


**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** ~ 18th February - €5,802

**PARISH EXPENDITURE** ~ €7,028.96

**Thank you for your gift to God and His Church**

**We deeply appreciate your continued Spiritual and Financial support.**

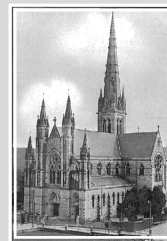
To **BOOK A BAPTISM** please phone the Parochial House on 9121021. Please remember: Godparents: (1 male and 1 female over the age of 16).

**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 **First Saturday Rosary** will take place on **Saturday 2nd March** at 1 pm at the Market Square, Letterkenny. Everyone is welcome.

**"IF YOU KNEW THE GIFT OF GOD!"** (John 4:10). **Silent Residential Weekend Retreat** on living life to the full through intimate friendship with God. (**Friday 8th – Sunday 10th March**) ~ Are you tired? Do you feel that prayer can be burdensome, a monologue, or unfruitful? Do you yearn for rest and peace? In this retreat you can follow Jesus into the silence of His Eucharistic Presence. Jesus is wrapped in profound, humble silence in the Tabernacle. This retreat, will take you to Jesus sitting beside the well, waiting to meet you and give you living water. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water" (John 4:10). Prayer is a living relationship with God. Prayer is to first listen to God speak to you in Scripture, and then you respond to His Voice. In this retreat we invite you into the rest and joy of the Lord through listening to the Voice of God, through blessed silence, through commentaries on Sacred Scripture, through guidance into prayer, and through the work of the Holy Spirit. This will be a weekend residential retreat, beginning at 6pm Friday and finishing on Sunday around 2pm. Please note: it is necessary to book for all our retreats. For more information please contact the Divine Mercy Centre at: 0749169934 or dvmletterkenny@gmail.com.

The National Irish Synodal Pathway team has requested that each diocese facilitate another round of discussions based on the '**Conversations in the Spirit**', which Bishop McGuckian experienced at the Synod in Rome in October 2023. The Diocese Irish Synodal Pathway Team has organised three upcoming sessions: **Monday 4th March in the Franciscan Friary, Rosstown:** 7 pm - 9 pm facilitated by Michelle Curran and Máire Ní Bhroin; **Wednesday 6th March in Ards Friary, Creeslough:** 7 pm - 9 pm facilitated by Fr. Michael McKeever and Joe Conroy; **Thursday 7th March in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Letterkenny** 7.45 pm to 9.45 pm facilitated by Michelle Curran and Anne McDwyer.



## ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL LETTERKENNY NEWSLETTER

**Sunday 25th February 2024**  
Second Sunday of Lent



### FAREWELL TO BISHOP MCGUCKIAN

On Monday evening, 26th February, many of the people of the parish communities of Letterkenny will gather with people from all over the diocese to bid farewell to Bishop Alan. If on the one hand we are honoured that the Holy Father, Pope Francis, should have recognised in our Bishop qualities that made him suitable to lead the second largest diocese in Ireland – Down and Connor, we are also sincerely sorry to lose someone whom the community has taken to itself in many and different ways. Perhaps unexpectedly, Bishop Alan's first big impact was beyond the usual bounds of the faith community, as he appeared as just another runner in the Town Park on his first Saturday morning. The ore observant wondered: could this be the new Bishop? At the Park Run, Bishop Alan formed not only friendships and good acquaintances; he also unintentionally built up good will and affection for himself and the mission of the Church.

By degrees, the people of the Cathedral parish came to know its Parish Priest, and to appreciate not only his brisk celebration of the Mass (!) but more especially his insightful preaching of the gospel, apt both for understanding the mission of the Church in our context today, and the dynamics of faith and life that are the stuff of our spiritual journeys. Our affection for him has grown in his easy way and the readiness of his involvement in any good thing he has been asked to attend. He listens carefully to what "the Spirit is saying to the churches" [cf. Revelations 2:9] and from that place of discernment he has led the diocese and our own parish community.

For many, his prayerful leadership during the worst of the Covid lockdown was invaluable, life-giving and, for many, life-saving, by means of 'An Tobar Domhain', centred on the rosary and the 'Examen' (a prayer drawn from the Jesuit spiritual art of discernment). It not only accompanied people spiritually and humanly, but also placed a spiritual tool in our hands that would be a good legacy of his time with us if we were to practice it carefully still. A great many of us feel a real sense of loss at his going, aware that his leadership has put in place good things to help the diocese and each of its parishes chart a way for a challenging future, with real faith and trust in the Spirit's guidance and love

for our Faith. We entrust him to the intercession of St. Colmcille, whose footsteps he followed along Slí Cholmcille, and whose example and life he set before with new vitality. We pray that the Bishop Martyr Blessed Conor O’Devenney, a native of the Drumkeen area and the martyred Bishop of Down and Connor, may intercede for him. And we send with him an assurance of friendship and prayerful accompaniment for his new mission. Faoi bhat na Maighdeana thú i gcónaí, a Easbaig dhíle.

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.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT** ~ Travelling so far for water each day affects other parts of the lives of Malita and her children, Margaret, Patrick and Patricia. Carrying 20 litres of water leaves the children tired and some days they are not able to go to school. Farming is an important part of how the family support themselves, but a lack of water makes farming difficult. Trócaire and their partners in Malawi are working to create solutions to the water shortages, such as digging bore holes close to villages. To learn more, go to <http://www.trocaire.org/our-work/working-in-ireland/parishes>.

**LETTERKENNY MEMORIES** ~ Will take place at 8 pm on **Tuesday 27th February** in the Station House Hotel. Everyone welcome. (Please note **change of day** due to Bishop McGuckian’s Mass of Thanksgiving).

A **YOUNG AT HEART SOCIAL**, will be held on Tuesday 27th February at 8 pm in the Day Centre, Oliver Plunkett Road - hosted by the Day Centre Committee. Music by Eddie Gallagher.

If **YOU** are in **RECOVERY FROM ALCOHOL OR DRUG ADDICTIONS** and would like to meet up for a chat with others in the same position then please come along to the next “3C’s (Coffee, Chat & Courage)” evening organised by Alcohol Forum Ireland on **Wednesday 28th February** between 5 pm and 7 pm in Chillout Café, Lower Main Street. Tea/Coffee provided free of charge.

**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.

### Sunday 25th February ~ Second Sunday of Lent

Masses: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon and 6 pm      Baptisms: 2.30 pm

### Monday 26th February

7 am Mass ~ Daniel and Cecelia Bradley RIP  
10 am Mass ~ Mass of Thanksgiving

### Tuesday 27th February ~ St. Gregory of Norek

7 am Mass ~ William and Lily Mulligan and Deceased Members of the Mulligan and McCoy Families RIP  
10 am Mass ~ Sheila O’Boyle RIP      6 pm ~ Holy Face Devotions  
7 pm Mass ~ Joseph Wilkie RIP (Month’s Mind Mass)

### Wednesday 28th February

7 am Mass ~ Richard Doherty RIP (First Anniversary)  
10 am Mass ~ Jim and Mary Carr RIP  
7 pm Mass ~ Bríd and Seamus Hannigan RIP  
Confessions: After 7 pm Mass

### Thursday 29th February

7 am Mass ~ Deceased Members of the McDevitt Family RIP  
10 am Mass ~ James Ford RIP  
7 pm Mass ~ Kieran McGrath RIP (First Anniversary)  
7 pm ~ Cathedral Youth Group meet in the Pastoral Centre

### Friday 1st March ~ St. David, bishop

7 am Mass ~ John and Mary Maloney RIP      10 am Mass ~ Special Intention  
7 pm Mass ~ Josie McCormack, Sally Doherty, Hannah Crerand, Gerry Crerand, Maggie Crerand, Liam Roarty, Margaret Roarty, Bridget McNulty, Willie McNulty, Sheila Quigley, William Holmes, Peter Gallagher, Angela Gallagher, Tommy Bohan and Elizabeth Bohan RIP  
Lectio Divina ~ 8 pm in the Conference Room

### Saturday 2nd March

10 am Mass ~ George McDermott RIP (Month’s Mind Mass)  
Confessions ~ 12 noon - 1 pm and 7 pm      Baptisms ~ 4 pm  
Vigil Mass ~ 6 pm

### Sunday 3rd March ~ Third Sunday of Lent

Masses: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon and 6 pm      Baptisms: 2.30 pm