriaghy & Colin

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

4th Sunday of Lent

#### Our Church is closed until 1st April

**Sunday Eucharist: Vigil 5pm and 11am** 

Mass this week: Tues, Wed & Thurs 10am

All Masses are live online



Parish Office: Mon to Fri 9am to 1pm

<u>Parish WhatsApp Group</u> – 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.



**Anniversaries**: Niall Holmes, Danny Cregan.

St. Patrick's Day Mass: Wednesday at 10am



Adoration in March: Join us online for one hour or whatever time you can, on a **Wednesday** evening sometime **between 5pm and 8pm**. Scripture, reflections, music and prayer from 7pm with Benediction at 8pm.

#### 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:stander

**OR Donate Online** to St. Anne's Parish

A/C No. 07707787 Sort Code 93 83 00

Your continued generosity is much appreciated.

 New Envelopes: The new boxes of envelopes are now ready and will be delivered over the next week or so. If you wish, we can have them available for picking up at the office ......if you let know. Call 028 90610112

#### This LENT in St. Anne's!

1. Walking with Jesus along the Via Dolorosa. This five-session program continues this Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm. It includes a Gospel Reading, Reflective Prayer and Scriptural Rosary and will be available LIVE on our YouTube Channel. The accompanying leaflet is available to download from our website. We can also deliver it to you if you let us know.

#### 2. Lectio Divina in Lent

This program is held on **Zoom** and takes place on **Thursdays** at **7.30pm** for approximately one hour. This is a great opportunity for us to connect with one another and to the Word of God. Spaces are limited, so leave your **name** on <a href="mailto:stannes@downandconnor.org">stannes@downandconnor.org</a>. We will then send you the link.

### TRÓCAIRE in LENT



Last year, Madris and her children Joy-Faith and Alex appeared on the Lenten box.

## Your generous support has helped them through the ongoing challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"In the first few months, I was struggling to choose whether to buy masks for my children to prevent them from getting the covid 19 virus, or to buy food to prevent them from hunger" says Madris. These are the stark choices faced by so many people across the world affected by Covid, where there are little government safety nets for people who lose their incomes.

Thanks to the generosity of your parish, Madris was able to feed her family. Your support helped provide food, face masks and other key items to help the family survive, and trained Madris in how to recycle local materials to create a hand washing tap at the family home.

"I want to thank Trocaire very much. You really saved me and my children's lives. If it wasn't for your support now we would not even be here smiling. God bless you" said Madris.

Madris wants you to know that she is "thankful for the people of Ireland for always remembering her."

And please, continue to keep South Sudan in your hearts and prayers this Lent. There is still need. War has taken enough from Ajak & Awut, and they need your love, prayers and support.

To share their story with your Parish, please click here.

With every blessing this Lent, Colm Hogan, Trócaire

Trócaire are appealing to you to continue your support this Lent. Resources, prayers and videos are available on <a href="www.trocaire">www.trocaire</a>.org and donations can be made to the Lent campaign in the following ways:

Online at <a href="https://www.trocaire.org/donations/now/">www.trocaire.org/donations/now/</a>

By phone: 0800 912 1200 (Northern Ireland)

The contents of each and every Trócaire donation, no matter how small, come together to make a significant difference. This virus knows no borders, but neither does our compassion.

Trocaire Boxes can be picked up outside the church between 10am to 4pm each day!

If you would like a box to be delivered to your home, please call or email the parish office.



Our New Live Streaming Service! Our recently installed cameras and new sound equipment has made a huge improvement in our online streaming service. This has been a big investment for the future and it will allow us, in these very uncertain times of Covid-19, to continue to provide strong and good quality communication. If you are in a position to do so, may I ask you to please consider making a donation? Your continued generosity to the upkeep of our parish in these difficult days is very much appreciated, and please continue to help us provide you with the best pastoral care and service. We continue to hold each other in prayer during these pandemic days.

#### St. Vincent de Paul

Anyone wishing to donate, can do so online:

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

Account No. 65576181 Sort Code: 938300.



- **1.** Jesus speaks of himself being lifted up, a term that can mean a physical lifting, or also exaltation. By this play on words the evangelist explains to us that Jesus' gift of himself in the passion was a glorious revelation of love, despite all its injustice and brutality. Bring to mind occasions when the love shown by Jesus in his passion was a sacrament of God's love for you.
- 2. It would be very cushy for us if we could be a source of life to others without cost to ourselves. True life-givers know that they need the generosity of being lifted up by giving their lives so that others may have life. Recall when you have had that generosity and give thanks for others who have been like that for you.
- **3.** We receive life from God when our faith enables us to trust in God's love for us. We give life to one another when the love between us is trustworthy. Recall memories of that kind of trustworthy love. For whom have you been able to be a 'Jesus person' and give a love that another could trust? Who has shown that kind of love to you and been for you a sacrament of God's love?

John Byrne osa Email jpbyrneosa@gmail.com



- Please Stay Home!
  - Wear a Mask!
  - Keep Apart!
- Wash Your Hands!

#### Scriptural themes

The seed is sown in the ground when its hour comes. In time it bears fruit. Christ through his obedience dies, but through his dying he brings eternal life to all who call on his name. In the new relationship with him that comes about, God remembers our sins no more.

#### **FIRST READING**

A reading from the second book of Chronicles *36:14-16.19-23* 

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after

messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy. Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the



walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."

#### **Responsorial Psalm** *Ps* 136

# Response: O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!

- 1. By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there we hung up our harps. *Resp*onse
- 2. For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy. 'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' *Response*
- 3. O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil?

  If I forget you Jerusalem, let my right hand wither!

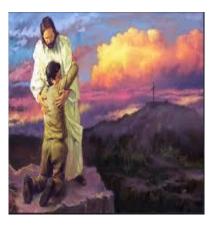
  4. O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys!

  \*\*Response\*\*

#### **SECOND READING**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 2:4-10

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.



This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

#### **Gospel Acclamation** *Jn 3:16*

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son;
everyone who believes in him has eternal life.
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

#### **GOSPEL**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 3:14-21

#### Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,

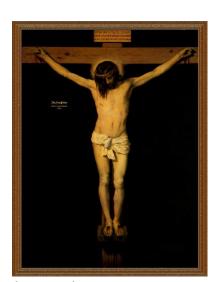
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that'everyone who believes in him may not be lost

but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world.

but so that through him the world might be saved.



No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, . so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.

(Taken from *THE JERUSALEM BIBLE*, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday, a division of Random House Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.)

## PRIESTHOOD:

## Is it God's dream for you?



"Joseph, Son of David, do not be afraid!" (Mt 1:20)

Join the online 2-day retreat for young men beginning on the Feast of St Joseph, Fri 19th - Sat 20th March 2021.

#### Ask Jesus what he wants for your life. Be Brave.

A time for reflection, prayer, meeting other men considering their vocation and a panel discussion with priests from the Diocese.

#### Retreat Director: Fr Marcus Holden

If you are interested in joining the retreat, contact Fr Kevin.





028 90 614 567





Thursday 25th March 2021 at 7 pm let us gather as a Diocese to pray for vocations.

Every vocation requires commitment and generosity to say "Yes" to God's plan for our lives.

On the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, we invite you to join with us online to pray the rosary for vocations to the priesthood.

This rosary will be broadcast from St Peter's Cathedral Belfast.

www.churchservices.tv/stpeterscathedral



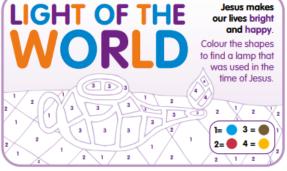
Mary Most Holy, the Mother of our Saviour, had courage, placing her youth and her enthusiasm in God's hands. Through her intercession, may we be granted that same openness of heart, that same readiness to respond, "Here I am", to the Lord's call, and that same joy in setting out (cf. Lk 1:39), like her, to proclaim Him to the whole world.

Pope Francis

54th World Day of Prayer for Vocations

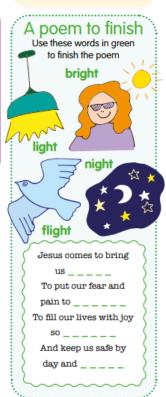












## A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, you are the light of the world. Help us to be loving and kind so that we brighten up the lives of all we meet. Amen.

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# FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

#### Gospel of John 3:14-21

Theme: God sent his Son, so that through him, the world will be saved.

#### Extracts from the Gospel Reading

God loved the world so much, that he gave us his only Son. Whoever believes in Jesus will have life forever.

The light has come into the world and whoever lives according to the truth

comes into the light so that it can be clearly seen that their works have been done in God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

We speak about light in our gospel today. Playing games, having fun and getting our photo taken can brighten up our day and bring light into our lives.

#### Ask the Children

- 1) What games do we play to have fun?
- What games do we play that the children in South Sudan also play?
   For example, football, skipping, volleyball, basketball.
- 3) Other than games, what do we love doing each day?

#### **Activity 1**

Go for a walk and maybe have a little treasure hunt around the church grounds. Look for the stained-glass windows. Find the place where the priest reads the gospel.

#### **Activity 2**

Make stained-glass windows with lollipop sticks. Put the lollipop sticks in a triangular shape, then add tissue

paper. Add some twine at the top so it can dangle. For some help, check out this link: <a href="https://www.wikihow.com/">https://www.wikihow.com/</a> Make-Tissue-Paper-Suncatchers



Nyajima (2) and Nyibak (5) having fun whilst their photo is taken. Photo credit: Achouth Deng

