

# Granaghan Parish News

Sunday, 27th September 2020 – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Congratulations

Firstly, to all the children who were confirmed over the last three weeks. May they be effective witnesses to the life of Christ in our midst. Secondly, congratulations to all the girls and boys who made their First Holy Communion over the last two weeks. We pray that they will return often to receive Jesus in this great Sacrament.

## Recent Baptism

We welcome as a member of God's family, **Susie Rae O'Kane**.

## General notices

### **Gran Tots playgroup**

Do you have a child born July 17-June 18 Pre-school or July 18-June19 Pre-Pre-school?

To express an interest in your child attending a 'High Capacity Playgroup' as recognised in their latest ETI inspection, contact the Playgroup on 02879401759 or find us on Facebook.

### **Mary's Meals**

**Thank You** very much from Mary's Meals to the walkers who took part in the annual Mary's Meals Sponsored Walk. £400 was raised by those who walked from St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, to Fahan (which will provide school meals to 4,000 children). Mary's Meals is also incredibly grateful to those who made donations.

Mary's Meals is a charity with a simple idea that works - helping children in some of the world's poorest countries - providing one good meal per child per day in schools, encouraging children to attend school where they can receive an education that could one day free them from poverty. Marys Meals currently feed 1.6 million children every day. Working together, they believe that can be achieved in this world of plenty. Just £15.90 will feed a child for a whole school year. If you would like to know more about Mary's Meals and the work they do see [www.marysmeals.org](http://www.marysmeals.org) or if you are interested in getting involved locally contact Agnes Walsh 02882831567 or Helen Quinn 07814441701.

### **QUB Catholic Chaplaincy**

The Catholic Chaplaincy at Queen's reopened on Monday 21st September. Our liturgies, faith events and social gatherings are popular with students and alumni. We have a range of groups and societies whose activities appeal to a wide range of interests. Our Chapel, Food Bar and study space are open throughout the academic year. Wherever you are on your faith journey, know that we are here

for you. Visit [qubcatholic.org](http://qubcatholic.org) or drop by for a coffee at 28 Elmwood Avenue, Belfast.

### **The Net**

The September edition of The Net is now available online, on [www.derrydiocese.org](http://www.derrydiocese.org). As always, it features a wide variety of news, interesting interviews, articles, and photos from parishes across the diocese. There is a 'Remembering Bishop Lagan' feature and a 'Remembering John Hume' article in the September issue. You are invited to read The Net, on the diocesan website, at your convenience.

### **The World Day of Migrants and Refugees - Sunday 27th September**

The Church has been celebrating the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) since 1914. It is always an occasion to express concern for different vulnerable people on the move; to pray for them as they face many challenges; and to increase awareness about the opportunities that migration offers.

For 2020, Pope Francis has chosen the theme "Forced like Jesus Christ to flee", with a focus on the need for the pastoral care of internally displaced persons. In his message the Holy Father says: "Displaced people offer us this opportunity to meet the Lord, even though our eyes find it hard to recognize him: his clothing in tatters, his feet dirty, his face disfigured, his body wounded, his tongue unable to speak our language" (Homily, 15 February 2019).

We are called to respond to this pastoral challenge with the four verbs I indicated in my Message for this Day in 2018: welcome, protect, promote, and integrate. To these words, I would now like to add another six pairs of verbs that deal with very practical actions and are linked together in a relationship of cause and effect:

You have to know in order to understand.

It is necessary to be close in order to serve.

In order to be reconciled, we need to listen.

In order to grow, it is necessary to share.

We need to be involved in order to promote.

It is necessary to cooperate in order to build.