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# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish

www.armaghparish.net

Email: armaghparishoffice@gmail.com



Fifth Sunday of Lent

26th March 2023

Lenten Mass Times

St Patrick's Cathedral

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

St Malachy's Church

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

Church of the Immaculate Conception

Saturday: 7:30pm

St Colmille'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

**12th March** £4798 and €134  
**19th March** £4420 and €84

**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.

Reflection

Dear Parishioners,

From our own experience of coping sometimes with the strange ways of God, we might be able to relate to Martha's sense of disappointment and possible frustration as mentioned in today's Gospel. What was the tone in her voice and what were the feelings in her heart when she left the house and went out to meet Jesus? Is there a hint of anger? Is she blaming Jesus for not coming sooner? "If you had been here, my brother would not have died...." Do we sometimes blame God when our plans don't materialise or when we don't seem to get the answers we expect?

The incident in today's Gospel reminds us that God has a purpose that may not always be very evident. We are told that at the sight of Martha's tears and those of her friends, Jesus was deeply moved. In one of the shortest sentences in the New Testament, we get a glimpse of his compassion: "Jesus wept". We can only imagine what must have been the thoughts of the people when he asked that the stone be taken away from the opening of the cave where the body of Lazarus had been buried four days earlier. Did they suspect that Jesus was so overwhelmed with grief that he might be deranged? And what was their reaction when he cried out in a loud voice: "Lazarus, here! Come out!?" Again we can only imagine their sense of terror and awe when the dead man emerged from the tomb. And what did they think as they unwrapped the bands of burial cloths so that he could go free?

The raising of Lazarus from the dead is a very powerful story. During this fifth week of Lent, the same Lord calls each one of us to roll back the stone and come out of the tomb, the place of death and darkness. He invites us to step out of the tomb of our selfishness and fear. He wants to unbind us from all forms of bondage so that we can be free.

We might feel it is too late to change. We might argue that we have been so long in the grave of our mediocrity and sin that we couldn't possibly transform our ways. And yet we must recall that it was not by his own strength that Lazarus returned to life, but through the power of God. It is this same power that calls us and enables us to break out of the fetters of selfishness so that we can serve our neighbour and our God in a new life of generous love. Now is an opportunity for us to hear his call and to receive his power to be changed to a better life.

With every blessing  
Rev P 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 coming weeks. As we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh this year, all Primary 6 and Primary 7 Pupils in the different Primary Schools in our parish are taking part in a project during these weeks and their research/projects will be focused on the Cathedral.

St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh (1873 – 2023)

Heavenly Father, as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral, we give thanks for the years of faith, hope and love that has been expressed within it.  
Renew within our Cathedral your spirit of generosity, as we seek to follow in your footsteps and as we strive to do your will.  
Teach us to love as you love and to listen as you listen.  
Enlighten our minds and hearts so that we may see your plan and as we continue to journey in faith, following in the footsteps of Patrick, your Apostle.  
Renew our Cathedral Church so that it may be a place of grace for all,  
a place of growth for the young,  
a place of refreshment for the old,  
a place of renewal for families,  
a place of healing for the broken,  
a place of joy for the sorrowful,  
a place of forgiveness for the sinner,  
a place of strength for the virtuous  
and a place of welcome for those who have been away.  
We make our prayer through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,  
in union with the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

RECENTLY DECEASED

*We pray for:* Patsy McKeown, Sr. Nora Smyth, RSCJ, Gregory Knipe, Mary Dillon, PJ Nugent, Gerard Gribben, Neilly Gribben, Anne Dougan and Christine Connolly

MONTHS MIND

*We pray for:* Jan Penning (28th) and Paul Griffin (1st)



**Stations of the Cross** Members of the Legion of Mary are leading the Stations of the Cross in St Malachy's Church on each Wednesday of Lent at 7pm.

**Lenten Devotions** take place in St Patrick's Cathedral on each of the Sundays of Lent from 4.45pm – 5.15pm. Take a few moments in the presence of the Lord during this special season.

**Mass** will be celebrated in the Church of the Immaculate Conception Tullysaran with pupils from the local Primary School on Wed 5 April. All are welcome to join!

### **Divine Mercy Sunday**

#### **Sunday 16 April in St Patrick's Cathedral**

3.00pm The Chaplet  
3.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation  
4.30pm Time for personal veneration of Divine Mercy Image  
4.45pm Benediction  
5.30pm Celebration of Mass

#### **St Patrick's Cathedral Parish responds to earthquakes in Turkey & Syria**

The earthquakes have had a devastating impact on millions of people in both countries. Thanks to all who responded to the recent collection in our parish which amounted to £8995 & €350. All funds raised will be channelled through Trocaire to the Caritas Internationalis response in Turkey and Syria to help support the needs of those most severely affected.

**Weekly Collections/Gift Aid** Thanks to all who have been continuing to support their parish financially through these very challenging times. Many people have set up a Direct Debit or Standing Order recently. Weekly Parish Envelopes that aren't given at weekend Masses can also 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 but 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 and 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 and their parents will take place in St Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday 29 April at 6.30pm.

**First Penance** Congratulations to all the children in our Parish who celebrated their First Penance recently. Thanks to the teachers who prepared the pupils to receive the Sacrament. We continue to pray for all P4 Pupils as they continue to prepare for the celebration of First Holy Communion.

**Confessions/Reconciliation for Easter** Holy Week Penance Service in St Malachy's Church on Mon 3rd April at 7.30pm. Several priests will be available to hear Confessions. St Malachy's Church: Sat 1 April from 12noon – 2pm and St Patrick's Cathedral: Monday 3 – Wednesday 5 April after 10am Mass

**Mass for the Disappeared** Archbishop Martin will celebrate the annual Mass for the Disappeared in St Patrick's Cathedral on Sun 2nd April at 3pm. We continue to remember the Disappeared and their families in prayer at this time. All are welcome to join on the day.

**Vocations** – God continues to open a way for us. How is God doing something new in your life? Perhaps God is inviting you to be a priest or religious. (Isaiah 43: 16-21) 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.

**Best Wishes** to Barbara Gartland who made her perpetual profession as an RSCJ in Rome on Saturday 25 March. We wish Barbara every blessing for the future.

**St Patrick's 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.

**Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group** New Life in the Spirit Seminars. People are encouraged to join, to help deepen their faith and to grow in knowledge and love of God. Antoinette Moynihan will speak on Wed 29th March on 'Transformation in Christ' and Bernadette Fox will offer a Summary of the Seminars on Wed 5 April. We pray for the speakers and all who will take part, that the Lord may touch the hearts of all.

**Fatima Pilgrimage** Led by Archbishop Eamon Martin from 20 July for 7 nights - £799 per person. All bookings through Joe Walsh Tours at 0808 1890468 or 01-2410800 (ROI)

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock** Saturday 3 June

**Foster Care Services and Support** There are children in crisis today in our local communities – children of all ages and all abilities. Can you spare an hour a day, an overnight or a weekend or more to make a difference in a child's life. If you can, then contact the Regional Fostering Team on 0800 0720137 – remember that every child is just one caring adult away from success.

#### **Cardinal Tomas O'Fiaich Memorial Library & Archive**

Lecture Series to celebrate the centenary of the Cardinal's birth. Booking essential at the Library. Tel: 028 37522981. 29th March – The Legacy of Fr Tom – Una Walsh (Creggan Historical Society). 5th April – Tomas O'Fiaich, history and development of John Hume's political ideas – Dr Tommy Dolan (University of York) 8th May – Professor & President: Tomas O'Fiaich in Maynooth in the archives 1953 – 1977 – Prof Vincent Comerford (NUI Maynooth)

#### **Koinonia John the Baptist Community to**

**visit Armagh** On Tuesday 28 March, some members of Koinonia John the Baptist Community will speak on their work and lead a time of prayer in The Synod Hall at St Patrick's Cathedral. This is a community of people who give great witness to God's transforming love in their lives. Their mission is to be at the service of the Church for New Evangelisation and they do this through promoting their houses of prayer throughout the world and by offering Biblical courses and various evangelisation outreach programmes. We look forward to welcoming the community to join with us in late March for what promises to be a very special evening.

#### **Apostolic Workers Spring Sale & Coffee**

**Morning** in Mt St Catherine's PS on Saturday 1st April from 10.30am – 1pm. Adm. £1.50 Adults & 50p Children. All money raised goes directly to our Missionaries. In 2022 over 80 priests & nuns were helped. To date in 2023, twenty requests have been answered, mostly food & water, including to Nuns in Syria &

Turkey – only possible with your support. Please come and continue to help us.

**Armagh Pioneer Centre** is hoping to arrange a presentation Mass in June & would like to invite anyone due to receive a 10, 25, 50 or 60 year pin this year to contact Brian Corr 02837524853 or Stella Mallon 02838891002 to arrange this.

**Coffee Morning in aid of Dementia NI** on Saturday 15th April 10am-1pm in Sherry's Field.

#### **Holy Week in Armagh Parish**

Palm Sunday: Palms will be blessed at all Masses

#### **Masses for Holy Week**

St Malachy's Church (Mon – Wed @ 7am)  
St Patrick's Cathedral (Mon – Wed @ 10am)

**Chrism Mass** The Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Wed 5th April at 7pm in St Patrick's Cathedral. All are welcome. This Mass which the Archbishop celebrates with his priests in the presence of the people & at which he blesses the Holy Oils, manifests the communion of the priests & people with their bishop.

#### **Easter Triduum Celebration**

Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper  
7.30pm St Patrick's Cathedral  
7.30pm Tullysaran and Knockaconey.  
Altars of Repose close at 10pm with Night Prayer

#### **Good Friday: The Lord's Passion**

3pm St Patrick's Cathedral, St Malachy's & Tullysaran  
7.30pm Knockaconey  
Stations of the Cross  
7.30pm St Malachy's & Tullysaran  
Prayer around the Cross  
9pm St Malachy's

#### **Holy Saturday**

St Patrick's Cathedral  
10am Morning Prayer  
9pm Easter Vigil

#### **Easter Sunday**

St Malachy's 8am & 9.30am  
St Patrick's Cathedral 11am & 12.30pm  
Tullysaran 10am  
Knockaconey 10am  
Please note NO 5.30pm Mass on Easter Sunday.

#### **Good Friday: Outdoor Way of the Cross**

The starting point will be the grounds of the Sacred Heart Convent, Convent Rd at 11am and we will proceed from there through the streets of Armagh to the Calvary Grotto in the grounds of St Malachy's Church. There will be brief reflections, prayers and hymns along the way to commemorate each of the Stations of the Cross.

The Good Friday collection will help support Christians living in the Holy Land.

**Trocaire Boxes** should be returned to any of the Churches in the parish during the Easter Triduum. It would be appreciated if loose coins could be changed into notes. Please do not leave boxes unattended in any of the Churches at any time. Thanks to all who have supported Trocaire's Lenten Campaign.

**New Parish Envelopes** The Envelopes for the new financial year are being delivered at present. Thanks to all those who help with the distribution of the envelopes. Anyone who has a new address or anyone who has moved home recently should contact the Parish Office with new details. Anyone who hasn't been receiving envelopes in the past and who wishes to receive a box of envelopes this year should also contact the Parish Office.