

Second Sunday of Easter (Year A)

Errigal Parish News - 12th April 2026

Weekday Masses: St. Mary's Church: - Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 10am.

St. Joseph's Church: - Wednesday at 10am.

St. Mary's Church - (Vigil): Anniversary Mass: For Rosemary Moore on Sunday 12th April at 10am.

First Anniversary Mass: For Bridget Hamill on Sunday 19th April at 10am.

St. Joseph's Church (Vigil) - Months Mind Mass: For Breda O'Kane on Saturday 11th April at 6pm.

Anniversary Mass: For Jimmy McNicholl on Saturday 11th April at 6pm.

Anniversary Mass: For Seamus Higgins on Sunday 12th April at 11.30am.

Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm - St. Joseph's Church in April.

Eucharistic Adoration: - Adoration on Monday after 10am Mass until 2.30pm.

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Easter Season - From April 5th to the 12th the church celebrates the Octave of Easter. Eight days where each day is observed with the same joy as Easter Sunday, honouring the Resurrection of Christ.

From April 5th to May 24th - We celebrate the **Easter Season**, a fifty-day period of joy that continues until Pentecost, reflecting on the risen Christ and the coming of the Holy Spirit.

May 17th - **Ascension Sunday:** Commemorating Jesus' return to heaven after the Resurrection.

May 24th - **Pentecost Sunday:** Celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Parish Census: In the recent distribution of collection envelopes, we request that at your earliest convenience you might return the census card with your family details for parish registration. Also, the Gift Aid card needs to be updated and signed so that the parish can claim Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer, this does not affect your personal details or taxation. If your tax circumstances change, please inform us, if you are no longer a taxpayer.

Census cards are available in each sacristy, once completed they can be returned in a sealed envelope via the collection box at the back of each church. If you have previously registered, you do not have to do so again, unless your household occupation has changed.

Parish Pastoral Group: Next meeting in the Parochial House on Thursday 16th April at 7.30pm.

Easter Water: Is available in the container in the porch of each church for the next two weeks.

Trócaire Boxes: Please return to the churches in the parish as soon as possible to enable the final count to take place. **If you are a taxpayer, please sign the Gift Aid card contained in the Trócaire box and return with your donation.**

St. Mary's - April Altar Society: Lee-Ann McKay, Louise Mullan, Bernie McGilligan, and Gemma Faulkner.

St. Mary's - April Collectors - (Sunday) Brian Mullan and John McLaughlin.

St. Joseph's - April Altar Society: Mairead & Anne McNicholl.

St. Joseph's - April Counters: Cathal Mullan & John B. O'Kane.

St. Joseph's April Collectors: (Vigil) Eugene O'Kane & James McNicholl.

(Sunday) Eugene Hasson & Joe O'Neill.

Errigal Parish - Future of Parish Life Survey Our parish is blessed with many gifts, talents, and willing hearts. As we look to strengthen parish life, we are inviting all parishioners to complete a short survey to help us understand which ministries and groups you would like to see offered in Errigal Parish.

The survey includes options for faith-sharing groups, family and outreach opportunities. You can tick as many, or none, as you feel called too.

Paper copies are available at the back of both churches and can be returned to the 'Errigal Pastoral Survey' Box which will be located at the rear of the Churches.

Please return by no later than Sunday 12th April. Thank you for helping us shape the future of our parish community.

Parish Envelopes: The new cycle of envelopes has now been distributed. Those who contribute to the parish by standing order or currently receive envelopes - Thank you for your generosity towards the parish! If you wish further information regarding setting up a Standing Order or the use of envelopes. Please contact using the parish email address (errigalparish@gmail.com), or telephone 29558251. (voicemail available)

Baptism Dates: The next Baptism dates are Saturday 9th May in St. Mary's Church at 6pm and St. Joseph's Church on Sunday 17th May at 12.30pm. The Baptismal Programme for parents/guardians will take place in the Parochial House on Wednesday 6th May at 7pm. Please register to attend the Baptismal Programme by Friday 1st May using the parish email address, this will indicate to the team the numbers who will attend the Baptismal Programme.

Monday Adoration Adorers: We request if you are available on Monday from after the morning Mass to participate in the rota for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which takes place until 2.30pm. If interested, please leave your name/contact number in the sacristy and we will follow up.

Parish Collections - Thank you. 190 boxes of envelopes in circulation.

Returns - (Pink/Yellow - 137 White - 87)

St. Mary's - Parish: £740 Renovation: £295

St. Joseph's - Parish: £850 Renovation: £995

Ballerin GAA Lotto: There was no winner of the lotto jackpot the numbers are 8, 9, 16, 29.

Next week's Jackpot is £4,000. £50 Winner - Janet McNicholl.

Glenullin GAA Lotto: There was no winner of the lotto jackpot the numbers are 3, 6, 24, 26.

Jackpot £10,000. £100 winners - Martin McCauley, Margaret Kearney, Gerard O'Kane, (jun) Catriona Campbell, and Barry Mullan.

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

St. Mary's Church - Church Readers - 18th/19th April

Saturday Vigil -

Sunday Morning - Arranged.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Reader in St. Mary's Church, please gave your name to Fr. Crowley training will be provided.

Eucharistic Ministers - 18th/19th April

Saturday Vigil -

Sunday Morning - Martina Bradley & Gillian O'Neill.

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Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

St. Joseph's Church - Church Readers - 18th/19th April

Saturday Vigil - Gerard O'Kane.

Sunday Morning - Ciara Mullan.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Reader in St. Joseph's Church, please gave your name to Fr. Crowley or Mairead Mc Nicholl (Lector Co-Ordinator), training will be provided.

Eucharistic Ministers - 18th/19th April

Saturday Vigil - Nadine McNicholl & Martin McIlvar.

Sunday Morning - Mary Conway & Rosellen O'Kane.

Feasts during the Week: Monday - St. Martin I: As a deacon he was sent as legate to Constantinople. Elected pope in 649 and died in 655 from harsh treatment in exile and prison.

Saturday - St. Laserian: Worked in both Ireland and Scotland in the seventh century and later entered the monastery at Leighlin, where he became abbot. His monastery thrived and later gave its name to the diocese established in 1110. He adapted church discipline in accordance with the practices of Rome and introduced the Roman method of dating the celebration of Easter. Laserian died in 639.

Diocesan Vocations: For further information, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Pat O'Hagan, at pgoh2111@gmail.com

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, we pray for our seminarians and the future priests of the diocese as we hear Jesus sending the disciples out in the power of His Holy Spirit to preach a message of forgiveness of sins and the Good News of the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Anniversaries: It is advisable where possible to book well in advance in the case of anniversaries. These are arranged with a sacristan as the anniversary book is kept in the sacristy. Also, please indicate in the Anniversary book that the Mass is booked for the stated intention - we would appreciate an acknowledgment of the booking by email if possible. **In**

the case of a booked Anniversary Mass please inquire of the sacristan before the Mass begins that the Mass is offered for the intention you request. Names to be added to the weekend anniversary list need to be added to the anniversary book by informing the sacristan - this can be done in advance of the date requested.

Parish Readers/Eucharistic Ministers: If you are unable to attend the schedule allocated to you, it would be much appreciated if you can get a replacement to step in for you. (It may be possible to exchange a rotation with another group member - there is also the opportunity to seek cover via the Whatsapp messaging facility if available to your group). I also ask Readers please to conclude the readings with - **'The Word of the Lord'** as directed in the Missalette, and not 'This is the Word of the Lord' as stated in the Lectionary. We have previously discussed this at our reader meetings.

One Day Retreat - "In the Stillness: Faith in a Busy World" Lough Derg, Co. Donegal Saturday 25th April. Boat departs at 9.30am. In a world that often feels busy and distracted, this retreat offers young adults the opportunity to pause, reflect and reconnect with faith in the peaceful setting of Lough Derg. The day will conclude with the celebration of the Eucharist at 5.00pm, which is open to the public. The retreat is open to young adults aged 18–35 and free to attend, thanks to the support of the Knights of St Columbanus. Registration is essential: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/young-adult-retreat-day-18-35yrs-tickets-1984550442797?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Derry Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Fatima: We are inviting young people aged 16+ to join us on pilgrimage to Fatima for five nights from 3rd to 8th August. This will be a unique experience for young people and an opportunity to engage with their peers from around the world in a faith context. Cost is £820 and there will be a budget plan to help with this. Names and deposit of £100 are required as soon as possible to secure a place. For more information or to book in please contact bethany.doherty@derrydiocese.org tel - 71264087

Accord Facilitators Needed: Accord is inviting volunteers to train as facilitators for its **Marriage Preparation Programmes**, supporting couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Facilitators work as part of a small local team and help lead up to four programmes each year. Free professional training is provided. To find out more or apply: Tel: 01 505 3112 Email: marriagepreparation@accord.ie
Closing date for applications: 29th May. Please consider sharing your experience of marriage to support couples preparing for this important sacrament.

'Shepherding Talent' Online Programme - *Aspire to Serve, Inspire to Lead*: In partnership with St Mary's University Twickenham, the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre is offering this programme. '*Shepherding Talent*' is a pioneering programme from the university, in which teaching professionals with leadership potential are challenged to explore their vocation to lead. Aimed at all teaching professionals in Catholic schools, this programme is delivered in the context of Catholic School education. It will be delivered over five weeks, with each session taking two hours. The total cost is £250. The first session takes place on Wednesday 29th April from 4.30pm - 6.30pm. For further information and registration please email: tferry@derrydiocese.org.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026: Monday 29th June to Friday 3rd July: Due to the great demand for places, we have secured 50 extra seats ex-Dublin direct to Lourdes and return, with complimentary bus to the Airport. The fare is £895 pps full board. If you wish to

book please contact the pilgrimage office at 164 Bishop St. Derry, Tel 02871 260293, email: derrypilgrim@outlook.com as soon as possible.

Look out Leaflets...Are now available for children at the back of both churches in the parish focusing on the liturgy of the word each week. Enjoy!

Children's Liturgy plans to run again at St. Joseph's Glenullin on the Sunday mornings of Lent. New volunteers are required to assist. This is an excellent opportunity to help our children and young JPII people be more involved! If interested in helping out, during the preparation seasons of Advent and Lent, please contact Clare Mullan 07812993538 so vetting can be processed and a rota organised.

Teach us to Pray Booklet - It can be downloaded at:

<https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/teach-us-to-pray>.

Fatima Trip - June 2026: Fully escorted group pilgrimage to Fatima, accompanied by Spiritual Director. 26th June - 3rd July 2026. Direct daytime flights, Belfast to Porto. Staying in 4* Hotel. Full board. Services of JWT pilgrimage guide. Daily Mass and Spiritual activities. Cost £895pps. Early booking offer - £100 off if paid in full by 3rd November 2025. Further details, please contact Christina Lagan: 07803192621.

Why Sunday Matters! The Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference have published a pastoral message titled '*Why Sunday Matters*' - an invitation to reflect on Sunday Mass. To access this resource and watch a four-part video series titles Sunday Mass - 'Digging Deeper', visit at CatholicBishops.ie

TheWay.ie: Is a new digital platform set up by the Irish Bishops Conference dedicated to sharing the 'Good News' and the witness of the Catholic Church in Ireland. It is intended to help people discover the faith, live the faith and pass on the faith. It is for both seekers and followers. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, X and YouTube.

Foyle Hospice 'Make a will Month': During the month of March local solicitors very kindly agree to waive their usual Will-writing fee in return for a suggested £100 donation to Foyle Hospice. A list of participating solicitors can be found at foylehospice.com/make-a-will/ or by calling Kathleen at the Foyle Hospice on 71359888. The purpose of Make a Will Month is to encourage people to write their Wills, whilst also raising much-needed funds for Foyle Hospice. Money raised will ensure Foyle Hospice can continue to deliver high quality specialist palliative care and end of life care to those in our community with life-limiting illness.

St. Joseph's Church - A YouTube camera link is now available for services from St. Joseph's Church, Glenullin. The link can be accessed -

<https://youtube.com/@parishoferrigalderry>.

The Net: As always, it features a wide variety of news, interesting and inspiring interviews, articles, and photos from parishes across the diocese. You can read the Diocesan newspaper on-line at: www.derrydiocese.org/news/categories/the-net. or a paper copy is available at the back of the church. Donations welcome.

Prayer for Peace in the Middle East: God of mercy and compassion of grace and reconciliation, pour your presence upon all your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims, Christians, Palestinians, and Israelis. Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to

hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation. That violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace and justice maybe experienced by all. Amen.

St. Joseph's Church: We present a dual gauge to initiative funds in our parish for the on-going costs associated with the renovation of St. Joseph's Church. The gauge on the left indicates the funds we require to complete the refurbishment. The gauge on the right reflects the loans we have received from other parishes. (Gauge also available on website and Facebook page). **Thanks - Donations to date** - Current figure £234,800.00.

Providing compassionate care at the end of life - To address the sensitive issue of compassionate care at the end of life, and in response to the need to inform the faithful of Catholic teaching on this important life issue that affects so many families, the Bishops of Ireland have published the pastoral letter: Freedom to Live Fully, Until Death Comes. You are invited to read this letter and view the accompanying video Through the Valley, which offers personal testimonies by carers and people with terminal illness. The key message of both letter and video asserts that every person possesses inherent, infinite dignity that remains intact regardless of their circumstances. In this context, bishops strongly oppose the Oireachtas Committee's proposal to Government to legislate for assisted suicide and call on support for healthcare workers who uphold the sanctity of life. To read Freedom to Live Fully, Until Death Comes and to watch Through the Valley, visit the following link: <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/2024/06/24/bishops-statement-on-end-of-life-care-freedom-to-live-fully-until-death-comes/>

The Catholic Communications Office of the Irish Bishops Conference: Produces a five-story weekly ezine Sharing Good News that reports on stories associated with the Bishops' Conference, activities in parishes and dioceses, and that celebrates Church life generally. If you do not currently subscribe to receiving it and you wish to subscribe to receive Sharing Good News, please register your email address on <https://catholicnews.ie/newsletter/>

Errigal Hall Volunteers: For this hospitality to continue in the community, we need new volunteers to come forward and help in this voluntary service to the parish. If you are interested, please contact Melinda Robinson. If enough volunteers come forward a rota can be put in place via a WhatsApp group, so that the same people are not required at each function.

Errigal Hall: Parishioners who borrow items from the hall need to sign for their removal from the hall and when they are returned. The signing book is in the kitchen of the hall.



St. Joseph's Church: Choir Practice will take place each Tuesday at 7pm in the church. New members from Primary 4 up are very welcome. Any queries contact Roisin McIlvar [07841407154](tel:07841407154).

St. Mary's Church Choir: If you are interested in joining the choir, you are welcome to attend the practice in the church on a Wednesday evening at 7pm. Or contact any choir member.

Derry Diocesan Society (DDS): In each of the parishes of the diocese Mass is offered alternating in each parish (list at the back of each church) for deceased and living members who are registered in the society. The deceased members registered are remembered in the anniversary list for three consecutive weekends each quarter (three months). Registration is £20 and can be given to a sacristan or Fr. Crowley - please ensure name and address of the person to be enrolled is included and whether it is for a living or deceased member.

Maternity Blessing: Expectant mothers are welcome to receive a blessing in any of the sacristies following Mass - and a prayer card for their pregnancy.

Stamps: For the missions can be left at the back of each church.

Synodal Pathway: Find attached the final versions of the National Synthesis for the Church in Ireland, which is the fruit of the recent process of listening and consultation; it is based on the syntheses produced by the 26 dioceses in Ireland, as well as those submitted by religious congregations and other interested groups. Also attach appendix document from survivors of abuse and the Irish Bishops' Conference Cover Letter, which have all been forwarded to the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops. Press Release also attached. We are requested to bring the Report to the attention of your parishioners and to share it on your social media outlets. It will be a useful tool as parishes move forward on the synodal journey in the autumn. **The Report is now available on the website of the Synodal Pathway of the Church in Ireland website: www.synod.ie**



Parish Envelopes: Following previous discussion with the Parish Finance Committee we encourage consideration for those who use envelopes infrequently to consider the use of a standing order, (through this medium you have full control), of the donation at your disposal. **Further information is available from the parish website.**

If you advance the standing order, (it can be processed on-line with your bank), or alternatively bring the completed mandate to your bank. We request that when you are issuing your instruction to the bank, that you do so with your personal name, in doing so we can therefore identify from whom the standing order has been authorised. It is with your authorisation that the standing order is either processed weekly or monthly. Also, you can withdraw the mandate at your own discretion. We would appreciate an acknowledgement of this transaction (via the parish email) when it is activated, so that we can have a copy for the parish records. In the information forwarded we will require your address and telephone number.

Several parishioners recently have set up a standing order, however we do not know who these parishioners are because they have not provided an address. We ask please that you follow the instructions above and email the parish to inform us who has authorised the standing order.

We request now that the boxes are delivered, if you have not previously returned or updated a parish Census card, please complete the card in the back of the box and return in the collection envelope. Also, the Gift Aid card needs to be signed and returned if you are a taxpayer.

Those who avail of Standing Orders are also asked to complete a Census card and Gift Aid card. These can be collected in each sacristy and returned at your convenience.

Details of Parish Accounts for Standing Orders:

(Errigal Ballerin: Sort Code - 950346 - Account No. 40067059 is the No 1 a/c) **Errigal Development:** Sort Code - 950346 - (Account No. 90042358 is the Renovation a/c).

(Errigal Glenullin: Sort Code - 950346 Account No. 90062596 is the No 1 a/c) **(Errigal Parish:** Sort Code 950689 - Account No. 90083712 is the Renovation a/c).

Parish Finance: If you wish to contribute to the parish by standing order - forms can be forwarded upon request by sending an email to - errigalparish@gmail.com or they are available on the parish website. At the end of each month, we shall include in the collection figures the amounts relating to the increase in standing orders, these figures are stated in brackets.

Parish Census: In the recent distribution of collection envelopes, we request that at your earliest convenience you might return the census card with your family details for parish registration. Also, the Gift Aid card needs to be updated and signed so that the parish can claim Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer, this does not affect your personal details

or taxation. If your tax circumstances change, please inform us, if you are no longer a taxpayer.

Census cards are available in each sacristy, once completed they can be returned in a sealed envelope via the collection box at the back of each church. If you have previously registered, you do not have to do so again, unless your household occupation has changed.

Church Cleaners: Cleaners are required to join the existing monthly groups who clean each church. The more that participate the less occasions that individuals will be required to cover. If interested, please leave your name/contact phone number in each sacristy or alternatively give details to a sacristan.

Mass Cards/Mass Bouquets: Are available for sale at the back of each church please put the money in the candle box.

ACCORD - Counselling: If you need to speak, to an experienced couples and relationships counsellor during this time of unprecedented stress and pressure on family life, please contact 95680151. This is a free helpline service available from 9am - 8pm. Monday to Friday. All calls charged at local rate.

ACCORD DERRY: Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme (limited to 15 couples per course). Booking now online at www.accordni.com

Radio Maria Ireland: <https://www.radiomaria.ie/radio-maria-ireland/> is an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station with commercial-free broadcasting of Prayer, Catechesis, Music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies.

Church Safeguarding: If you have any concerns with regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church please contact: Mrs Marie O'Kane (Designated Liaison Person), Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry. Tel: 02871 - 362475/07596500793. Email: dlp@derrydiocese.org - or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services Tel: 02871-314090.

Parish Representatives - Tracey McGilligan and Clare Mullan.

Errigal Privacy Notice: The Diocese of Derry complies with GDPR regulations. A privacy notice is available on the Parish Website or alternatively it is available from the Parish Office. Live stream of Mass and Services in St. Mary's Church and a Utube streaming in St. Joseph's Church are available online. Parishioners should note that the first three rows of seats are visible in St. Mary's Church.