

Contact Numbers

Parish Office - 37522813
Parochial House - 37522802
Emergencies - 07596899031
St. Malachy's - 37510516
Cathedral - 37522638
SVP Help Line - 07733482604

St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish

Archdiocese of Armagh

www.armaghparish.net

Email: armaghparishoffice@gmail.com

Mass Times

St Patrick's Cathedral

Monday - Saturday: 10am
Saturday: 6.30pm
Sunday: 11am, 12.30pm & 5.30pm

St Malachy's Church

Tues - Fri: 8am
Mon, Wed & Fri: 7:30pm
Tues & Thurs: Prayer Service - 7:30pm
Sundays: 8am & 9.30am

Church of the Immaculate Conception

Saturday: 7:30pm

St Colmcille's Church

Sunday: 10am

Please be aware of the importance of sanitising when entering any of our Churches & please respect Social Distancing in our Churches at all times.

Face coverings/Masks in Churches Everyone is asked to wear a face covering/mask when attending Mass or when visiting any of the Churches in our Parish.

Reception of Communion continues to be by hand only. Should people wish to receive the Eucharist on the tongue, they can purchase a pyx in which the Eucharist can be placed.

Anniversaries & Month's Mind Masses should be left in the Parish Office **no later than 12noon on the Thursday of the week before the anniversary is due to be remembered, this includes Saturday Anniversaries.** You can leave anniversaries in as early as you wish, but anniversaries left in after this time are considered **late**, & therefore there is **no guarantee** that they will be read out at Mass. We request that you leave your anniversary in as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

Parish Office open Mon-Fri 10am-3pm.
Baptisms Saturdays at 5.30pm in St Malachy's Church. All Baptisms are booked through the Parish Office. **Please note due to restrictions, a maximum of 12 people are allowed to attend with each child being baptised.**

Funerals are celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral at 11am (Mon-Sat) Please note there are no Sunday funerals. Funerals are strictly Private/Family celebrations & can be viewed on St Patrick's Cathedral Webcam.

Confessions in St Malachy's Church on Saturdays @ 12 noon. Confessions also on the Thursday before the first Friday of each month in St Malachy's Church @ 12noon.

Safeguarding Contact Maura 07895460797/armaghparishsafeguarding@gmail.com

Weekly Parish Collection

8 January - £4792 and €105
15 January - £4705 & €91.10
Parish Lourdes Committee Annual Church door collection at all Masses on the weekend of Sat 28/Sun 29 January.
Irish Bishops Conference Collection at all Masses on 4/5 February

Home visits If there is anyone who is seriously ill &/or confined to their home or if anyone would like to receive a home visit or a house blessing from please leave details at the Parish Office.

Parish Records Help us keep our system up to date by letting us know your change of address! If you have changed address in the last couple of years or are planning to do so in the near future, please contact Claire in the Parish Office.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

22nd January 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Young people who are planning to leave school this year are probably thinking about their future careers and considering the various choices before them. No matter how varied the possibilities, the fact remains that each person has only one life. One particular choice rules out another option. This is true in personal relationships as it is in jobs or careers. One can explore possibilities forever but at the risk of never experiencing the joy and security of commitment to another person, to a job, to a way of life or even to God.

I would hope that some young men in this parish, while considering what lies before them, might consider the possibility of priesthood as a way of life. It might be worthwhile to explore, even tentatively, the possibility of such a choice because the Lord is still calling people to follow him in priesthood and religious life. Despite the adverse publicity in recent years and events of the past that have left all of us shocked and bewildered, priesthood can offer a degree of satisfaction and fulfilment that lies beyond words.

Today's Gospel tells of four men who made a radical decision in terms of career choice. Andrew, Peter, John and James were probably good fishermen who knew well the work of wrestling a livelihood from the deep waters of the local lake. They were strong, robust men, who knew how to cast nets and mend boats and attend to all the other responsibilities of working on the Sea of Galilee. But they were to leave all of that behind the day the itinerant preacher from Nazareth called them to follow him. It was a choice that would lead them through glorious moments as well as disappointments to an ever-deepening friendship with Jesus.

I often wonder if the response of the fishermen was as clear-cut as St Matthew implies. Did Peter not want to discuss it with his wife and family at home? Did the others not have to give some consideration to their father Zebedee and the other men who worked with them? St Matthew is more concerned with the fact that Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah. Jesus is the great light that has dawned; he is the one who begins his mission in Galilee and as St Matthew's Gospel unfolds throughout the coming year, we will see that the message of Jesus is intended for all people of all places.

With every blessing
Rev Peter McAnenly Adm

150th anniversary of the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral

This year is a very special year in the history of our Parish as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh. The Cathedral was dedicated by Dr Daniel McGettigan, former Archbishop of Armagh on 24 August 1873 and over twenty thousand people gathered on and around the hill on that historic occasion. We thank God for our Cathedral Church and for the great house of prayer that it is and we look forward to marking this special milestone in the year ahead.

Mass for the Sick As we begin to mark this special year, a special Mass for all the Sick of our Parish will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral on **Saturday 11 February at 11am** (World Day of the Sick and the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes). We encourage people to join with all who are sick on that day and pray for God's healing in their lives. (No 10am Mass on Saturday 11th)

Feast of St Brigid: Wed 1st February

(Crosses will be blessed at all Masses)

Lord, you inspired St Brigid with such dedication for your work that she is known as the Mary of the Irish. Through her intercession and help, bless all of us and our families as we live our lives. May we always follow the example of her life and be united one day with her and Mary our mother, in your eternal presence. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Thursday 2 February: Feast of the Presentation of the Lord/Candlemas Day

(Candles will be blessed at all Masses)

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and it is also known as Candlemas Day. We pray that the light of faith will guide us at this time.

Prayer O God, true light, who create light eternal, spreading it far and wide, pour we pray into the hearts of the faithful, the brilliance of perpetual light, so that all who are brightened in your holy temple by the light of these candles, may happily reach the light of your glory. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Friday 3 February Prayer to St Blaise

(Throats will be blessed at all Masses)

Through the intercession of St Blaise, may the Lord deliver us from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for: Anne Brannigan, David Sam Barnard, Anna Harney, Kathleen Corvan, Sean Daly, Robbie Kerr, Patsy Connolly, Brendan Dougan, Paul Killen, Bill Donnelly and Mary Burke.

MONTHS MIND

We pray for: Anne Maguire (21st), Kathleen Mallon (25th), Halina Pieprysk (25th), Bea Morris (27th) & Fintan Campbell (28th)



Weekly Collections/Gift Aid Thanks to all who continue to support their parish financially through these very challenging times. Many people have set up a Direct Debit or Standing Order. Weekly Parish Envelopes that aren't given at weekend Masses can be left through the letterbox of the Parish Office. Please continue to do what you can to help support our parish. Anyone who wishes to set up a Direct Debit or Standing Order can contact Caroline at the Parish Office. Thanks also to all who avail of the Gift Aid Scheme, we are keen to increase the number of contributors within the parish. Gift Aid means that for every £1 given through the envelope collection, the parish can claim an additional 25 pence from the Inland Revenue, as long as you pay Income Tax & sign a declaration form, permitting the parish to claim. Gift Aid forms can be accessed on the parish website or by contacting the Parish Office.

Do this in Memory Programme The next gathering for all P4 Pupils & their parents will take place in St Patrick's Cathedral on Sat 11th February at 6.30pm.

New Parish Website A new and exciting Parish Website will be launched this Wednesday – please watch out on our Parish Social Media Sites for more details.

First Friday Holy Hour The next Holy Hour will take place in St Malachy's Church on Fri 3 Feb from 8 – 9pm. (Confessions on Thurs 2 Feb at 12 noon)

Confirmation 2023 The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in the Parish of Armagh on the weekend of **Sat 27th & Sun 28th May**. There will be two celebrations in St Patrick's Cathedral: **Saturday 27th May @ 11am** - Mount St Catherine's Primary School, Our Lady's Primary School, St Malachy's Primary School, Saints & Scholars Primary School & Armstrong Primary School. **Sunday 28th May @ 2pm** - St Patrick's Primary School & Christian Brothers Primary School. P7 Pupils, parents & a sponsor may attend.

Ceremonies of Light The Ceremonies of Light for all Primary 7 pupils and their parents will take place in St Patrick's Cathedral on: **Tuesday 9 May at 7pm:** Mount St Catherine's PS, Our Lady's PS, St Malachy's PS, Saints & Scholars PS, Armstrong PS. **Thursday 11 May at 7pm:** St Patrick's PS & Christian Brothers PS

Vocations Through the power of the Spirit, Jesus proclaimed his mission. How are you carrying on that mission today? Ponder the possibility of being a priest in the Archdiocese of Armagh. (Luke 1:1, 4: 14-21) If you think God is calling you to priesthood, call Fr Barry Matthews (Vocations Director) or any priest.

Prayer for Vocations

O Jesus, send labourers into your fields, which are awaiting holy apostles, saintly priests, heroic missionaries and dedicated sisters and brothers. Enkindle in the hearts of men and women the spark of a vocation. Grant that Christian families may desire to give your Church, helpers in the work of tomorrow.
Amen.

Trocaire Gifts of Love Trocaire wishes to thank all who bought Gifts of Love & all who gave donations prior to Christmas. The total raised from sales was £1690.50. Thanks to Geraldine Turley (Trocaire Ambassador) & all who helped with the selling of the gifts.

Palestrina Choir to visit St Patrick's Cathedral The renowned Palestrina Choir from the Pro Cathedral, Dublin will visit St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh on Sun 5 Feb. The Choir will present a short concert of Sacred Music & Song in the Cathedral from 4.45pm until 5.20pm. They will then sing at

the 5.30pm Mass on the evening. It's a great privilege to have the Choir visit the Cathedral in this 150th year since its Dedication & we encourage people to join in support of the Choir on the evening.

Matt Talbot Prayer Society A life freed from addiction & filled with the Holy Spirit. Matt Talbot was freed from addiction through Mass, Adoration and the Rosary. The Matt Talbot Prayer Society prays daily * specifically for those enrolled to be freed from addictions through Matt Talbot's intercession. Mass is celebrated on the first Monday of each month in St Malachy's Church, Armagh at 7.30pm for those struggling with an addiction. The next celebration will be on Mon 6 Feb. If you would like to enrol a name in please visit the website www.matttalbotprayersociety.com

St Patrick's Cathedral Gift Shop The Cathedral Gift Shop is open each day from 10.30am – 1.30pm and it stocks a wide variety of cards and gifts for special occasions including traditional Irish crafts and gifts and souvenir booklets on the Cathedral.

Weddings in Armagh Parish Congratulations to the many couples who celebrated their marriage in the Parish last year & best wishes to those couples planning to celebrate their marriage in the Parish in 2023. Couples planning to get married in the Parish in 2023/2024 should ensure that they have booked their Church & made contact with their priest to be celebrant on the day. Couples should also ensure that they have booked a Pre Marriage Course with Accord. All enquiries/bookings through Armagh Parish Office.

Catholic Schools Week From Sun 22nd Jan – Sat 28th Jan, we will celebrate Catholic Schools Week by reflecting on the work of our Catholic Schools & the impact they make on our communities. In our parish, we're very indebted to all of our schools, which faithfully serve the families of our parish & beyond. We pay tribute to the principals, their teaching colleagues & the ancillary staff for their commitment to the values of Catholic education & the enormous contribution they make to the life of our community. The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2023 is Catholic Schools: Walking together in faith and love! There is a special celebration for Catholic Schools Week in St John the Baptist Church, Drumcree on Tues 24th Jan at 11.30am. All are welcome.

Job Vacancy Armagh Parish wishes to recruit a Cemetery Grounds person – a part time position (20 hours per week). Job description and application forms available from Mrs Caroline Caherty at Armagh Parish Office. Closing date for applications is Monday 23rd January 2023.

Anam Cara Bereavement Event Anam Cara is a national voluntary support organisation, set up by bereaved parents to provide support & understanding to families who have experienced the death of a son or daughter. A Parent Evening for bereaved parents will take place in Armagh City Hotel on Wed 25th Jan at 7.15pm. Further details at: info@anamcarani.co.uk or 028 95213120

Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group weekly gatherings have resumed. All are welcome to join each Wednesday at 8pm in the Synod Hall of St Patrick's Cathedral.

Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group New Life in the Spirit Seminars begin in the Synod Hall on **Wed 8th Feb** at 8pm. People are encouraged to join to help deepen their faith and to grow in knowledge and love of God. The speaker will be Fr Eamonn Kelly & he will introduce the programme for the following weeks. We pray for the speakers and

all who will take part, that the Lord may touch the hearts of all.

God our Father, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your people and grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your Word and a new consecration to your service, that your love may grow among us, and your kingdom come, through Christ our Lord. Amen

Let's talk about faith! Fr Emmanuel is hosting a number of gatherings in the coming weeks, to help people reflect on different aspects of their faith. The evenings include a period of Exposition in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament & some reflection on different themes. Venue: St Vincent de Paul Centre, Chapel Lane from 7.30pm – 8.30pm. The next gatherings are on Thurs 23rd Feb & the theme is "What is the Immaculate Conception" & Thurs 23rd March & the theme is "Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation".

Dates of First Penance 2023

St Patrick's P.S. Wed 8th March @ 6pm in St Patrick's Cathedral
St Malachy's P.S. Thurs 9th March @ 6pm in St Malachy's Church
Mt St Catherine's P.S. Tues 7th March @ 6pm in St Patrick's Cathedral
CBS P.S. Wed 15th March @ 6pm in St Malachy's Church.
Our Lady's P.S. Tues 14th March @ 7pm in Church of the Immaculate Conception
Saints & Scholars P.S. Thurs 23rd March @ 6pm in St Malachy's Church

Dates of Blessing of Graves 2023

Knockaconey Cemetery - 9th June at 7.30pm
Tullysaran New Cemetery - 18th June at 10am
Tullysaran Old Cemetery - 16th June at 7.30pm
Armagh Cemetery - Sun 25th June at 12noon

A Prayer for the dead

God our Father, Your power brings us to birth, Your providence guides our lives, and by Your command, we return to dust. Lord, those who die still live in Your presence, their lives change but do not end. I pray in hope for my family, relatives and friends and for all the dead known to You alone. In company with Christ, who died and now lives, may they rejoice in Your kingdom, where all our tears are wiped away. Unite us together again in one family, to sing Your praise forever and ever. Amen.

St. Vincent de Paul Armagh St Patrick's Conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul would like to sincerely thank parishioners who gave so generously to our Christmas Appeal Church Door Collections. We received £8,760, all of which will be used to provide help to those in need. We look forward to your continued support. God Bless you all.

Workshop – Making St Brigid's Crosses

The Workshop will take place in The Synod Hall on **Mon 30th Jan** at 10.30am. Some people will assist with leading the workshop, in making the crosses as we look towards the Feast of St Brigid. All are welcome.

Cana – Retreat for Couples Rediscover the meaning and fun in your marriage, in your family life and in your commitment to each other. Take time to share with each other as a couple and with other couples. Contact Brian and Lisa at 041 6851563

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service is recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators. Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice. Contact Deirdre at 07980 898399