

## 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

8th January 2023

### 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

18th December - £4947 & 123  
25th December: £8240 & €220.36  
Hungry & Needy: £12,350 & €401.13  
1st January: £6460 & €96.16

**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.

### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Dear Parishioners,

On The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, it's appropriate that we should recall the promises made on our behalf when we were baptised. On this special feast, we also pray for all the children who have been baptised in our parish community during the past year. Through the sacrament of Baptism, we become followers of Jesus Christ and members of his Church: but the significance of this would not be appreciated if we didn't have good parents in our homes and committed teachers in our schools, to share their faith with us. And so, we pray on this special day that God's Holy Spirit will accompany all of our parents and indeed, all in our community, who have the awesome challenge of passing on faith.

When parents bring their new baby to be baptised, the priest says to them "You have asked to have your child baptised. In doing so, you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of the faith. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?" Throughout the ceremony, parents are reminded of the grave responsibility they undertake as the "first teachers of the faith".

Today we pray that they may be the best of teachers, bearing witness to the faith in everything they say and do and may they always be aware that their own personal example of Christian living will be the most powerful and lasting influence of all. If for example, parents don't ever pray in the home or go to Mass at the weekend, then there is little possibility that their children will be people of faith. If even one generation is lost to the faith, it is difficult and rare for the next generation to return to the practice of their religion once more. Handing on the faith is like a relay race, in which one team hands on the torch or the baton to the team taking over from it. If the torch is once allowed to fall, if the baton is once dropped and lost, each succeeding team, however hard it tries, will have great difficulty in reaching the finishing line.

It's not so much a question of handing on a set of truths or facts, it's more a matter of offering our children and young people a vision of life, based on the values of Jesus Christ, that will give them a sense of purpose and fulfilment. This special feast should be a reminder that by our Baptism, we are privileged children of the Father, touched by the Spirit, who are always in need of continuing conversion through the power and love of God.

With every blessing  
Rev Peter McAnenly, Adm.

### A New Year's Prayer

Holy God, as we begin this New Year, we thank you for your presence with us in all the years of our lives. We have known joy and also sorrow, success and failure, and through it all, you have been with us, the companion on all our journeys. Much of life is fleeting and so we thank you for things that endure – the love of faithful friends, wisdom gained from experience, the reliability of nature and your steadfast love. We thank you for this year which awaits us. Take us by the hand and lead us on, Amen.

### Dates of Blessing of Graves 2023

Knockaconey Cemetery	Friday 9 June 7.30pm
Tullysaran New Cemetery	Sunday 18 June 10am
Tullysaran Old Cemetery	Friday 16 June 7.30pm
Armagh Cemetery	Sunday 25 June 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.

### 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 milestone in the year ahead.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for: Robbie Kerr, Patsy Connolly, Brendan Dougan, Paul Killen, Bill Donnelly, Bea Morris, Mary Burke, Kathleen Mallon, Fintan Campbell & Anne Maguire.

### MONTHS MIND

We pray for: Kelvin Dobbin (11th) & Peter Trainor (14th)



**Do this in Memory Programme** The next gathering for all Primary Four Pupils and their parents will take place in St Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday 21 January at 6.30pm.

**New Parish Website** A new and exciting Parish Website will be launched in the coming weeks – 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 Friday 3 February from 8 – 9pm. (Confessions on Thursday 2 February 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 2023

**Saturday 27th May @ 11am**

Mt St Catherine's P.S., Our Lady's P.S., St Malachy's P.S., Saints & Scholars P.S. & Armstrong P.S.

**Sunday 28th May @ 2pm**

St Patrick's P.S. & Christian Brothers P.S. P7 Pupils, parents & a sponsor may attend the Confirmation ceremonies.

**Vocations** Like Jesus, you are called God's beloved. Renew your baptismal commitment and pray for those discerning a call to priesthood or religious life. (Luke 3:15—16, 21-22) 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.

**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 including alcohol, drugs, pornography, gambling, eating & smoking 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 6th Feb**. If you would like to enrol a name in please visit [www.matttalbotprayersociety.com](http://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 and best wishes to those couples who are planning to celebrate their marriage in the Parish in the year ahead. 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 in relation to weddings can be made at Armagh Parish Office.

**A word of thanks!** A special word of thanks to all who were involved in the planning and preparations for the Christmas celebrations in the different Churches in our parish. Thanks to all who were involved this year, in helping

to prepare St Patrick's Cathedral for the special Eurovision Mass and all who took part on the evening. It was a great privilege to have Mass broadcast live from the Cathedral and for so many people across Europe to be able to join in celebrating the great Feast of the Nativity.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** will take place from 18 – 25 Jan. The theme chosen is: "Do good, seek justice" (Is 1:17). Throughout the Christian world, people of different denominations come together during this week for conferences, prayer services & social gatherings. As we celebrate the week, we recall how an Episcopalian Franciscan priest from America, Fr Paul Watson, started these gatherings in 1908 by praying for Christian Unity.

**PRAYER**

God our Father, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit ever more deeply into our hearts and minds that we may think thoughts of peace, speak words that build up and do the truth always in love, the truth that sets us free, the truth that gives us hope. Amen.

**Catholic Schools Week** From Sun 29th Jan – Sat 4th Feb 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 and beyond. We pay tribute to the principals, their teaching colleagues and the ancillary staffs for their commitment to the values of Catholic education and 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!

**A Prayer for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI**

Father, eternal shepherd, hear the prayers of your people for your servant Benedict XVI who governed your Church with love. In your mercy, bring him with the flock entrusted to his care to the reward you have promised your faithful servants. May he who faithfully administered the mysteries of your forgiveness and love on earth, rejoice with you for ever in heaven. In your wise and loving care, you made your servant teacher of all your Church. He did the work of Christ on earth. May your Son welcome him to eternal glory. May your servant whom you appointed high priest of your flock be counted now among the priests in the life of your kingdom. Give your servant the reward of eternal happiness and let your mercy win for us the gift of your life and love. We entrust your servant to your mercy with faith and confidence. In the human family, he was an instrument of your peace and love. May he rejoice in those gifts for ever with your saints. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



**Armagh Parish wishes to recruit a Cemetery Groundsperson.** Part-time position (20 hours per week). Job description

and application form available from Mrs Caroline Caherty at Parish Office. Closing date for applications is Monday 23rd January 2023.

**Prayer by Telephone** The Sisters of Mercy in "Bethany" Dundalk welcome any one who may wish to request prayer. All enquiries are confidential. Tel: 00353429331602 (9am – 9pm daily)

**Caná – 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

**ALONE – Provider of Services to Older People** Would you be willing to provide companionship or make calls to older people once a week? Alone are seeking volunteers in this area. Full training and support will be provided. If interested or for more information - contact Fiona on 0861366539 or [fiona.boyle@alone.ie](mailto:fiona.boyle@alone.ie)

**Parish Property Available for Rent** the former St Colmcille's Primary School, Knockaconey, Armagh is currently available for rent. Premises would be suitable for business purposes/storage. Further information from Caroline Caherty at Armagh Parish Office.

**Prayer for Ukraine** Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world, that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world. Amen.

**Benches in Armagh Cemetery** As previously outlined, no more benches are to be placed in Armagh Cemetery. Due to restricted space in the cemetery, benches that have been placed without permission on the hill and close to Moy Rd will soon be removed for burial spaces.

**Volunteer with Armagh Parish** If you would like to get involved with the various ministries within our Parish, feel free to get in contact with us via our online volunteer form which you can access by scanning this QR code.



**Found** An item of jewellery, possibly belonging to a child, has been found in St. Malachy's Church over the Christmas period. If you think this belongs to you or someone you know, please contact Claire in the Parish Office - 02837552813.

**Dates of First Holy Communion 2023**

CBS Primary School	Sat 13 May @ 10am	St Malachy's Church
CBS Bunscoil Primary School	Sat 13 May @ 12noon	St Malachy's Church
Saints & Scholars Primary School	Sat 13 May @ 2pm	St Malachy's Church
St Patrick's Primary School	Sat 6 May @ 11am	St Patrick's Cathedral
St Malachy's Primary School	Sat 29 April @ 10am	St Malachy's Church
Mt St Catherine's Primary School	Sat 6 May @ 2pm	St Patrick's Cathedral
Our Lady's Primary School	Sat 20 May @ 11am	Church of The Immaculate Conception