

Our Lady of Lourdes

Steelstown

**Postal Address**

Our Lady of Lourdes Church
11 Steelstown Road
Derry. BT48 8EU
Priest: Fr John McDevitt

Parish Office Open Tues to Fri 10am to 3pm

Tel. 02871 351718

Email: steelstownparish@aol.com**Website:** steelstownparish.com.john.mcdevitt@derrydiocese.org**WEEKLY MASS FOR THE SICK**

The 10am Mass on Wednesdays is normally offered for all who are sick. If you would like to have someone remembered at this Mass please telephone the Parish Office and leave the name of the person to be prayed for. These names will not be read out at Mass but a list of the names will be placed on the altar and the Mass will be offered for them.

SAFEGUARDING

If you or anyone you know has a Safeguarding concern please refer to the notices in the Church.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

St Vincent de Paul volunteers continue to be available during the pandemic to offer help to those in our parish who are in need of immediate financial assistance. SVDP can be contacted by dropping a letter in the post box outside the Church Conference Room or calling the office on 028 71265489.

CHURCH DEFIBRILLATOR

The Church Defibrillator is located at the front of the Church on the left hand side beside the Sacristy door.

MASS READINGS ON YOUR PHONE

This image is a QR code. You can download a QR Code Reader (free) to your mobile smartphone and use it to scan this image. After a brief advertisement disappears, you can hit a link which will open a page with the Mass Readings of the day. The same image is used every day but leads to the different readings for the day you use it.

**PARISH COLLECTION**

Our Parish envelopes have now all been delivered. If you would like to request a box of envelopes, a standing order form or a gift aid form please contact the Parish office. For those with online banking you should be able to set up a standing order without the need to send the form to your bank. For any assistance please contact the Parish office.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

PARISH SCHEDULE

Sunday 11 April	9am, 11am and 12.15pm Mass
Monday 12 April	7.45am and 10am Mass
Tuesday 13 April	7.45am and 10am Mass
Wednesday 14 April	7.45am and 10am Mass
Thursday 15 April	7.45am and 10am Mass
Friday 16 April	7.45am, 10am and 7pm Mass
Saturday 17 April	10am Mass; 6.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 18 April	9am, 11am and 12.15pm Mass

STATEMENT BY THE NORTHERN BISHOPS

Bishops in the North announced a cautious return to public worship for the faithful from Friday 26th March. Every person should consider carefully if returning to collective worship is the safe and appropriate step for them, at this time. Families are encouraged to join those celebrating the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus in Churches, from the 'domestic church' of their own living rooms, via live-streaming. In emphasising the cautious nature of this return to public worship the Bishops remind the faithful that the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days remains suspended. We continue to strongly encourage participation, where possible, including in the ceremonies of Holy Week, by way of live-streaming.

BISHOP MC KEOWN'S STATEMENT ON THE SACRAMENTS

For Baptism, I would propose that there should be a limitation in each church for those attending an individual Baptism. Baptisms are limited to attendance by the parents, godparents and siblings of a minor who is being baptised.

I am concerned about the parties and other socialising which, although completely disconnected from the celebration of the sacraments (of First Communion and Confirmation) and the environs of the church, can and often do occur. I think that, as church, we should go the extra step to assist in protecting public health, by avoiding those situations which might with some regularity lead people to organise parties. Therefore, I have taken the difficult decision, after some consultation, that the celebrations of First Communion are to be deferred until September 2021. I do not take this decision lightly, but I am conscious that we must do everything we can to ensure that life is protected in the midst of this pandemic, noting that there has been some upturn in case numbers locally in recent days.

As regards the celebration of Confirmation, it is acceptable for parishes to make provisional arrangements for these in the month of June. However, I will review the situation in the middle of May.

TROCAIRE LENTEN COLLECTION

You can contribute to the 2021 Trocaire Collection by:

- Donating online at www.trocaire.org using the Donate button;
- Online payments to the Trocaire Bank account – details are:
Sorting Code: 93.80.92 Account No: 8822 7020;
- By telephone on 02890808030 or freephone number 0800 912 1200;
- By posting a cheque to Trocaire, 50 King Street, Belfast, BT1 6AD.
- You can also click on the parish justgiving page set up by the John Paul II parishioners, see the parish website or facebook page for details.

COUPLES PLANNING TO GET MARRIED

If you live in this parish and plan to marry here or in another Catholic Church then you require marriage papers from this parish. You must give at least three months notice of your intention to marry. The following documentation will be required: a recent copy of your Baptism Certificate from the Parish of your Baptism; and possibly a letter of freedom. All couples are required to prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage. Accord offers marriage preparation and can be contacted at 71362475 or online www.accord-ni.co.uk. All couples living in this Parish and planning to marry here or elsewhere in 2021 are please asked to contact the parish office to make arrangements for the completion of the paperwork.

ACCORD DERRY

Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme Course Dates.

July 6/7, August 10/11, Sept 14/15, Oct 12/13, Nov 9/10, Dec 7/8.

ADOPTION

Family Care Adoption Services is seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children.

For an information pack please contact us at: Email: anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org, or tel.

02871368592, 028 90 691133 Monday to Friday 9 to 5pm. Website: www.familycaresociety.co.uk

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Can't stop? There is a solution. Tel AA on 028 90 351 222 or email

csoofaa@btinternet.com. Website: www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie

LIVE LAUDATO SI'

Reducing food waste is the climate action we can do 3 times a day. It is estimated that a third of all food produced is discarded. 3 Challenges!

1) CUT FOOD WASTE – Check out your carbon footprint <http://www.footprint/>

Lots of useful tips at

<http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/> <http://www.stopfoodwaste.ie/>

2) GIVE THANKS - Say Grace before meals

3) FAIR SHARE - Share locally &

globally <http://www.foyle.foodbank.org.uk/> www.trocaire.org/trocaire/gifts.

FREE MENTAL HEALTH COURSES

The Western Health & Social Care Trust Recovery College is running free courses on mental health and emotional wellbeing. Courses start in March, and at present will be delivered via Zoom. For further information and for some shortened courses already free to watch online see 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.