



# 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 - APRIL 2022

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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](http://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 brothers and sisters in Christ,

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Psalm 128:1 Winter is over and we are enjoying sunny weather at the end of March. I always scan the skies for first signs of swallows and house martins in April. White and yellow are the dominant hedgerow colours: whins (gorse), the white blossoms of the plum and apple family. We got much positive feedback about the Archbishop's service for Creggan and Louth. I wish to thank all who helped to make it so successful. The Lenten services are continuing on each of the Wednesday nights. I was hoping that, as on former occasions people from all the churches would attend each Wednesday and on Maundy Thursday.

Coming together for Lent at services when we have time to talk makes Lent more meaningful for me. Select vestry members are still eagerly seeking a suitable house to replace our rectory.

This involves a huge amount of work and I thank those who so willingly have undertaken it. We celebrated families in all the churches on Mothering Sunday. I thank those who provided flowers and we were reminded of the example of Jesus' care for his mother even when suffering on the cross. John 19:26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother; 'Woman, here is your son.'

Then he said to the disciple: 'Here is your mother.' The disciple (whom we think was John) took her into his home. As care for others, we are prompted to offer some space in our homes for people from Ukraine seeking accommodation. On 23rd March, in St Mary's, Ballymascanlan, we had the two organ scholars from Dundalk Grammar School: Ruby and Colm. They played four hymns and four organ voluntaries.

Thanks to Sharon Eveson, who rounded up choir singers, and to others who made telephone calls, a good number of people enjoyed the occasion. It was lovely to hear the organ again as, owing to covid, we missed the Lowry singers over the past two winters. The first change for Holy Communion getting back to normal is for the congregation to come to the rail to receive Communion in one kind.

God Bless, Richard.

Lenten services continue this month

WEDNESDAY 30th March HEYNESTOWN 7.30PM

WEDNESDAY 6th APRIL BUSH 7.30PM



## Services - APRIL

### Week commencing 3rd

#### The 5th Sunday in LENT

9.30am - Creggan MP  
10.45am - Ballymascanlan MP  
12 noon - Bush MP  
10.00am - Heynestown HC  
11.00am - Dundalk HC

### Week commencing 10th

#### Palm Sunday

9.30am - Creggan HC  
10.45am - Ballymascanlan HC  
12 noon - Bush HC  
10.00am - Heynestown MP  
11.00am - Dundalk MP

### Week commencing 17th

#### EASTER Sunday

9.30am - Creggan HC  
10.45am - Ballymascanlan HC  
12 noon - Bush HC  
10.00am - Heynestown HC  
11.00am - Dundalk HC

### Week commencing 24th

#### The 2nd Sunday of Easter

9.30am - Creggan HC  
10.45am - Ballymascanlan HC  
12 noon - Bush HC  
10.00am - Heynestown MP  
11.00am - Dundalk MP



## HOLY WEEK

Monday 11th April - 7.30pm Creggan EP  
Tuesday 12th April - 7.30pm Bush EP  
Wednesday 13th April - 7.30pm Heynestown EP

### Maundy Thursday

Thursday 14th April - 7.30pm Ballymascanlan HC

### Good Friday

Friday 15th April 3pm - Dundalk

St. Nicholas' Parish Church will be  
OPEN for Private Prayer on  
GOOD FRIDAY from 11am

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

- at 7 each evening, to pause and say a prayer for the situation in Ukraine.
- 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.

## FROM THE REGISTER

- We extend our sympathy and prayers to Anna Swan and her family, on the death of Anna's mother, Ligia Jones, who died on 4th March. There was a service of remembrance and celebration of Ligia's life in St Mary's, Ballymascanlan, on Tuesday 8th March
- Ken Donald and his family, on the death of his elder sister, Muriel, on 28th March.
- We look forward to the Baptism of Chimzurum on Easter Sunday in Dundalk.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL

With most restrictions removed and pods no longer in school-rooms, it is time to get Sunday school started again. **I plan to announce this on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> and then get started on 10<sup>th</sup> April.** If parents are still worried about infection there will be no pressure on them to send their children. We hope to start with small numbers and build up.

### General Easter Vestries

I am planning to have all the General Easter Vestries on the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> April as follows:

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April - Creggan 7.30pm**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April - Heynestown 7.30pm**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April - Dundalk 7.30pm**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April - Ballymascanlan/Bush 7.30pm.**

ANNUAL  
**VESTRY**  
MEETING



***We are looking forward to a good attendance on these occasions.***

# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

I thank Joyce for looking after the Lady Day service in Dundalk so that the people wouldn't be waiting for me to hide behind the communion table again as I did in Bush last Sunday when I was overcome by heat. Thanks too, to the Bush congregation for their kindness on that occasion.

**The members of the Mothers' Union are seeking new members. All members of the MU are asked, at 7 each evening, to pause and say a prayer for the situation in Ukraine.**

*This prayer was circulated at the Lady Day service*

Heavenly Father, we pray:

For those who are fleeing: sanctuary

For those who are staying: safety

For those who are fighting: peace

For those whose hearts are breaking: comfort

For those who see no future: hope

In the name of Christ, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

***All ladies in the parish are most welcome.***

### ST. NICHOLAS' NATIONAL SCHOOL



St Nicholas' NS celebrated World Book Day on March 3rd. The children dressed up as a character from their favourite book. They participated in some reading and vocabulary activities. Ms Gaynor's class visited the library. On 16th March we held our annual Lá Glas whereby the children dressed up in St Patrick's Day colours. The sun was shining so we had our Céilí dance outside. There were Easter eggs to be won for the best dressed.



## Confirmation

**No Confirmation Classes in the month of April, starts again on the 3rd. Tuesday's in St. Peter's Drogheda**