

Extension of the Covid-19 Shut-down by the Northern Ireland Executive

On 21st January 2021, the Northern Ireland Executive took the unanimous decision to extend the current Covid-19 restrictions until **Friday, 5th March 2021**.

In the light of this decision, and on the basis of the clear and unequivocal public health advice that people should continue to *stay at home*, the Northern Catholic Bishops have decided that, until **5th March (but subject to ongoing review in line with any change to the public health advice)**, the celebration of the Eucharist and other liturgies should continue to take place without the physical presence of the faithful - with the exception of marriage, funeral and baptismal liturgies.

St Eugene's Cathedral will open after Mass for individual prayer.

A Prayer in the time of the Corona Virus

By Fr Brian Grogan S.J

Dear God, in 1879 the Apparition at Knock gave hope and courage to the people of Ireland in difficult times.

We ask that Our Lady may now protect your beloved people from the Coronavirus.

May its victims be strengthened by the spiritual support of the Christian community and restored soon to full health.

We also pray for the medical personnel who deal with the virus. This we ask in confidence through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Knock pray for us.

St. Joseph pray for us.

St John the Evangelist pray for us. Amen

Please join us via the Webcam:

We invite you to join us via webcam in St Eugene's Cathedral by watching our live streaming which can be viewed online at www.churchservices.tv, churchmedia.tv/camera/st-eugenescathedral or the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com.

Sunday (7th February)

Masses via Webcam at 7.00 am, 9.30 am, 11.00 am, 12.30 pm and 7.00 pm

Please note: Local Radio Station Drive 105 will broadcast the 12.30 pm Sunday Mass live.

6.00 pm Benediction

Monday to Friday (8th – 12th February)

Mass via Webcam at 8.00 am, 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

12.00 noon The Angelus & Rosary

3.00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

Via Webcam

8.00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary followed by Night Prayer

Saturday (13th February)

Mass via Webcam at 10.00 am, Vigil Masses at 6.15 pm and 7.30 pm.

Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes: Bishop McKeown will continue the Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes after the 8.00 pm Rosary. This Novena will be offered for those who are sick and will continue until the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on 11th February.

St Eugene's Cathedral will open after Mass for individual prayer.

Face Coverings: We ask all adults and children aged 14 and over to please wear a face covering (unless they are exempt from wearing mandatory face coverings). Medical advice is that wearing face coverings is first and foremost about protecting others. Please continue to observe social distancing, to use the hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the Cathedral.



Reflection on today's Gospel: *Mark 1: 29-39*

He cast out devils and cured many who were suffering from disease.

Today's beautiful Gospel is a treasury of profound spiritual truths for us. Jesus goes to the house of Simon and Andrew. It is the Sabbath, the day of rest, but with Jesus compassion always comes first, and so without any hesitation he reaches out to Simon's mother-in-law and heals her of her fever. The woman's response to her cure is both physical and spiritual: she immediately begins to serve those present. The message is clear: spiritual health is indicated by a willingness to serve others. Spiritual sickness is indicated by concern only with oneself.

People who were sick either in mind or in body were marginalized during the time of Jesus: they were shunned, avoided, treated as sinners whose illnesses were both punitive and deserved. Jesus turned this attitude towards the sick on its head. He reached out to the marginalized with his healing touch, always responding to and serving the needs of others: the sick, the possessed, the horribly diseased who were loathed and shunned by others.

Jesus goes to a lonely place to pray. Jesus, the Son of God, invariably goes alone to pray to his Father before he has a decision to make. And he is soon confronted by two choices: whether to respond to the pressure from the people to stay in Capernaum where he is lauded daily as a miracle-worker, or to seek out pastures new in which to spread the Good News of repentance and salvation. He chooses to leave the comfort of acceptance and praise and face into the unknown, a decision undoubtedly influenced by his time alone in prayer with God, his Father.

Jesus, may our actions towards others be directed by compassion always. May we learn to define our spiritual health in terms of our willingness to serve others; and may we go aside to pray to God our Father for guidance in the choices we face daily.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of

Neil McKenna
Stephen Butler
Bruce Best
Ellen McGinley
Catherine Friel



May they rest in peace.

Anniversaries

Josephine Cullen, Willie Cullen and Danny Gillespie.
May they rest in peace.

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family

Shane Maxwell Rabbett

Amber Mae Ferguson



Readers for next weekend – 13th/14th February

06.15 pm	Oran Gartland
07.30 pm	Majella Coyle
09.30 am	Kay McGinn
11.00 am	Piaras O Meallain
12.30 pm	Eilish Friel
07.00 pm	Anna Begley

Lenten Book Club - Want something different this Lent? If you would like to do something different this Lent, why not join St Eugene's Cathedral Book Club as we journey through Austin Ivereigh's latest book on the writings of Pope Francis: *'Let us Dream: The Path to a Better Future'*. For further information, please contact St Eugene's Cathedral on 028 71262894/71365712 or email us at steugenes@btconnect.com.

Lenten Programme 2021

Morning Prayer of the Church at 7.45 am (Monday to Friday) beginning on Ash Wednesday.

1.00 pm Lunch-time Mass (Monday to Friday) beginning on Ash Wednesday.

5.00 pm Gospel Encounter (Monday to Friday) beginning on Ash Wednesday.

Monday at 8.30 pm: Book Club with Fr Patrick Lagan beginning 22nd February.

Tuesday at 7.00 pm: Lenten Talks with Bishop McKeown beginning 23rd February.

Wednesday at 4.00 pm: Local Voice with Margarett McNamee livestreamed from the Cathedral Hall beginning on Ash Wednesday.

Thursday at 4.00 pm: Wellbeing talks facilitated by the Western Health & Social Care Trust livestreamed from the Cathedral Hall.

Friday at 11.00 am: Exploring a selection of poems with Mary Murphy livestreamed from the Cathedral Hall.



Every year Trócaire asks for your help during Lent to fund lifesaving programmes around the world. Families like Awut and Ajak's in South Sudan need your support now more than ever.

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

1. By collecting a Trócaire box
2. Online at www.trocaire.org
3. By phone: 0800 912 1200 (NI) or 1850 408 408 (ROI)

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

Penitential Vigil

Fast starts: 12.00 midnight Thursday, 18th February

24 hour Vigil starts: 6.00 am Friday, 19th February

Lent is an annual season of the Liturgical Year with a strong emphasis on the biblical practices of prayer, penance and almsgiving (Matthew 6:1-18). I invite people to consider joining us across the Diocese of Derry on the first weekend of Lent 2021. As happened last year, we propose to mirror some of the key elements of the centuries-old Lough Derg pilgrimage.

This pandemic has caused a crisis for many institutions in church and civil society. This is a time to open ourselves to God's grace through penance and intense prayer. We pray for an end to the ravages caused by the virus and by lockdowns. The Lenten emptying of ourselves is an invitation to the Holy Spirit to fill us with the fullness of divine grace in God's service. Only when we have died with Christ, can we join him in his Resurrection. (Romans 6:5)

+Donal McKeown

This time of prayer and penance at home will take its shape from core elements of the [3-day Lough Derg pilgrimage](#). Each person is invited to participate in whatever parts of the penitential 'virtual pilgrimage' that they feel able to adopt. If anyone is suffering from weakness or ill health, they should not overexert themselves. At the heart of the full Lough Derg pilgrimage are the following elements:

a. THE STATIONS - Lough Derg Style:

Throughout the Friday, participants will pray three Stations:

- 08.30 am** First Station
- 12.00 noon** The Angelus and Second Station
- 06.00 pm** The Angelus and Third Station

b. THE NIGHT VIGIL:

During the Night Vigil, four Stations are prayed:

- 12.00 midnight** Fourth Station
- 01.30 am** Fifth Station
- 03.00 am** Sixth Station
- 04.30 am** Seventh Station

The Night Vigil will conclude with Mass, at **6.00am on Saturday** from St Eugene's Cathedral.

c. FASTING

To join spiritually with Bishop Donal on this 'virtual pilgrimage' people are invited, if they are physically able, to adopt the Lough Derg-style Fast **from 12.00 midnight on Thursday night until after 6.00am Mass on Saturday morning**. The Lough Derg Fast consists of water or black tea or coffee (no milk or sugar) with dry bread, toast and oatcakes, one time during the day. 'Pilgrims' can drink water, tea or coffee anytime.

Derry Youth Community



- Are you aged between 18-25 years old?
- Deciding what to do in the future (September 2021)?
- Thinking about a Gap Year?
- Want to do something faith based?



The Matt Talbot Prayer Society – Praying for those suffering from Addiction: This Prayer Society has been created to pray for people who are suffering from any form of addiction, to pray for those recovering from addiction, and to pray for all those affected by addiction, especially family members. As we know addiction takes many forms from alcohol, drugs, gambling, pornography, to other less acknowledged addictions.

To join the Matt Talbot Prayer Society, you are invited to enrol the name of the person to be prayed for and the addiction we are praying that they will be freed from.

Those enrolled will be prayed for specifically every day by members of the Matt Talbot Prayer Society. Mass will be offered for those enrolled on the first Monday of every month here in St Eugene's Cathedral at 7.30 pm. You will also receive an enrolment card to enable you to join in the prayer.



To enrol someone in the Matt Talbot Prayer Society please phone St Eugene's Cathedral at 028 71262894 or email steugenes@btconnect.com or private message St Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page.

Blessed of Carlos Acutis



Carlo Acutis, an Italian Catholic teenager, was beatified in Assisi, Italy on Saturday, 10th October 2020. He documented Eucharistic miracles around the world and catalogued them all onto a website that he created himself in the months before his death from leukaemia. Carlo was known for his cheerfulness, his care for others, his computer skills and his deep devotion to the Eucharist, saying it was his “highway to heaven”. There is a display in the Cathedral dedicated to Carlo and prayer cards which you are welcome to take.

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks donations for: **Matt Talbot Novena Intentions:** £20. **Trócaire:** £20. **Cathedral Funds:** £20.

Last Week's Collection amounted to £3,161.

There is a box at the back of the Cathedral for weekly parish envelopes and contributions for the upkeep of the Cathedral. **Please note cheques should be made payable to St Eugene's Cathedral.** If you would like to make your weekly envelope contributions by online banking or standing order, please find St Eugene's Cathedral's bank details below:

Account Name: St Eugenes Church No 1 A/C
Account Number: 55192935
Sorting Code Number: 90-49-74
IBAN: GB45 BOFI 9049 7455 1929 35
Branch: Bank of Ireland, 15 Strand Rd, Derry, BT48 7BT

Thank you for your understanding and your continued support to the parish.

The Western Health & Social Care Trust Recovery College is running free courses on mental health and emotional wellbeing. Courses start in March, and at the moment they are planning to deliver them via Zoom. If Covid-19 restrictions allow later in the term the Western Health & Social Care Trust Recovery College intend to run face to face workshops as usual in Derry, Enniskillen, Omagh and Strabane, so they are encouraging people to register as usual even if they do not have computer access. Some shortened courses are already free to watch online on the Recovery College page on the Trust website www.westerntrust.hscni.net/service/recovery-services/recovery-college/ and the Western Trust's You Tube channel.

Children in Crossfire's Advent Appeal donations can now be posted to the Children in Crossfire office, 2 St Joseph's Avenue, Derry BT48 6TH. You can also donate online: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/advent-appeal>. Children in Crossfire thank you so much for your ongoing support at this challenging time.

Preparing for Marriage? Catholic Engaged Encounter: A 'Zoom' online Marriage Preparation course is planned for 27th-28th March. This 2-day course is a positive way of preparing for Marriage where you will discover how you can enrich your future relationship. Information/Booking: marriageencounter.ie or 028 276 38512.



ACCORD DERRY Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme
(limited to 15 couples per course) - 2021 Course Dates: 9th/10th February, 9th/10th March, 13th/14th April, 11th/12th May and 8th/9th June.
Booking now online at www.accordni.com.

The Net, the monthly publication sharing the fruits of faith in the Derry Diocese, is now available on the Diocesan website and Facebook Page.

The Messenger: Messenger Publications are offering a free online copy. Please visit: https://issuu.com/messengerpublications/docs/messenger_june_v11.3_low_res. If you have any difficulty accessing the link or if you have any further queries, please email c.henry@messenger.ie.

St Eugene's Cathedral is monitored by CCTV cameras and by two live streaming cameras. Live streaming can be viewed online at www.churchservices.tv or www.watchmenmedia or the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com.

The Diocese of Derry Privacy Notice is displayed on the parish website and Cathedral notice board or you may obtain a copy from the Parish Office.

If you have any concerns with regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church please contact: Noel O'Donnell, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, 71362475, mobile 07596500793 or Celine McKenna, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, 71362475, mobile 07707311358 or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.