



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 - MARCH 2019

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Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The 'March Hare', as we sometimes term members of the rabbit family at this time of year, conjures up thoughts of an animal with an amazing amount of energy and very much about all it's business. I have also heard the phrase applied to people at times when they are in a state of rush or speed. The month of March brings new life, new growth and a re-energising of much in the realm of nature. Many people find it an encouraging time of year with longer amounts of light in the day and new colour in the plant world etc.

Isaiah 40:31 (Amplified Bible) speaks these wonderful words: "But those who wait for the Lord shall change and renew their strength and power; they shall lift their wings and mount up as eagles; they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint". Sometimes our faith may feel a little dormant and very little seems to be happening between us and God or we have become burdened and times of refreshment and renewal seem far away. God's promise from Isaiah is something of great encouragement and sustenance. However, do you notice that the promise is conditional? 'Those who wait for the Lord' is that condition. As spring appears and new life and growth are in action, so it will happen to those who 'hang in there' with the Lord in times of dormancy and difficulty in their faith. He is ever present and ever loving. Never give up on Him because he never gives up on us. Those who wait on the Lord should rely on Christ's promise of salvation and eternal life through the cross which is available for all who want it. This promise never changes, like all God's promises, and should sustain us in times of dormancy and difficulty in our faith. God bless you all and remember God never falters on, changes or forgets His promises.

GOD BLESS YOU

Geoffrey

Services - MARCH

Week commencing 3rd

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

Week commencing 10th

Creggan -	9.30am Family Service
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am MP2
Bush -	12 noon Family Service
Heynestown -	10.00am MP2
Dundalk -	11.00am MP2

Week commencing 17th

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

Week commencing 24th

Creggan -	9.30am MP2
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am MP2
Bush -	12noon MP2
Heynestown -	10.00am MP1
Dundalk -	11.00am MP2

Week commencing 31st

Creggan -	9.30am NO SERVICE
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am NO SERVICE
Bush -	12noon NO SERVICE
Heynestown -	10.00am NO SERVICE
Dundalk -	11.00am Combined Service of Wholeness & Healing



The theme of this year's Lenten services is titled 'appointments'. Over the six weeks, we will be looking at people Jesus met and what we can learn from those encounters. The people are John the Baptist, The Centurion, Nicodemus, The Samaritan Woman at the well, Zaccheus and the Repentant criminal on the cross. It

would be wonderful if as many people as possible are able to come along to one or more of the services over Lent. May it be a spiritually rewarding time for us all.

ASH WEDNESDAY 6th MARCH DUNDALK 7.30PM

WEDNESDAY 13th MARCH CREGGAN 7.30PM

WEDNESDAY 20th MARCH BUSH 7.30PM

WEDNESDAY 27th MARCH HEYNESTOWN 7.30PM

WEDNESDAY 3rd APRIL BALLYMASCANLAN 7.30PM

WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL DUNDALK 7.30PM

On the evening of Ash Wednesday, at the end of the service, the prayers tagged to the Remembrance Tree in St Nicholas, Dundalk will be symbolically burned as we offer them collectively to God.

Come and Experience the Living Word

Bible Study

Bible study group will meet on **Thursdays the 14th and 28th of March at 7.30pm** in St Richards side chapel, Dundalk. Do join us as we continue our journey through the story of Job.

WELLINGTON HALL DUNDALK



For bookings and up to date news please visit the website.
Alternatively you can call Colin 086 6085662

www.wellingtonhalldundalk.com

FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

- Bishop Ilesomo and the diocese of North Kivu, D R Congo. Also Bishop Suheil and the diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East
- For those who grieve and are bereaved
- Those who suffer as a result of war, terror, civil unrest, natural disaster and famine
- The unemployed, destitute and homeless
- 21 confirmees from Dundalk and Drogheda groups of parishes
- The sick, hospitalised, those cared for in nursing care and at home
- Giving thanks to God and all that He has done and is doing in the parishes
- To 'wait on the Lord' and abide in His will always
- Our children and young people, their schooling and direction in life
- That Lent may be a fruitful time in our walk with the Lord

FROM THE REGISTER:

- ◇ The funeral of Rodney McDowell was held in St Marys, Ballymascanlan on Monday 4th February followed by cremation in Glasnevin, Dublin
- ◇ The funeral of Bill Dawson was held in Creggan church on Wed 6th February followed by burial in the adjoining graveyard.

Mr Rodney McDowell was a parish reader for many years in the group of parishes and was known by many in the different churches. Many people were led in worship by him in many services and he served as secretary on Ballymascanlan/Bush select vestry for many years. Rodney, of late, did not enjoy good health and finally passed away in Carlingford nursing home. He will be missed by many. Our prayers go out to all families who grieve at this time, whether deaths that are recent or in the past.

DUNDALK HOMELESS SUPPORT GROUP:

Many thanks to all who continue to support the trolley ministry in St Nicholas, Dundalk. It is very much appreciated by all who avail of this vital help in the community. Need is still great amongst the homeless of our communities and, if you can, continue to donate non-perishable items into the trolley as families and individuals who find themselves homeless are in constant need of support. Thank you



The select vestry of Dundalk would like to thank each and everyone who donated in any way to the building repair fund in the church. It has been a remarkable project to which so many people gave so generously to bring it to completion. The donation thermometer in the porch of St Nicholas' has reached its target! One final sizeable donation from outside the parish has brought the outstanding level of need to a finish. We are so grateful to everyone involved in their invaluable help in realising this feat.



SAVE OUR ROOF!!!

GOAL €60,000

THANK YOU!!!

St. Nicholas, Parish Church, DUNDALK.

SELECT VESTRY MEETINGS

- Ballymascanlan/Bush** on Monday 4th March at 7.30pm in the Ballymascanlan church Hall.
- Dundalk** on Monday 11th March at 8pm in the Infant School behind Wellington Hall.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Annual Lady's Day service

in St Richards side chapel, St Nicholas, Dundalk
at 7.30pm on Monday 25th March.

The service will take the form of Holy Communion.
It will be followed by a short meeting of the Mothers Union.
All ladies are very welcome whether you are a member or not.



Shoppers service:

The shoppers service this month will be held on **Thursday 21st March** at 12 noon in St Nicholas, Dundalk. The church will be open from 11am to 1pm for anyone from the community to come and go from the church for visiting purposes, private devotion or to be present at the short service of reflection.

GREENORE MISSION TO SEAFARERS



A ship's visitor is still needed at Greenore port in conjunction with the mission to seafarers there. The role has an exciting and interesting angle to it and requires no former experience or training. That will be given to anyone interested in being involved. It opens up a wonderful opportunity for outreach and anyone remotely interested please see Geoffrey for further details.

The Mission to Seafarers
Caring for seafarers around the world



Sunday schools at Dundalk, Creggan and Bush churches welcome all children aged between 4 and 12 for age appropriate fun and learning. Sunday school runs alongside the times of the services in the respective churches where the children leave during the service with their teachers into another part of the church buildings. All children very welcome



YOUTH GROUP

Youth group in St Nicholas, Dundalk meet alongside the church service time in their own space and is for all young people aged 12+. If you are a young person or know a young person, feel free to come along for fun and fellowship each week.

Mothering Sunday
SUNDAY 31ST MARCH

