



THE DUNDALK GROUP OF PARISHES

Dundalk: St Nicholas' Dundalk; St Paul's Heynestown.

Ballymascanlan & Carlingford: St Mary's Ballymascanlan; St Andrew's Rathcor (Bush)

Crossmaglen: Creggan Parish Church

NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2021



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Safeguarding Trust is the Church of Ireland's policy to safeguard all children sharing in its ministry from all forms of harm and abuse (see www.sg.ireland.anglican.org). Each parish has a panel whose task it is to oversee the implementation of Safeguarding Trust. The panel members in the Dundalk Group of Parishes are Ken Donald (Ballymascanlan), Muriel Grills (Bush), Debbie Donaldson (Creggan), Trevor Patterson (Dundalk), and Alvin Coyle (Heynestown). If you experience, or are aware of, any form of child abuse through involvement in parish activities, please contact a member of the panel. *Contact details are posted in all churches.*

Dear Parishioners helping to spread the Gospel.

I spent Sunday morning engaging with services online and on the radio. Whilst they keep us in touch with worship, they are a poor substitute for the fellowship in church.

In order to keep our spirits up, we need to be aware of the blessing that surround us. Joyce has been taking photographs around our garden and we have been exchanging pictures on WhatsApp with our family members. As we walked around our garden, we noticed the first snowdrop on 13th January and the first crocus on 22nd; neither spectacular enough for a good picture but joyful signs of new life. Vaccinations are being rolled out and all we need now is patience to get through this period. We know what to do to try to keep safe so we don't need to follow all those horrific media stories.

Yet another positive event this month was the dignified ceremony of President Biden's inauguration. We ask for God's guidance to help to heal the wounds of a divided nation.

The Diocesan Service, to be transmitted on the 31st January, was recorded in Ballymascanlan Church. At that service the gospel reading for the service is about healing, which we all need. We look for hope in the psalm appointed for that service:

He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken. In God is my strength and my glory. God is my strong rock, in him is my refuge. Put your trust in him always, my people, pour your hearts before him, for God is our refuge. Psalm 62: 6 – 8

We will get back to normal but it will be a new normal. Many ways of living will change because instead of drifting along we are forced to consider our choices and possibly change our ways. Since we are all called to serve, we pray:

Remember O Lord, that which thou hast wrought in us and not what we deserve and as thou hast called us to thy service make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Richard.

Online & Services - FEBRUARY ROI SERVICES IN FEBRUARY ALL ONLINE WITH PARTICIPANTS FROM ACROSS THE RURAL DEANERY

Week commencing 7th

ONLINE - 10am The 2nd Sunday before Lent

Week commencing 14th

ONLINE - 10am Sunday before Lent

Week commencing 17th

ONLINE - **7pm Ash Wednesday** - The season of Lent begins

Week commencing 21st

ONLINE - 10am The 1st Sunday in Lent

Week commencing 28th

ONLINE - 10am The 2nd Sunday in Lent

FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

- Bishop Ilessmo and the diocese of North Kivu, D R Congo. Also Bishop Suheil and the diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East
- Thanksgiving for the Lord's presence with us and the keeping of His church in these difficult times
- Healing for those with Covid-19 and other illnesses and conditions at this time.
- Those in hospital, nursing care and those cared for at home
- For our governments and those making decisions
- Our young people and children, their homes and families also schools and all who work in education.
- The homeless, unemployed and destitute.
- Pray for God's guidance in this time of vacancy.



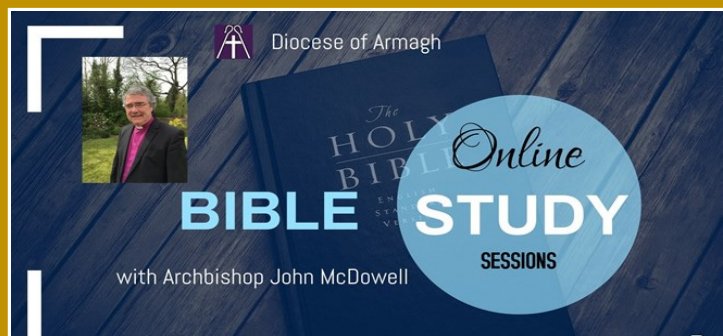
It is hard to believe but the season of Lent is almost upon us. It, of course, begins with Ash Wednesday and there will be an **ONLINE** service

on **17th February** to mark this occasion at **7pm.**

How to access all online services:

(copy & paste the below links)

- ⇒ Pass on the newsletter email address to join our mailing list. dundalkcoinewsletter@gmail.com
- ⇒ Visit the St. Nicholas' Parish Church website <https://stnicholas-greenchurchdundalk.com/recorded-service-at-11am>
- ⇒ **SUBSCRIBE** to our **youtube** channel <https://youtu.be/03WmMqrCfqo>
- ⇒ Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/dundalkgroupogparishes/>



Online BIBLE STUDY with Archbishop John McDowell is still available from the GREEN CHURCH website.



Click on either below link



<https://stnicholas-greenchurchdundalk.com/bible-study>

<http://armagh.anglican.org/News/ArchbishopJohnBibleStudies.html>

SELECT VESTRY MEETINGS

Any planned Select Vestry meeting will be confirmed by each Church secretary according to government's guidelines.



ST. NICHOLAS NATIONAL SCHOOL

Pupils from St Nicholas' National School have been participating in Home Learning. The children



have been working extremely hard and have been engaging well through different learning platforms. All the teachers and staff are so proud of the children and want to congratulate them on all their terrific work so far.



More parishioners are now donating through online banking, even when Churches were open. See below for details of St. Nicholas' Dundalk, St. Mary's Ballymascanlan and St. Andrew's Bush.

The account details of St Nicholas' Parish Church.

account name:

Dundalk Select Vestry

IBAN:

IE30 BOFI 9033 6516 1383 46

BIC: BOFIE2D

The account details of St Marys, Ballymascanlan and St Andrews, Bush.

account name:

Ballymascanlan Rathcor union,

IBAN:

IE95 AIBK 9324 5023 4780 63

BIC: AIBKIE2D



NEW Free Will Offering envelopes will be ready for everyone on return to in-Church worship



Click the link below for the first of a series of short videos of hymns to "Zing us into Spring", as we can't sing in church at the moment. I hope you enjoy it. Thank you for tuning in.

<https://stnicholas-greenchurchdundalk.com/groups>



The tree of remembrance is present in St Nicholas, Dundalk. SEND YOUR PERSONAL MESSAGE OF REMEMBRANCE TO THE FOLLOWING dundalkcoinewsletter@gmail.com Thank you

The tags will be burned on Ash Wednesday as a symbolic way of collectively offering all the prayers through Christ to the throne of God's grace.

Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard, yet always near, still loved, still missed and very dear.