

**Parish Priest : Fr John Cargan: Tel 028 2954 0343**

*Parish Website : [www.parishofkilrea.com](http://www.parishofkilrea.com)*

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**PARISH MASSES**

**St Anne's Oratory**

Monday to Friday: 10.00 a.m.

No Mass on Saturday

Sunday : 9.00 a.m.

Masses and Ceremonies must be celebrated without a congregation but with links on [www.parishofkilrea.com](http://www.parishofkilrea.com), [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv)

or the Derry Diocesan website : [www.derrydiocese.org](http://www.derrydiocese.org).

All Masses are recorded and can be viewed at any time.

*Leaflets containing the readings can be downloaded from the Parish Website.*

**ANNIVERSARIES :**

Lawrence Wilson, Susan McEldowney, Peter McEldowney, Joseph McFlynn, Vera McFlynn, Francie O'Hagan, Katie McGill, Sean McAllister, Mary Oliver, Patrick McWilliams, James McGrath, Tom McKiernan, Maureen McFerran, Sam Brizzell, Annie Brizzell, Patrick McWilliams, Jim Ross, Brigid Kearney

**SUNDAY COLLECTION :**

**Sunday 3 January 2021:**Total Lodged £1575.00. Thank you for your generosity. You may wish to keep your weekly contributions until the reopening of our churches on Saturday 6th February. Alternatively, you can leave your envelope in McCotters' Shop or drop it through the letterbox at the Parochial House.

**CHILDREN IN CROSSFIRE'S 2020 ADVENT APPEAL :**

Boxes and donations can be returned to the Parochial House before Wednesday. This year's campaign focus is on building hand washing and sanitation facilities for 700 schools in Tanzania, which will help keep up to 80,000 children each year safe from disease.

**GRANAGHAN & DISTRICT WOMEN'S GROUP, SWATRAGH:**

We are looking forward to delivering 8 sessions of 'baby yoga and massage' via ZOOM on Monday mornings (10.00-10.45) with Elaine Devlin, starting Monday February 1st-Monday March 29th at a total cost of only £20 for all 8 sessions. Money to be paid upfront. This would be suitable for children aged 8 weeks - crawling, approximately. Places limited. Please contact Pauline as soon as convenient, to secure your place- 07716292266

**Statement 7 January 2021**

Following further briefing today by the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Officer, and in consultation with The Executive Office, we are very concerned at the current serious public health position in which Northern Ireland finds itself: with the extremely high level of transmission of the Covid-19 virus; the continuing escalation of numbers in hospital and intensive care; the number of associated deaths; and, the increasingly unsustainable pressure on our healthcare staff. The clear message from health officials is that this situation is going to worsen significantly over the coming weeks.

We recognise the efforts of so many in our parishes who have been working to ensure that our gatherings for public worship are as safe as possible and we welcome the continuing engagement between the faith communities and the NI Executive which has led to consensus between us on the importance of people being able to gather in person for worship. At this time, however, we acknowledge and support the unequivocal message from public health authorities that the movement and gathering of people should be minimised and that as many people as possible *stay at home* for the sake of health, life and the Common Good.

In light of our ongoing consultations and of the current serious and worsening situation, and in line with clear public health guidance that people should *stay at home*, we have decided that for a limited period (from midnight on Thursday 7 January until Saturday 6 February 2021, subject to review in late January), the celebration of the Eucharist and other liturgies should take place without the physical presence of the faithful - with the exception of marriage, funeral, baptismal liturgies. We encourage parishes, where possible, to continue to broadcast the celebration of Mass online and on other media, knowing that faith and prayer can be a tremendous support to individuals and society during these difficult times.

We make this decision reluctantly, conscious that not being able to gather for public worship can cause pain for all the faithful, but in the hope that this limited period of sacrifice will be for the protection of life and health and for the greater good of all. We once more ask for prayers for the sick, the bereaved and all those whose livelihoods have been particularly impacted by the pandemic. We keep in our prayers all health workers, carers, chaplains and other essential workers.

**Most Rev Eamon Martin DD**

**Most Rev Donal McKeown DD**

**Most Rev Noel Treanor DD**

**Most Rev Larry Duffy DD**