


Parish Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 9.30am - 4.30pm/Friday 9.30am – 1pm

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Parish Email: office@steunanscathedral.ie

Website: www.steunanscathedral.ie  St. Eunan's Cathedral
Live **Web Streaming** from the Cathedral ~ churchservices.tv/letterkenny

SUNDAY COLLECTION ~ 11th February - €6,759

PARISH EXPENDITURE ~ €13,091.02

Standing Orders/iDonate/Revolut for January ~ €3,713

Thank you for your gift to God and His Church

We deeply appreciate your continued Spiritual and Financial support.

To **BOOK A BAPTISM** please phone the Parochial House on 9121021. Please remember: Godparents: (1 male and 1 female over the age of 16).

BAPTISM PREPARATION ~ We have uploaded a number of videos under 'Featured Videos' for Parents, in Preparation for their child's Baptism on our website: www.steunanscathedral.ie

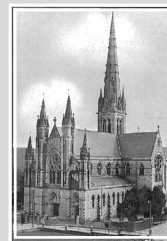
THE LAST PRIEST IN IRELAND? IT DEPENDS ON YOU! Are you concerned about the decline in Vocations? What can I do to promote Vocations? The National Vocations Office in collaboration with 'The Hook the Faith', are running an online zoom webinar on **Tuesday 5th March** at 8 pm Keynote speaker: Breda O'Brien. To register, email: thehookoffaith@gmail.com

PRAYER IN SCRIPTURE: Friday 8th - Sunday 10th March (Silent weekend Retreat). As Catholics, we are all called to develop a personal, deep relationship with God through prayer. But how to do this? Scripture teaches us how to pray. We have the great example of Jesus to contemplate in the Bible, but also all His words and parables about prayer. We have the writings of other biblical authors. This retreat will be a real feast and time of learning to deepen our prayer! To do so, we will spend the time in silence, to learn to listen to the Lord better. This is a weekend residential retreat, with talks, times of silent prayer and sharing. We will commence on Friday at 6 pm (Holy Mass at 6.30 pm in our chapel) and finish on Sunday approx. 2 pm. **Please note: it is necessary to book for all our retreats.** For cost and further information please contact the **Divine Mercy Centre, Letterkenny** on: 0749169934 or email: dvmletterkenny@gmail.com

CURSILLO ~ There will be a **LENTEN RETREAT** in Ards Friary for **Cursillo Members only** from **Friday 22nd - Sunday 24th March.**

MARY'S MEALS will hold an **ART SALE** of over 150 paintings in **Frosses** on the **9th/10th March.**

ALONE DONEGAL needs your support: Would you be willing to visit or make friendly calls to Older People once a week for one hour? ALONE are **SEEKING VOLUNTEERS** in our area to help older people who'd like extra social contact. Full training and support provided. If interested, email: Helena.madden@alone.ie or phone 086-0145829/ 074-9321598.



**ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL
LETTERKENNY
NEWSLETTER
Sunday 18th February 2024
First Sunday of Lent**

**The Mass – The Liturgy of the Word
Cycle of Readings for the Seasons: The Easter Season –
Pentecost**

To conclude this part of our series on the Mass, where for some time we have been looking at the Liturgy of the Word, in the Easter Season, which concludes with Pentecost. At the Mass on Pentecost Sunday itself, the first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, recounting the experience of the apostles in the Upper Room and the descent upon them of the Holy Spirit [Acts 2:1-11]. It is followed by Psalm 103, with its beautiful observation: "You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth". The Spirit hovered over the waters at the creation, and brought everything into being out of nothing. He descended upon the waters of Jesus' baptism and anointed him. He descends through the waters of baptism to make our souls a new creation, and indeed the Lord "makes all things new" [Revelations 21:5]. The garden of the Resurrection is the place of the new creation, Jesus the New Adam, the Church the New Eve. The Redemption by Jesus' saving action on the cross puts an end to sin and a new beginning to life. All this is the work of the Spirit.

Reflecting the manifold graces of the Spirit represented by the gift of tongues received by the Apostles, the Second Reading is taken from St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians [12:3-7,12-13], where he presents the Church as a body of which we are its many parts, distinguished by differed gifts of the Spirit. In addition, we are told that "No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit" [v.3]. There follows the Sequence, the great hymn to the Holy Spirit, Veni Sante Spiritus: "Thou in toil art comfort sweet; pleasant coolness in the heat; solace in the midst of woe". The Gospel reading is from Saint John and describes Jesus as giving the gift of the Spirit on the very evening of the Day of Resurrection [John 20:19-23]. The giving of the Holy Spirit is directed for the forgiveness of sins, the crux of the great commission to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And know that I am with you to the end of the ages" [Matthew 28:19-20]. He remains in His Spirit, and by the power of the Spirit in many other ways.

There will be a **MASS OF THANKSGIVING** with Bishop Alan McGuckian on **Monday 26th February** at 7 pm in St. Eunan's Cathedral, to mark his departure from the Diocese as he prepares to take up his duties as Bishop of Down and Connor. We hope that people from all across the diocese will participate. Mass will be followed by refreshments at Loreto Secondary School, behind the Cathedral. If you would like to help with practicalities or by preparing baked goods, please contact Mary on 086 0870446.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 'I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.' (Genesis 9:13) This year, Trócaire's Lenten campaign focuses on the country of Malawi, Africa. Malawi is one of the least developed countries in the world and has been badly affected by climate change. In the Machinga district, Malita and her family must make a one-hour trip up to five times a day to collect water. Please support Trócaire in helping communities develop sustainable access to clean, safe and reliable water supplies by **taking home a Trócaire box today** or going to www.trocaire.org

LENTEN REFLECTIONS: The Parish of Aughanishin invites you to join a series of Lenten Reflections being held in the Church of the Irish Martyrs over the five Tuesdays of Lent beginning February 20th and ending on March 19th. Each will last one hour (7 pm - 8 pm). Please join us on Tuesday 20th February for the first of the five Lenten reflections led by Br. Laurence/Fr. Philip from Ards Friary. This evening is the foundation for our Lenten journey. A reflection on Prayer through Scripture, enriched with Sacred Music. "Be still and know that I am God", Ps 46:10. "Come and see", Jn 1:39. Tea will follow in the Community room.

DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE ~ A bus will depart from Letterkenny for the Divine Mercy Conference on **Saturday 24th February**. Please purchase your Conference ticket online for the 24th February at www.divinemercyconference.com before booking the bus! To book your place on the bus please phone: 087-7488174. The Conference takes place from the 23rd - 25th February in the RDS and will be broadcast at www.divinemercyconference.com Full itinerary is on the Cathedral noticeboard.

LENT: SEASON OF WELL-BEING – A Retreat led by Philip McParland from **23rd - 25th February** at Ards Friary. Lent is a suitable time to practice the things that are good for our physical, mental and spiritual health. Please phone 0749138909 (Monday to Friday: 11 am – 4 pm) or email info@ardsfriary.ie

DONEGAL ETB'S 2024 FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING FAIR will be held in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny on **Wednesday 28th February**, from 7 pm - 9 pm and on **Thursday 29th February** from 10 am - 2 pm.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be celebrated on **Friday 1st March** at 8 pm in Conwal Parish Church followed by refreshments. Theme: "I beg you . . . bear with one another in Love". The Service is prepared by the Palestinian WDP Committee.

MARY'S MEALS COUNTYWIDE CHURCH GATE COLLECTION will take place on the **2nd/3rd March**. €22.00 feeds a child for a full school year

Sunday 18th February ~ First Sunday of Lent	
Masses: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon and 6 pm	Baptisms: 2.30 pm
Monday 19th February	
7 am Mass ~ Sean and Miriam Geoghegan RIP	
10 am Mass ~ Pat Fegan RIP	
Tuesday 20th February	
7 am Mass ~ Brigid Collins RIP	
10 am Mass ~ Sally Kelly RIP	6 pm ~ Holy Face Devotions
7 pm Mass ~ Jimmy O'Donnell RIP	
Wednesday 21st February ~ St. Peter Damian	
7 am Mass ~ Special Intention	
10 am Mass ~ Leonard Boyce RIP	
7 pm Mass ~ Brendan McCarthy RIP	
Confessions: After 7 pm Mass	
Thursday 22nd February ~ The Chair of Peter, Apostle	
7 am Mass ~ Joe and Barbara McLaughlin RIP	
10 am Mass ~ Catherine Doherty RIP	
7 pm Mass ~ Rose McDonald RIP (First Anniversary)	
7 pm ~ Cathedral Youth Group meet in the Pastoral Centre	
Friday 23rd February ~ St. Polycarp, bishop and martyr	
7 am Mass ~ Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP	
10 am Mass ~ Annie, Michael, Tessie and Rita McTague and Mary Carlin and Monica Gallagher RIP	
7 pm Mass ~ Lee Mitchell (Month's Mind Mass), Ciaran Tracey, Josie Tracey, Frank Tracey, Agnes Murray, Jim McMonagle, Hugh Wallace, Margaret Wallace, John Herron, Mary Burke (nee McLoone), Mary O'Donnell, Michael Liston, Brian Kelliher and Barney Coyle Snr. RIP	
Lectio Divina ~ 8 pm in the Conference Room	
Saturday 24th February ~ Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order	
10 am Mass ~ Special Intention	
Confessions ~ 12 noon - 1 pm and 7 pm	Baptisms ~ 4 pm
Vigil Mass ~ 6 pm	
Sunday 25th February	
Masses: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon and 6 pm	Baptisms: 2.30 pm