

# ***Our Lady of Lourdes Steelstown***



## **PARISH INFORMATION**

**Priest :** Fr John McDevitt [john.mcdevitt@derrydiocese.org](mailto:john.mcdevitt@derrydiocese.org)

**Postal Address:** Our Lady of Lourdes Church,  
11 Steelstown Road, Derry, BT48 8EU. Telephone: 02871 351718

**Email:** [steelstownparish@aol.com](mailto:steelstownparish@aol.com). **Website:** [steelstownparish.com](http://steelstownparish.com)

**Webcam:** [churchservices.tv/steelstown](http://churchservices.tv/steelstown)

**Facebook:** Our Lady of Lourdes **Instagram:** steelstownparish.

## **BAPTISMS**

We welcome into the family of the Church: Jaxon, son of Ciara and Alexander.

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of: Kathleen Bradshaw, Lily Kelly, Kathleen Young, Kathleen Mullan, Alex McCallion, Noreen McDaid, Letitia O'Donoghue and Phylis Logan

## **First Friday**

Fr McDevitt will contact the parish sick and housebound on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday of this week.

## **MASS OF CHRISM**

Bishop McKeown will celebrate the Mass of Chrism in St Eugene's Cathedral, on Holy Thursday morning, 1 April, at 10am. The Chrism Mass will be on the cathedral webcam: St Eugene's Cathedral Live Webcam Stream | iTech Media Live Streaming Derry ([churchmedia.tv](http://churchmedia.tv)) .

## **DIVINE MERCY NOVENA**

Starts on Good Friday, 2 April and finishes on Easter Saturday, 10 April leading into Divine Mercy Sunday on 11 April.

## **EASTER MASS BOUQUET CARDS**

Available from the Parochial House Wednesday to Friday from 10am to 3pm.

## **HOLY WEEK PARISH SCHEDULE**

<b>Sunday 28 Mar.</b>	9am, 11am and 12.15pm Mass
<b>Monday 29 Mar.</b>	7.45am and 10am Mass and Rosary
<b>Tuesday 30 Mar.</b>	7.45am and 10am Mass and Rosary
<b>Wednesday 31 Mar.</b>	7.45am and 10am Mass and Rosary
<b>Thursday 1 April Holy Thursday</b>	7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
<b>Friday 2 April Good Friday</b>	10am Morning Prayer 3pm Celebration of the Passion 7pm Prayer around The Cross
<b>Saturday 3 April Holy Saturday</b>	10am Morning Prayer 9pm Easter Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 4 April Easter Sunday</b>	9am, 11am and 12.15pm Mass

There is no Mass on Good Friday or Holy Saturday. This is the time of commemoration of the death of the Lord, in preparation for the celebration of his Resurrection.

## **GOOD FRIDAY IS A DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE**

### **PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER**

*Please prayer for the intentions of all those who live or work in the areas listed each day.*

Jesus, help us to make you the centre of our lives. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to repent of the wrongs we have done, that we may be refreshed in spirit and renewed in hope.

Through that same Spirit, help us to be good to one another and to be faithful to you, as we live out our vocations: married, single, priest, religious, so that our homes and our parish may be filled with your presence and be powerful sources of your peace. **Amen.**

***Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for us  
St Bernadette, Pray for us***

**Sunday 28 March** The Crescent

**Monday 29 March** People who pray with us and live elsewhere

**Tuesday 30 March** Steelstown Primary School, Bunscoil Cholmcille

**Wednesday 31 March** Foyle Hospice, Culmore Manor

**Thursday 1 April** Bishop McKeown, Priests of the Diocese, All religious of the Diocese

***Parish prayer leaflets are available at the back of the Church.***

### **STATEMENT BY THE NORTHERN BISHOPS**

Bishops in the North announce 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:

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

### **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.



### **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.

### **THE NET – MARCH 2021**

Sharing the fruits of the faith in the Derry Diocese. With Covid-19 restrictions still in place, the March edition of 'The Net' will only be available on the Diocesan website -

<https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/the-net-march-2021>. However, the publication will be available again in parishes when the restrictions are lifted. Enquiries to – [editorthenet15@gmail.com](mailto:editorthenet15@gmail.com).

### **POPE JOHN PAUL II FOR TROCAIRE**

This year the John Paul II parishioners have joined with Award members from Culmore Parish to look at how we can support the TROCAIRE Lent appeal. We met earlier this month with Roisin from the TROCAIRE office and she shared with us the story of Awut and Ajak two incredible women in South Sudan who are sharing their story with us this Lent. One of the challenges TROCAIRE has laid down is to try as a community to walk the complete distance from Dublin to South Sudan which is roughly 5700 miles. It would be great to see parishioners who are able get involved in this challenge and pledge miles (perhaps in fancy dress) and pounds. As a JPPII group we are pledging to walk a number of miles individually and as a group we hope to walk the two bridges if restrictions allow and would be really grateful for your support in sponsorship with all the money raised going directly to TROCAIRE. The link to support is [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jpiiculmoreandsteelstown](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jpiiculmoreandsteelstown). Happy walk and Happy Lent.

### **AID FOR THE CHILDREN OF YEMEN**

Fr Neal Carlin's new book, *The Eagle, The Tiger and Covid*, is now on sale at €10/£10 and can be purchased by contacting [goldenagecentre@hotmail.com](mailto:goldenagecentre@hotmail.com). All proceeds are being sent via a direct contact to aid the Children of Yemen.

### **EQUALLY HUMAN**

You have likely heard of the new Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill which has been launched in Northern Ireland to stop abortion up to birth for babies with disabilities including Down's syndrome, cleft lip and club foot. In response to the announcement of this bill, Right To Life UK has launched the [Equally Human](#) campaign to help build public support for this important law change. They are encouraging people in Northern Ireland to email their MLAs asking them to speak in support of and vote for the Bill at its Second Reading. Right To Life UK has set up an easy-to-use tool that will enable members of the public to easily contact their MLAs. If you would like to contact your MLAs on this important issue, you can do so by following the link below. It only takes 30 seconds!

### **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](http://www.trocaire.org/trocaire/gifts).

### **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.

### **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/](http://www.westerntrust.hscni.net/service/recovery-services/recovery-college/) and the Western Trust's You Tube channel.

### **CATHOLIC SCHOOL LEADERSHIP**

The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. The next intake will be Autumn 2021. If you require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email [tferry@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tferry@derrydiocese.org).