



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 2018

CONTACT DETAILS: Rev. Capt. Geoffrey Walmsley Tel: 087-4669806/042-9321402
Rev. Richard Moore Tel: 041-6851327

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

When we watch sport, there are occasions when a substitution has to be made. You may notice that sometimes the person being substituted does not necessarily want to come off the playing field. The player is enjoying the game, they feel they have done quite well in aiding their team and still have energy. This may all lead to the player being disappointed at least.

We celebrate the greatest event in human history in a matter of days. That event is the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Why is it the greatest event in history? You and I are loved more than we will ever know by God, unconditionally and everlastingly. The world has much wrong and sin in it and we are all tainted with it from our birth by being placed in this world. God still loves us, even though we all let Him down, and He wants us to escape this world of sin. In His mercy and infinite wisdom, God sent His only Son Jesus into the world to die on a cross for you and I. By that death, we can be freed from our sin and defeat death ourselves by going to heaven. Jesus chose the cross as the ultimate way of displaying His love for the whole world. The cross was a means of punishment for people in Jesus' time. We deserve punishment for our wrongdoings but God substituted His only Son in place of us so that we could escape that punishment. This is why it is the greatest event in history and the best news anyone could ever hear and receive.

However, a choice has to be made. Jesus does not force His love upon you and I but offers it to us in a free gift. Jesus has cancelled out our sin on the cross and by receiving this truth (1Peter 2:24) and asking for forgiveness of sin, Jesus will in no way cast any of us away but will forgive and come and dwell in our lives by His Holy Spirit. The promise of heaven and eternal life is ours if we accept Jesus' free gift of love and grace. This Easter we once again celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ. Is it personal and real to us? Does it make our life have the meaning it was designed to have? The answer I pray is yes to both questions for all of us. He is our substitute. Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord for His indescribable gift. God bless you all this Eastertide.

God bless you.

Services - APRIL

Week commencing 1st

Creggan -	9.30am Easter Praise
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am Easter MP2
Bush -	12 noon Easter MP2
Heynestown -	10.00am Easter HC2
Dundalk -	11.00am Easter HC2

Week commencing 8th

Creggan -	9.30am NO SERVICE
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am NO SERVICE
Bush -	12 noon NO SERVICE
Heynestown -	10.00am NO SERVICE
Dundalk -	11.00am Joint Service

Week commencing 15th

Creggan -	9.30am HC2
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am HC2
Bush -	12 noon HC2
Heynestown -	10.00am MP1
Dundalk -	11.00am Family Service

Week commencing 22nd

Creggan -	8.00pm MP2
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am MP2
Bush -	12 noon MP2
Heynestown -	10.00am HC2
Dundalk -	11.00am HC2

Week commencing 29th

Creggan -	8.00pm HC2
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am HC2
Bush -	12 noon HC2
Heynestown -	10.00am MP2
Dundalk -	11.00am MP2



Holy Week

MONDAY 26TH MARCH

CREGGAN 7.30PM (Late Evening Office Service)

TUESDAY 27TH MARCH

BUSH 7.30PM (Late Evening Office Service)

WEDNESDAY 28TH MARCH

HEYNESTOWN 7.30PM (Late Evening Office Service)

MAUNDY THURSDAY 29TH MARCH

BALLYMASCANLAN 7.30PM (Holy Communion)

GOOD FRIDAY 30TH MARCH

DUNDALK 7.30PM (Evening Prayer)



MAUNDY THURSDAY DIOCESAN SERVICE
OF HOLY COMMUNION IN
ST PATRICKS CATHEDRAL, ARMAGH AT
10.30AM. EVERYONE VERY WELCOME

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Welcome all ladies to the Lady's Day service

Monday 26th March at 8pm

St Richards side chapel, Dundalk.

The Mothers Union will be having their missions evening on
Monday 23rd April at 8pm in the Wellington Hall. A speaker
will be coming from CMSI who help strengthen our ties with North
Kivu diocese, D R Congo, our link partners.
All welcome, both members & non-members.

Confirmation

ARCHBISHOP RICHARD WILL BE CONDUCTING THE SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION IN ST PETERS, DROGHEDA AT 7.30PM ON THE 19TH APRIL. PLEASE HOLD THIS SPECIAL TIME FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE IN PRAYER AND THIS IMPORTANT STEP IN THEIR SPIRITUAL LIVES. THERE ARE TWO CANDIDATES FROM THE DUNDALK GROUP OF PARISHES THIS YEAR.

THEY ARE ALEXANDRA ARANSIOLA AND ERIN MAGEE. WE WISH THEM EVERY BLESSING AT THIS TIME.

EASTER GENERAL VESTRY MEETINGS

I wish to thank everyone who served on Select Vestries over the last year and to the wardens for all their sterling work also. I wish everyone who will be appointed to Select Vestries for the incoming year much blessing and a time to look forward in working together as we continue to build the Kingdom of God together.

**THE HEYNESTOWN EASTER VESTRY TUESDAY 10TH
APRIL AT 8PM IN ST PAULS CHURCH**

**CREGGAN EASTER VESTRY THURSDAY 12TH APRIL
AT 7.30PM IN PARISH HALL**

**BALLYMASCANLAN/BUSH EASTER VESTRY
MONDAY 16TH APRIL AT 7.30PM IN
ST MARYS PARISH HALL**

**DUNDALK EASTER VESTRY WEDNESDAY 18TH APRIL
AT 8PM IN THE WELLINGTON HALL**

May I encourage everyone to attend these important meetings in our church's calendar. N.B. only those who have signed the respective Register of Vestrypersons either this year or in the past would be entitled to have a vote at the Easter vestry meetings.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: We wish all our children and teachers a welcome break over the Easter period. May I encourage all children aged between 4 and 12 to come along to any of our Sunday schools (Dundalk, Creggan and Bush). Sunday school occurs during the services at any of these churches except family services when the children will remain in church with their parents/guardians. Sunday school will resume after Easter and we do wish to see all our children, and indeed new children, return in that time.

EASTER EGG HUNT AND VIGIL:



The annual Easter egg hunt and vigil service will be held in

**St Marys, Ballymascanlan at 3pm on
Easter Saturday (31st March)**

We would love to see as many people as possible there, particularly families. The short service will occur followed by the children searching for those chocolate delicacies in the grounds of St Marys church

Pray for good weather!

WELLINGTON HALL DUNDALK



For bookings and up to date news please visit the website.

WELLINGTON HALL
DUNDALK

Alternatively you can call Colin 086 6085662

www.wellingtonhalldundalk.com



the children dressed up as their favourite characters for World Book Day and La'ghlas on 16th March. Learn 2 cycle donated bicycles for the children in the Haven. The school are running a cloth-

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

ing collection in conjunction with Bag2school. Clothes received are to be reused in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe. Clothes to be donated before 20th April 2018

A SPECIAL SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING AND APPRECIATION OF OUR EMERGENCY AND SECURITY SERVICES IS TO BE HELD IN ST NICHOLAS, DUNDALK AT 7.30PM ON **TUESDAY 17TH APRIL**. IT WILL BE A SERVICE OF 'SONGS OF PRAISE' WITH APPROPRIATE READINGS AND WELL-KNOWN MUSIC AND HYMNS. **EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME** TO COME AND SUPPORT OUR LOCAL SERVICES AND GIVE THANKS FOR THE WORK THAT THEY DO.

*St. Nicholas Church (Green Church) open from 11am-5pm on
Good Friday for prayer & private
devotion with a structured service part of the day from
3pm-3.30pm*

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- Bishop Isesomo and the diocese of North Kivu, D R Congo. Also Bishop Suheil and the diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East
- Peace in Syria, especially Ghouta in Damascus
- The homeless, unemployed and refugee
- Those hospitalized, in nursing care and cared for at home
- Giving thanks for Easter, Christ's death and resurrection
- Our children and young people
- Confirmation candidates
- Our emergency and security services
- Those who are grieving

FROM THE REGISTER:

- ◆ The funeral of Mrs Ross was held in St Marys, Knockbridge on 24th February and committal in St Pauls, Heynestown
- ◆ A service for a child's blessing was held in St Marys, Ballymascanlan on 11th March for Abby Naylor.

North Kivu trip: Those who are interested in being involved with the trip to North Kivu this summer with CMSI, please see Geoffrey . ASAP.