# Tamlaght

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Advent Pastoral Letter from Bishop McKeown This weekend Bishop Donal McKeown shares his Advent Pastoral Letter, Moving Forward Together in Changing Times, inviting all of us to a renewed focus on prayer, listening to the Holy Spirit, and working together in mission. He reflects on the challenges faced by families and communities today and reminds us that Advent assures us of God's closeness and hope. The bishop highlights the importance of parish collaboration - supporting one another in sacramental life, outreach, and faith formation - while recognising the vital role of our priests, parish leaders, coordinators, and volunteers whose dedication sustains parish life. Bishop McKeown goes on to state his intention that ongoing discussions about forming pastoral areas bringing parishes together in shared mission - will be completed before Easter 2026. He also points to the existing encouraging signs of renewed prayer and growing youth involvement across the diocese. We are encouraged to walk forward in faith: Christ is with us and continues to lead His Church. You are encouraged to read the full letter at:

derrydiocese.org/pastoral-letter

### **BAMBINELLI BLESSING**

Over the past number of decades, during Advent, children and adults bring their Baby Jesus figurines (Bambinelli) from their homes to St. Peter's Square where they are blessed by the Pope. All children & families are



invited to bring their 'BABY JESUS' figurine to be blessed at all our Masses next weekend, 6 & 7 December, Second Sunday of Advent. Following the blessing, families take their 'bambino' home, wrap it and as a family open that parcel first on Christmas morning and the youngest member of the family would place it in the crib.



## Schedules - 1 to 7 December 2025 GREENLOUGH

Tuesday 2 December: NO MASS; Rosary: 7.30pm Thursday 4 December: Adoration 9.00am - 5.00pm Please note Adoration from 1.15pm to 2.15pm

will be in the Quiet Room.

Friday 5 December 9.30am

**Second Sunday of Advent** 

Saturday 6 December: Vigil Mass 5.30pm

Anniversary Mass for Willie John McAteer

Children's Liturgy for P1 - P4 continues every Saturday during the 5.30pm Mass.

Sunday 7 December: 9.00am

Anniversary Mass for Patsy McDonnell

**SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER 7.00PM - CAROL SERVICE** 

**BELLAGHY** 

Monday 1 December 9.30am

Saturday 6 December: 7.00pm

Sunday 7 December: 11.30am

BALLYSCULLION

Sunday 7 December 10.15am

Deaths: We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Martin Laverty, Lavey

Anniversaries: Ryan O'Neill, Colm Mory McKillen, Danny Curry, May & Joe Close, Memory Michael Scullin, Kathleen McErlean, Anne McCallion,

Jean McAteer, Mickey & Annie Henry, Brigid Lagan.

**GREENLOUGH CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS** 

Cards: £2.00 each or 3 for £5.00. Cards available from the Parish Office, Sacristy and at Masses until Christmas.

Proceeds to the Grotto Fund.





# greenloughparish@gmail.com

# Parish Information

Fr. O'Hagan 028 7938 6259

**Parish Office** 028 2582 1190

St. Mary's Primary School 028 2582 1066

St. Conor's College 028 2582 1370

Neighbouring **Parishes** 

**Bellaghy** 028 7938 6259

Lavev 028 7964 2458

Portglenone 028 2582 1118

**Baptisms** Contact the **Parish Office** 

Weddings Contact the **Parish Office** 

Confessions As Announced

# St. Mary's Primary School Greenlough **OPEN EVENING** WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER 4.00pm - 6.00pm



### ALTAR SERVERS

Anyone interested in becoming a server, from Primary 5 upwards (there's no upper age limit!) is welcome. Parents should, please,



contact the parish office to receive a consent form.

Training will take place this Thursday 4 December from 1.15pm - 2.15pm in the Church.

The Rise and Shine Trust would like to sincerely thank all Greenlough & Bellaghy parishioners who contributed Rise to an extremely generous total of & Shine



£7,368.00 and €115. Your donations will benefit so many people in our pilgrimage next Easter. Your intentions will be remembered in our prayers at the grotto next Easter.

**Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026** Monday 29 June to Friday 3 July (4 nights) ex City of **Derry Airport.** Cost £895 inclusive of local taxes but exclusive of single supplements and insurance. The

Pilgrimage office will open for bookings on Saturday 17 January 2026 at 11.00am.

However, Gift Vouchers to any value are now available (Monday to Thursday) from the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry BT48 6UJ.

**DEADLINE: 10.00AM WEDNESDAY** Parish Office open Tuesday & Thursday Newsletter



As we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent we pray for our seminarians and the men discerning a vocation to the diocesan priesthood, that they will prepare their hearts Vocations and minds to welcome the Lord Jesus into their lives.

# **Greenlough Parish Carol Service**

Get into the Christmas spirit and keep this date free!!!

Email:

Sunday 7 December at 7.00pm St Oliver Plunkett's Church

> \*Various Artists involved\* \*\*Refreshments provided\*\*

\*\*\*Admission: Donation\*\*\*

We warmly invite you to our CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

The Carol Service is in aid of Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto.

**Greenlough Collections - Sunday 23 November** Weekly: £975.91. Thank you for your generosity. **ENVELOPE COUNTERS FOR DECEMBER** Emily Mullan, Pat Madden, Pat Bradley, Paul J Bradley.



## DECEMBER CHURCH CLEANING ROTA Nuala Downey, Emily Mullan & Pat Bradley.

Thank you for all your help.



Sacred Heart Messenger Magazine: There are still a few outstanding payments. Please return Subscription of £26.00 to the Sacristy or Parish Office. Thank You.



### Prayer while lighting the Advent Candle

"O God, as light comes from this candle, may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us, warming our hearts and brightening our way. May Christ our Saviour bring light into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for his coming call."

