

ANAM CARA the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its next monthly Parent Evenings on - **Tue 21 Feb**, in the Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh and **Wed 22 Feb** in the Armagh City Hotel, **from 7.30pm to 9.00pm** These events are open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether the death was recent or not. The event is completely free of charge.

Pro-Life Information Meeting

Precious Life is hosting an information evening regarding the upcoming elections with advice on candidates and their stance on abortion. On **Wed 22 Feb at 7:30pm** in the The Burnavon, Cookstown. All welcome. For more information contact Precious Life on **028 9027 8484**, or email: info@preciouslife.com

The Dungannon Fundraising Group for Marie Curie Cancer Care present their 20th Annual Great Daffodil Ball. Sat 4 March at 7.30pm in Glenavon House Hotel Cookstown. Tickets £40 each.

For information or to buy tickets contact the numbers below, speak to any committee member or send us an email Sandra Spence: 028 8772 3989 Cathal McGurk: 07762 309 294 Email: dungannonfundraisinggroup.mariecurie@hotmail.co.uk

TRÓCAIRE THANKS

The amount raised through Gift Sales and Donations in the parish was £2,112. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

CAR BOOT SALE in aid of Southern Area Hospice in Edendork Hall Car Park on **Sun 19 Feb at 10am**.

TRAD FOR TRÓCAIRE

SUNDAY 19 MARCH AT 8.30 pm
in THE GABLES CARLAND

Great line up of local talent: Malachi & Plunkett, Carland Traditional Group, The O'Neill Sisters, Carroll School of Dancing, John & Claire O'Neill & Friends, The McGrath Brothers Traditional Group & more..... Tickets £10. Children £5. On sale in Begley's Shops Irish & William Street, Carmel's, Aras Mhuire and The Gables- or pay at the door. Promises to be a great night for a worthy cause.

CYCLE AGAINST SUICIDE

Aims to break the cycle of suicide in Ireland, by raising awareness of the message that "It's OK not to feel OK; and it's absolutely OK to ask for help". Our first Spin-Off of 2017 will take place on **Sat 25 Feb at 10.00am sharp** starting at St Patrick's Grammar School, Armagh. The cycle will travel to Eglisish for a water stop and on to St Joseph's Grammar School, Donaghmore for lunch. Then the peloton will cycle back to Armagh via the Moy. Register on the day at either school or via www.cycleagainstsucide.com. Any queries, please contact Ciara O'Hanlon 07715499861 Gabrielle McArdle 07736 579479

ARAS MHUIRE

Religious Goods & Bookshop

14 Irish Street, Dungannon

Tel: 028 8772 6852

Email: arasmhuire@lycos.com

**Confirmation and First Communion
Gifts and Cards**

Cards for all occasions.

Open 9.30am – 5.00pm Mon – Sat.

Open during lunch hour.

Parish of Dungannon

Killyman, Drumglass & Tullyniskin

St Patrick's, Dungannon

St Malachy's, Edendork

St Brigid's, Killyman Sacred Heart, Clonmore



7th Sunday of the Year

19 February 2017

**Rt Rev Dean Colum Curry, PP, VG – 02887 722775 Curates - Fr Seamus White,
Fr Radoslaw Szymoniak, Fr Aidan McCann & Deacon Andy Hegarty – 02887 722631
EMERGENCY CALLS ONLY – 07518 542 360 PARISH OFFICE - 02887 726893**

Email: info@parishofdungannon.com

Dear Parishioners,

I think it was Mark Twain who once made the remark, "I am sorry for writing such a long letter, I didn't have time to write a short one". With the good graces of our faithful printer, John Gill, I would like to take a little more space than usual for this week's reflections in the parish bulletin.

When I was appointed as your Parish Priest in September 2004, I undertook the responsibility with some reluctance and much trepidation. At that time I agreed with Cardinal Brady, Bishop Clifford and Monsignor McEntegart that my appointment would be for ten years! The past twelve years, spent here in this parish have been a very significant part of my priesthood and I thank God for the countless blessings and wonderful experiences I have enjoyed. It has indeed been a great honour and privilege to serve the people of "storied Dungannon" and the surrounding areas.

Over recent months I have had some discussion with Archbishop Eamon and I have decided it is time for me to resign as Parish Priest of Dungannon. Needless to say, I feel sad about the prospect of leaving a place and a people I greatly love, but I am at peace with my decision and I know it is right. I am very grateful to Archbishop Eamon for being so open to my proposals and for his gracious response to my request. In light of this being the fortieth anniversary of my Ordination and the completion of eighteen years as Parish Priest, including six years in Clonoe, I think it is the opportune time to take a short break in preparation for the transition to new pastures. I look forward to continuing my role as Vicar General of the Archdiocese and taking up a new appointment to another parish in the clerical changes of this summer.

In the meantime, I am hoping to spend some time in the Irish College in Rome and to take part in a Thirty Day Retreat. Please God, I will also set foot on Lough Derg during the Three Day Season and hopefully meet up with many people from Dungannon parish!

I realise this news may come as a surprise to many and I regret any annoyance it may cause. I apologise for being so sudden with this announcement, but I think it is preferable to leaks of rumour and speculation. I am also aware that certain parochial projects are in the pipeline, but I have no doubt all of these will be brought to completion in due course. While I like to think much has been achieved in this parish over recent years, I believe this is an appropriate time for change of leadership. Please God, a new Parish Priest with pastoral vision and the necessary energy will lead this community further into a deep appreciation of our Catholic faith and the consequent challenge of living the Gospel message.

I want to reassure you that my departure at this time is not related in any way to my recent illness; thank God I have made a good recovery and my health is perfectly fine. On that note I want to offer, once more, my profound gratitude and appreciation to all those people whose prayers and support last year were truly significant and very powerful. I will never forget the sincerity of your goodness.

I would like to make one final remark - with the hope that I don't appear ungracious or presumptuous. I realise there have been some instances, in the past, when curates leaving Dungannon parish were honoured with a parish gathering and possibly a presentation. I think that is perfectly in order, for curates! Under no circumstances would I personally ever wish to be in that situation, and I mean that! The one thing I would really love, and the only thing I really need, is a remembrance in your prayers - nothing else. And for that I am grateful.

My successor will be appointed during the coming week and will take up his appointment on 3rd March. That means I will be around for the next couple of weeks and will be able to say farewell in a more personal way. I take this opportunity to wish the new man '*ad multos annos*' - and every blessing for many years of happy service among you and with you; I can assure him he is truly blessed to be coming in to a parish that is vibrant and active and whose people are faithful and loyal.

With every blessing,
Colum Curry PP

SUNDAY MASSES (including Vigil):

St. Patrick's: Sat at 6.15pm
Sun at 8.00am, 10.30am & 12.30pm
Polish Mass: Sun at 5.30pm
Edendork: 10am & 12noon
Clonmore: Sun at 10am
Killyman: Sun at 11am

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Patrick's
Mon -Fri: 7.45am, 10am, & 7.30pm
Sat: 10am
St Malachy's: Fri: 10am
Novena prayers will be said during the 7.30pm Mass on Monday.

CONFESSIONS

St Patrick's
Mon-Sat 9.15am – 9.55 am
Saturday 12.30pm – 1.00pm
5.30pm – 6.00pm

BAPTISMS

Please contact the Parish Office on
028 8772 6893, to arrange.
Please give at least 2 weeks' notice.
We welcome:
Darcey Kim Farrell
Nina Rose Hackett
Nyah Nugent

FEAST DAYS

Feb 21 – St Peter Damian
Feb 22 – Chair of St Peter, Apostle
Feb 23 – St Polycarp

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Meets every *Wednesday at 8.00pm* in the Convent.

OUR LADY'S GROTTTO EDENDORK

Rosary at Grotto *8.30pm every Thurs.*

RECENTLY DECEASED

Gretta McCann, Donaghmore Rd
Finian O'Donnell, Lurgaboy Lane
Ian Wray, Cloneen
John Fitzpatrick, formerly Dgn
Helena Dalecka, Lisnahull Park
Rose Beagan, Woodbourne Cr
Mary O'Connor, Lurgaboy Lane
Patrick Skelton, Corrainey Gdns
Peter McCann, Coalisland Rd
Please remember them in your prayers.

ALTAR SERVERS CLUB

St Patrick's Church
Thurs Feb 23 6.30pm – 7.15pm

St Joseph's Young Priests' Society
Meeting *Mon 20 Feb at 8.00pm* in the Convent. All members are asked to attend. New members are welcome.

Beginning Experience

Weekend Programme
for Widowed, Separated & Divorced
24 – 26 February 2017
For inquiries and registration contact
Armagh Diocesan Pastoral Centre,
The Magnet,
The Demesne,
Tel 0035379-34871718

1ST TYRONE SCOUT GROUP
Our Annual Church Gate Collection will take place on *Feb 25 & 26* at all Masses.

We also have a Quiz Night in Dungannon Rugby Club on *Thurs 23 Feb. from 9.00pm, (£4 cover)* with light refreshments and raffle. All welcome.

PARISH COLLECTION

12 February
Envelopes, DDs and Loose Plate
£4,373-00