

Church of St. MacNissi
ANTRIM PASTORAL COMMUNITY
Sunday 18th and 19th April 2020

Divine Mercy

Sunday



Recently Deceased Kieran McMullan, Beechill
Fr Felix McGuckin, AAH chaplain,

ANNIVERSARIES;

John Liddy, James Somers, Margaret McCann,
Patricia Donnelly, Leo Donaghy, Hugh Savage
Frances Magill, Colm & Lena Boyle, Mary McCausland,
Gerard McNeill, Mattie McIlvar, Ellen McTeague,
Philomena McCoy, John Woods, Frank O'Kane
Martin, Philip and Joe O'Hara, Susan Logan,
Susan Logan jnr, John Quigley, Sr Frances Quigley,
Patricia and Leo Donnelly, Eugene McAllynn,

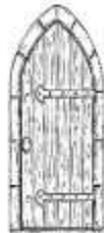
CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 VIRUS Preventative Measures & Update

To save the lives of innocent and
vulnerable people, all substantial
gatherings of people, including in-
church activities are curtailed.

We have **been required and
directed to CLOSE totally.**

This has had an impact on our regular
Church services and it did affect the
most solemn ceremonies of the year –
Holy Week.

"How-yevvver" our Church is not an institution,
it is a relationship – we are **family.**



PSNI ALERT have informed the Diocese and
announced on Social Media about a scam in
Glengormley of people calling on residents and
offering to take their **weekly collection envelopes**
to the church and/or do their shopping for them
provided they pay the **cash in advance !!!**

Webcam Streamed services this week

Adoration daily 10.00am - 12 noon
Sunday Mass 6pm Vigil & 10.00am

Daily Mass Tuesday 7pm
Wednesday to Friday 9.30am

Help in time of need

If you need help during the current emergency
– our GAA clubs will help with shopping and
prescriptions please call

Tir na nOg @ 07706 847102 or
Kickhams Creggan @ 07799 718716

We commend both teams for their community
responsibility and solidarity.

The JAM Store Foodbank supported by our
parish along with the other churches operates
out of 1st Presbyterian church, New Street on
the 3rd Thursday of each month, and opens from
10.00am. Donations of food etc, may be left
during the current emergency at the sacristy
door during Mass times on Tuesday and
Wednesday, or at the Parochial House.

Grateful thanks. We have received several
calls commending the generosity of County
Antrim GAA who donated **£2,000** to our local
JAM that allowed them to extend more
generous assistance to people in need.

St Vincent DePaul

PARISH HELPLINE ☎ 0750 854 9606

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/SaintMacNissi>
During the present quarantine you might find it
helpful to access some of our parish liturgical
moments on the web cam www.mcnmedia.tv
go to '**Northern Ireland'–Antrim-Randalstown'**

An age-old tradition of our Church re-assures that
if the faithful are deprived of the Eucharist for a
protracted time eg. war, pestilence, no priest
available, they may receive '*spiritually*'.
The prayer of **St Alphonsus Ligouri (1696-1787)**
expresses that desire

***My Jesus, I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar.
I love You above all things and I desire to
receive you into my soul.***

***Since I cannot receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already
there and unite myself to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You***

*When you do not receive communion and you do not
attend Mass, you can make spiritual communion, which
is a most beneficial practise; by it the love of God will be
greatly impressed on you. St Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)*

*When we feel the love of God growing cold, let us
instantly make a spiritual Communion. When we cannot
go to Church, let us turn towards the tabernacle:
no wall can shut us out from the good God"
St John Vianney (1786-1859)*



Our scripture readings in the week-day Masses, from now to Pentecost, describe the amazing growth of the early Church in the "Acts of the Apostles".

Peter, the leader of the emergent Christian community summed up the life of Jesus when he said "he was a man who went about doing good".

Very prominent amidst that 'good' were Jesus' healing miracles. He was always appalled by human suffering – knew it was never part of His Father's original plan for Creation. Whenever confronted by human suffering He always tried to bring healing.

At this time we pray earnestly that this pernicious virus will be defeated - by God's grace- working through our own discipline, and by the skill of our doctors and scientists.

We pray for our parishioners who are very ill with this virus, and also for those who have other worrying illnesses that cause them, not only pain, but are a great burden weighing upon their spirit.

In God's mercy may they all feel His loving hand to re-assure them and bring them relief from suffering.

May God bless all the work of our NHS workers who are fighting to save lives every day.

Parish Envelopes.

With Mass being presently 'streamed' some parishioners have left in their regular envelopes for the weekly and monthly collections at the parochial house, along with some **Trocaire** boxes. We appreciate your thoughtfulness.

We are also mindful that at this unprecedented time some parishioners may themselves be in difficulties.

If you wish to make a direct payment/debits to the parish account the details are as follows

Danske Bank 42 High Street, Antrim BT41 4AP
Account name Church of St MacNissis
Sort Code 95-04-31 A/c number 110008661

Today's gospel

In a sense we can have a considerable amount of sympathy with the apostles in this Sunday's gospel. Like ourselves, **they are on lock-down.**

For them it was fear of people- they had marched triumphantly into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday-but then everything went to pieces.

Jesus was dead,
Judas couldn't live with himself,
Peter disgraced himself,
the other apostles fled to save their lives.

They witnessed no melodramatic resurrection but their spark of faith was cautiously coaxed by the risen Jesus, although-not as they had known him. He met them "where **they** were at",

whether on their original Upper Room **lock-down,**

trudging home from failure and inviting him for a meal,

as a stranger on the shore when they caught no fish

wiping out Peter's denials x3

giving Thomas the assurance he demanded,

turning Prosecutor Saul to Propagator Paul.

We don't have to go looking for a loving God. He tells us

"I will look for you, I will find you
and when I find you, I will love you"
He does find us - "wherever **we** are at".

Our God is a great and good God.

*If God
did not forgive sinners,
Heaven would be
(nearly) empty.*

WEBCAM; Go to www.mcnmedia.tv
then '**Northern Ireland**' then '**Antrim**'
then '**Randalstown**'

Fr John 078 343 83314

Parochial House 028 9447 2103

Web

www.stmacnissirandalstown.com