

Vol. 48 No 5
Sunday, 31st January 2021

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-eugenes-cathedral or the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com.

Sunday (31st January)

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 (1st – 5th 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 (6th February)

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

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.

Tuesday, 2nd February is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Candles will be blessed virtually at all Masses 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-eugenes-cathedral or the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com

Wednesday, 3rd February is the Feast of St Blaise. Throats will be blessed virtually at all Masses 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-eugenes-cathedral or the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com.



Reflection on today's Gospel: *Mark 1: 21-28*

'Unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority'

Today's Gospel witnesses Jesus early in his ministry, 'teaching with authority'. This marks him out straightaway to his followers as someone special. As the son of a carpenter, he would have had a fairly rudimentary education, but here he is, 'teaching with authority'; in other words, teaching the truth out of a vast reservoir of knowledge and spiritual wisdom, a fact which challenges his poor and humble earthly beginnings. Jesus is 'teaching with authority' because his truth and his authority come directly from God, his Father. As the Son of God he cannot do otherwise than 'teach with authority'.

And then Jesus does something which must have astounded the crowd of onlookers: he casts out an unclean spirit which has taken possession of a man. Jesus wishes to restore the man to the light and purity of his true self which the unclean spirit has covered with filth. The demon, while recognising and acknowledging Jesus as the Son of God, responds reluctantly to his command to leave the man: he puts up a fight which causes his victim to convulse and cry out.

'Before the truth sets you free, it will make you miserable'.

Jesus, we too are often possessed by demons which separate us from our true selves: greed, self-centredness, lust for worldly power, to name but a few; and these demons are also reluctant to relinquish their hold on us; they make every effort to keep us from the light and purity of our true selves.

Jesus, you teach us the truth with the authority of God the Father. May we listen to your truth, follow your way, and never allow ourselves to be possessed by the demons which would try to separate us from you and from the light and purity of our true selves.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of

Cecilia Mullan (nee McDaid)



May she rest in peace.

Anniversaries

Patrick Gallagher, Mick O’Kane and Jimmy McKendrick.
May they rest in peace.

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God’s family

Ruby Stevenson

Zach Russ Cusack-Davidson



Readers for next weekend – 6th/7th February

06.15 pm Claire O’Kane

07.30 pm Oran Gartland

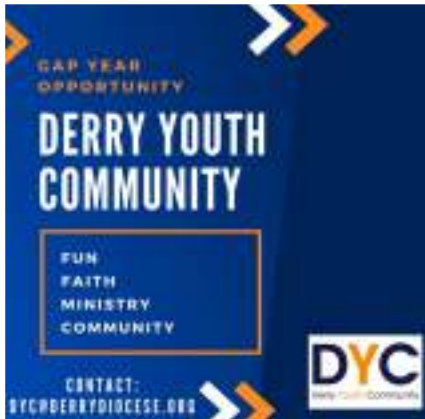
09.30 am Kevin Finan

11.00 am Ava McGinn

12.30 pm Charlie McDermott

07.00 pm Marian Boyle

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?

An advertisement featuring an elderly man with glasses sitting in a chair and holding a tablet. The tablet screen displays the logo for 'GSAP' (Greater Shantallow Area Partnership), which consists of two hands shaking. The background is a solid blue color. Text on the right side of the image provides details about the campaign.

Let's Get Generations Connected Campaign

Greater Shantallow Area Partnership and local Churches have come together, to appeal for new or used iPads, to be given to older members of our communities.

If you would like to make a small donation instead to your local church towards the Campaign, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please help ease the isolation and loneliness of so many in our city.

All iPads or donations are to be left with your church.

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.



The next Matt Talbot Mass will be celebrated here in St Eugene's Cathedral on Monday (tomorrow) at 7.30 pm

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: **Trócaire:** £300, £50. **St Vincent De Paul:** £50, £25. **Cathedral Funds:** £45, £50. **Flowers:** £50. **Mary's Meals:** £25.

Last Week's Collection amounted to £1,890.

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

- <https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/the-net-january-2021>. With Covid-19 restrictions still in place, the January edition will only be available on the Diocesan website. However, the publication will be available again in parishes when the restrictions are lifted. Enquiries to – editorthenet15@gmail.com.

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.watchmcnmedia 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.