

# Church of St. MacNissi

## ANTRIM PASTORAL COMMUNITY

28<sup>th</sup> December & 29<sup>th</sup> December

**WEEKEND MASSES;** 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> December  
Vigil (Saturday) 6.00pm / Sunday 10.00am

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday **7.00pm**

### MARY MOTHER OF GOD WORLD DAY OF PEACE

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 9.30am

Thursday, Friday 9.30am

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 from 7.00am

### THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

#### Holy Day of Obligation

**5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> January** Vigil (Sun) 6.00pm / Monday  
10.00am

### WEEKDAY MASSES;

Tues 7.00pm Wed, Thurs & Fri 9.30am

### WEEKEND MASSES;

Vigil (Sat) 6.00pm / Sun 10.00am

**CONFESSION;** after weekday Masses & Sat 5.30

### Ministers of the Word 05/1/2020

SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 10.00AM
Liz Carey	Frank Devenny
Geraldine Ibbotson	Lucia Hurrell

### Eucharistic Ministers 05/1/2020

Eilish Scott	Peter Boyle
Vincent O Connell	Clare Hamilton
Brian Fitsimmons	Gerard Dougan
John Trainor	Nicola Skelly
James Dowd	Mary Gately

Brendan McKay	Tara McSorley
James McKeown	Gerard Livesey

**WEEKLY OFFERING** last week amounted to  
**£2468** Thank you for your continued support.

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Vincent McVeigh  
(Randalstown)

### ANNIVERSARIES;

Sunday 10.00am Dessie McKeown and Vincent O'Neill. Lena McNeilly Mary Madden, Seamus O'Boyle, Peter O'Kane (50yrs) Noel Lyness, Arthur Lyness, Hugh Carey, Martin McGuigan, Mary Dixon, Patrick O'Kane, Maire Kennedy, John and James Mackle.

### FIRST FRIDAY WEEK

Thursday to Friday the sick and the Housebound of the Parish will be contacted when Fr John will be doing his rounds.

### BAPTISM

To arrange Baptism contact the Parish Office  
9447 2103 (1 month notice is requested).  
Congratulation and welcome to our parish family  
**Caolán Jayanthan Sweeney**  
(Caolan was Abbot of Mahee at Nendrum, caol =slender)

### IMPORTANT CHURCH DATES

**CONFIRMATION** Wednesday 4th March 2020

### 1<sup>st</sup> COMMUNION

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May Mt St Michael's.**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May Creggan P.S. & Maine Integrated P**

**CEMETERY SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

**Diocesan Directory Price £4.00**  
**Available at Book stall**

**PRAYER GROUP** Wed 8pm in the Old church  
**ROSARY GROUP** Friday in the church 6.00pm

### CLEANING TEAMS

W/c 29<sup>th</sup> Dec: **Team 2** Thank you.

### DIOCESAN LITURGY SEMINAR

Fr Albert McNally Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
1.30PM-4.30PM Registration 1pm  
Seminar Fee £10 To book please contact  
[liturgy@downandconnor.org](mailto:liturgy@downandconnor.org) Malachy McKeever

**Mt St Michael P.S.** Applications for P1 and Nursery can be made on line on the Education Authority website ([eani.org.uk](http://eani.org.uk)) from Tuesday 7 January 2020. An **open morning** will be held in the school and Nursery **on Thursday 16 January** from **10am until 11am**. Everyone welcome.

### Tír na nÓg G.A.C.

**Winning Nos** 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 1/ 14 /15 /20

**£25 Winners;** Mary O'Boyle Margaret O'Donnell  
Kevin Brennan C Carey K Rowney Kevin Morren

**Jackpot next week £1000**

**New Year's week Draw Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December**

### Creggan Kickhams

**WINNING LETTERS K-N-U-V**

**Jackpot Next Wk £3300**

£25 Winners Enda Maguire Cillian O'Boyle

**Set Dancing Adults every Wednesday**  
**8.30pm - 10pm**

## Parish Christmas Dinner

The personal initiative from a mum in our parish to reach out with her young family to care for people for whom Christmas can be a very lonely day was remarkably successful.

It triggered off a positive chain reaction among many people who wished to participate and even more others who offered to help. Social services from neighbouring towns inquired if they could refer people who would love to avail and – unlike Bethlehem – not one was turned away. Parishioners who had family commitments offered help with gifts of funds, crackers, sweets etc. Local businesses were great heroes, weighing in with generous donations of the necessary food and drink. The hall was beautifully decorated, providing a warm and welcoming setting. It is humbling to see how the initiative of one person could evoke such co-operation from so many who wished to join in. One young female visitor to our parish wrote a beautifully touching Christmas card of gratitude.

*You cannot begin to know how much good you have done. Christmas is such a busy time for everybody that if you have nothing nobody notices you. May God bless you for making this day so warm for me and for giving me caring dignity in St MacNissi's at Randalstown*

We made national news when *Radio Ulster* commented on the initiative and commended our parishioner for her efforts.

She herself said she did it because she was inspired from the passage in Matthew's gospel where it says 'I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, a stranger and you made me welcome.

*As long as you do for the least of my brothers and sisters you did that for Me'*

After the meal was over she took surplus food to Belfast where it was eagerly awaited by the Welcome centre who look after the homeless and the stranger in our midst. Hopefully she will now have a good rest and when congratulated for her efforts her predictable response was

**'Jaikers, boy-zo sure it was nawthin' !!!!**

Now you know who she is!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**S.V.P.PARISH HELPLINE ☎ 0750 854 9606**

Twitter Follow us @StMacNissi or

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/SaintMacNissi>



**Email;** [randalstown@downandconnor.org](mailto:randalstown@downandconnor.org)

**Web** [www.stmacnissirandalstown.com](http://www.stmacnissirandalstown.com)

**WEBCAM;**

Accessed by going to [www.mcnmedia.tv](http://www.mcnmedia.tv) go to Northern Ireland then Antrim then Randalstown

**Office hrs;**

**CLOSED FOR 1 WEEK REOPENS 8 JAN 2020**

**Phone; 028 9447 2103**

**Emergency only; 077 3457 089**



## MESSAGE FROM Fr John

January got its name from the double faced Roman god Janus who looked back on the past year and into the New Year. We cannot know what the future will hold although we can make our own personal judgements about Boris n Brexit. Hopefully our local reps can get back together for the good of all our people, settle differences, practice genuine respect for other human beings that the one God has created. Let more 'caring' - make snarling a redundant response. May important things like our hospitals and schools be looked after - rather than the callous conniving indifference of the greedy few. Locally, in the past year the extraordinary team effort of our parish was exemplary. The everyday unseen efforts of cleaners and collectors, sacristans and servers, choirs and committees, pray-ers and promoters, our drama and sporting organisations. Volunteers all combined to move mountains.

Our biggest parish project was the resolution to renew our church on its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

*Slap and dash n a lick of paint* was not to be the order of the day as the team went ahead with a highly professional project management exercise in seeking estimates, assessing what else might be incorporated, in other words 'doin it right' As costs mounted, it seemed something we could not climb. Enter a dedicated team, comprising secretary, promoters and organisers and the Parish Draw was re-started, rising quickly to address and eradicate any doubts. The result is a restored beautiful home wherein our God reigns.

Our parish cooperated with others in a cross community effort to win an award for Tidy Towns here and in Britain which involved us taking care of our environment. Pope Francis would be pleased

Our community was re-united in the amazing concert 'The Priests' which filled the church with a spectacular performance. Bishop Noel spent a whole day with us – celebrating the Mass, sharing a concert pew with the DUP mayor and being the 'last man standing' - meeting parishioners afterwards in the Parish Centre.

I am honoured by the Bishop to serve you as your priest and I continue daily to be surprised at the amount of support, love and encouragement I experience from this faith filled people.

I pray that I will be inspired to serve you all worthily. May I invite God's blessing upon us we make our way into 2020.