

Our Lady of Lourdes Steelstown



PARISH INFORMATION

Priest : Fr John McDevitt john.mcdevitt@derrydiocese.org

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Email: steelstownparish@aol.com. **Website:** steelstownparish.com

Webcam: churchservices.tv/steelstown

Facebook: Our Lady of Lourdes **Instagram:** steelstownparish.

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of the Church: Connie, daughter of Shannon and Kieran.

CHILDRENS LITURGY

All are welcome to join Childrens ZOOM liturgy next Sunday 14 March at 1pm. The sessions will be aimed at those who are in our primary schools with a special focus on our children preparing for their first holy communion; however, the whole family can get involved. To register your family for ZOOM Childrens Liturgy please fill in this form contact Julia.fitzgerald@derrydiocese.org.uk .

DDS MASS

The mass for the Living members of the Derry Diocesan Society will be celebrated in our Church on Saturday 13 March at 10am

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

In his apostolic letter *With a Father's Heart* Pope Francis has designated from December 8, 2020, to December 8, 2021 as a "Year of Saint Joseph". The letter *With a Father's Heart (Patris Corde)* can be read on the Vatican website. This year beginning on Wednesday 10 March in preparation for the feast of St Joseph, the husband of Mary, we will pray a novena prayer each day at Mass. We ask Saint Joseph's intercession for families and especially for husbands, for protection of all people in this time of pandemic and for our own intentions.

Pope Francis 'Prayer to Saint Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

PARISH SCHEDULE

All Masses will be streamed live on our Parish Webcam (www.churchservices.tv/steelstown) or visit our Web page

Steelstownparish.com for a direct link.

Sunday 7 Mar	9am, 11am and 12.15pm Mass
Monday 8 Mar	7.45am and 10am Mass and Rosary 7pm Time of Adoration
Tuesday 9 Mar	7.45am and 10am Mass and Rosary
Wednesday 10 Mar	7.45am and 10am Mass and Rosary: 7pm Scripture Reflection
Thursday 11 Mar	7.45am and 10am Mass and Rosary
Friday 12 Mar	7.45am and 10am Mass and Rosary: 4pm One hour of Adoration: 7pm Stations of The Cross
Saturday 13 Mar	10am Mass and 6.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 21 Feb	9am, 11am and 12.15pm Mass

LENT 2021: 40 DAYS TOGETHER WITH JESUS

Lent is an opportunity to pray, fast and give as a Parish community with other Christians throughout the world. You are invited to join the Parish Lenten programme each day.

It is an invitation to come together and closer to Jesus for these forty days.

Weekday Masses

Monday to Friday 7.45am, 10am, Saturday 10am.

Each day we will pray for the members of our Parish community in different streets. The list will be printed in the Newsletter, on the facebook page and on prayer cards at the back of the Church.

Evening Session

There will be prayer at 7pm for half an hour:

Monday Time of Adoration

Wednesday Scripture Reflection: *Taking the time* led by Thornhill ministries

Friday Stations of the Cross

Lenten Talks

Every Thursday Fr Columba will give a series of talks, *Little by Little*. He will focus on how we live our faith day by day and little by little. These talks can be accessed on our Facebook page every Thursday.

Bishop McKeown

On the Tuesdays of Lent at 7pm Bishop Donal is hosting a series of conversations with members of the wider community reflecting on Lent and our present reality.

TROCAIRE LENTEN COLLECTION

You can contribute to the Trocaire Collection by donating online at www.trocaire.org; by telephone on 02890808030 or by posting a cheque to Trocaire, 50 King Street, Belfast, BT1 6AD. You can also click on the parish justgiving page set up by the John Paul II parishioners, please see the parish website or facebook page for further details.

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Please prayer for the intentions of all those who live or work in the areas listed each day.

Jesus, help us to make you the centre of our lives. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to repent of the wrongs we have done, that we may be refreshed in spirit and renewed in hope. Through that same Spirit, help us to be good to one another and to be faithful to you, as we live out our vocations: married, single, priest, religious, so that our homes and our parish may be filled with your presence and be powerful sources of your peace. **Amen.**

Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for us

St Bernadette, Pray for us

Sunday 7 March Gort-na-Si Close

Monday 8 March Greenhaw Road North

Tuesday 9 March Greenhaw Tce

Wednesday 10 March Griffith Park

Thursday 11 March Heathfield

Friday 12 March Larcom Drive

Saturday 13 March Larkhill

Parish prayer leaflets are available at the back of the Church.

LENTEN CONVERSATIONS ONLINE AT KNOCK SHRINE

Knock Shrine have a series of online discussions to engage you every Thursday at 8.30pm during Lent; ; Thursday **11 March** 'Living Christian Faith in Public Life'. The discussions will be streamed online via the Knock Shrine website and facebook page. Join us at www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live or on Facebook @knockshrine.

CENSUS 2021 IS HERE!

The census happens only once every ten years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in Northern Ireland. It gives us three windows on our world.

The Past – As well as being a rich source of genealogy information, we can find out interesting facts like Putter Outter, Clod Hopper, Toe Rag all past occupations that have disappeared from census records.

The Present – It shows us what Northern Ireland looks like today highlighting current trends. For example, renewable energy in homes is included for the first time while we don't ask about outside toilets anymore.

The Future - Census data is used make decisions about how vital public services, such as health, housing and transport are planned and funded. As we get older our needs may change and it is important that this is captured so everyone has access to the services they need.

You should have received your pack in the post. It will have included an access code for completing online or details on how to request a paper form. If you have already completed your census we are very grateful. Your answers are important and completely confidential. Your personal data will never be shared.

If you didn't receive a pack, have lost your access code or have any questions call our contact centre for free on **0800 328 2021** or visit our website at www.census.gov.uk/ni. Here you can find out about the support available to help you complete including guidance in Braille, Easy Read, British and Irish Sign Language and large print questionnaires.

POPE JOHN PAUL II FOR TROCAIRE

This year the John Paul II parishioners have joined with Award members from Culmore Parish to look at how we can support the TROCAIRE Lent appeal. We met earlier this month with Roisin from the TROCAIRE office and she shared with us the story of Awut and Ajak two incredible women in South Sudan who are sharing their story with us this Lent. One of the challenges TROCAIRE has laid down is to try as a community to walk the complete distance from Dublin to South Sudan which is roughly 5700 miles. It would be great to see parishioners who are able get involved in this challenge and pledge miles (perhaps in fancy dress) and pounds. As a JPII group we are pledging to walk a number of miles individually and as a group we hope to walk the two bridges if restrictions allow and would be really grateful for your support in sponsorship with all the money raised going directly to TROCAIRE. The link to support is www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jpiiculmoreandsteelstown. Happy walk and Happy Lent.

LIVE LAUDATO SI'

Reducing food waste is the climate action we can do 3 times a day. It is estimated that a third of all food produced is discarded. 3 Challenges!

1) **CUT FOOD WASTE** – Check out your carbon footprint <http://www.footprint/>

Lots of useful tips at

<http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/> <http://www.stopfoodwaste.ie/>

2) **GIVE THANKS** - Say Grace before meals

3) **FAIR SHARE** - Share locally &

globally <http://www.foyle.foodbank.org.uk/> www.trocaire.org/trocaire/gifts.

ACCORD DERRY

Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme. Course Dates April 13/14 2021; May 11 / 12 /2021; June 8/9 2021. Booking now online at www.accordni.com.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

St Vincent de Paul volunteers continue to be available during the pandemic to offer help to those in our parish who are in need of immediate financial assistance. SVDP can be contacted by dropping a letter in the post box outside the Church Conference Room or calling the office on 028 71265489.

FREE MENTAL HEALTH COURSES

The Western Health & Social Care Trust Recovery College is running free courses on mental health and emotional wellbeing. Courses start in March, and at present will be delivered via Zoom. For further information and for some shortened courses already free to watch online see the Recovery College page on the Trust website www.westerntrust.hscni.net/service/recovery-services/recovery-college/ and the Western Trust's You Tube channel.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in,

leadership roles within the Catholic School system. The next intake will be Autumn 2021. If you require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org.

HELP STOP FORCED ABORTION IN XINJIANG, CHINA

There is extensive evidence that many women in the Uyghur Muslim community in Xinjiang, China are being subjected to forced abortions. Lord Alton is currently championing an amendment to the Trade Bill which would give British courts a role in determining whether a country is committing genocide. This would help with putting international pressure on the Chinese Communist Party to stop the practice of forcing abortions on the Uyghur Muslim community along with the wider human rights abuses that evidence shows is being perpetuated against this community. If you would like to email your MP asking them to support the amendment, you can do this easily using a tool which has been set up on the Genocide Response campaign website which can be accessed by visiting the link <https://genocideresponse.org/>

CAN YOU FOSTER?

Could you give a home to a vulnerable child when they need it most? Barnardo's Fostering NI is looking for foster carers. Foster placements can be long-term, short-term, emergency, short breaks and parent and child together. To learn more please tel 028 9065 2288 or visit our website <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/foster>.

NORTHLANDS

If you are worried about your own or someone else's drinking, drug use or gambling please contact Northlands in confidence on (028) 71 313232 during office hours. There is no charge for our services which are open and available to all. Northlands is based at Shepherds Way, Dungiven Road, Derry/Londonderry BT47 5GW Email info@northlands.org.uk