

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

www.armaghparish.net

Email: armaghparishoffice@gmail.com



21st May 2023

## Mass Times

### St Patrick's Cathedral

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

### St Malachy's Church

Mon - 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 Colmille's Church

Sunday: 10am

## 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 & 3pm in Church of St. Colmille, Knockaconey & Church of the Immaculate Conception, Tullysaran. All Baptisms are booked through the Parish Office.

**Funerals** are celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral at 11am (Mon-Sat) Please note there are no Sunday funerals.

**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

**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 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.

## Weekly Parish Collection

**Priests Dues** - £7195.00 & €98.00  
**14th May** - £4565.00 & €95.55

## 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. Please note new candles & pictures to mark the 150th anniversary of the Cathedral are now on sale.

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

### Reflection

We are familiar with the frequently used saying "to come full circle", which means that people, having set out on a journey or task, have returned to where they started. This applies particularly to our thoughts about Jesus on the Feast of the Ascension.

In one sense, the Ascension celebrates that Jesus has come full circle because, having come from the Father to accomplish a specific mission, he returns to the Father having achieved what he was sent to do: to save us from spiritual death and alienation from God due to our sins.

But in another sense, the Ascension marks the passing on of the baton by Jesus to his apostles. At the beginning of his public ministry, he had preached that the kingdom of heaven was close and he had challenged people to repent of their sins and believe in the Good News. Now the responsibility for that ministry was being passed on to the apostles and disciples. They were mandated to continue Jesus' saving work, drawing all nations to the truth of the Gospel. Jesus' departure from the earth and his return to heaven did not mean that his apostles and disciples would remain alone in their mission. Although he would no longer be physically present, he told them, "And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time". So there was no need for them to worry or to be lacking in confidence because he would be spiritually present, especially in the sacramental life of the Church. He also promised to send the Holy Spirit who would guide them in their various activities.

The message of the Ascension is clear. The saving work of Christ is now being handed over to the Church. The baton is being passed on to us. Just as in a relay race, it is imperative that we do not drop the baton. In other words, the responsibility for passing on the faith rests with us. We carry the faith with courage and conviction and we pass it on to those we meet.

Today also marks the 57th World Communications Day, and the theme for this year is Speaking with the heart "the truth in love". In writing for today, Pope Francis tells us that we should never be afraid of proclaiming the truth, even if it is at times uncomfortable. We're all called to seek and to speak the truth and to do so with charity.

It is fitting that World Communications Day coincides with the Feast of the Ascension when Jesus entrusts his disciples with the important task of spreading the Good News - "to make disciples of all the nations". The way we communicate and the news we choose to share with others is an important part of our role as disciples.

With every blessing  
Rev P McAnenly Adm

**Students preparing for Exams** We remember in prayer the many students in our parish preparing for exams. May the Holy Spirit guide & direct all of them in their work & efforts.

### Prayer for Students

Dear Lord, help me to approach my exams with a clear head and a calm mind. Give me your strength and your peace, and let me do justice to all that I have learned. Thank you Lord for all my gifts and talents. Amen.

**Month of May** In this month of Mary, we ask her to intercede for all of us and our families!

Take my hand O blessed mother, hold me firmly lest I fall.  
I am nervous when I'm walking, and to thee I humbly call.  
Guide me over every crossing, watch me when I'm on the stairs  
Let me know you are beside me, listen to my fervent prayers.  
Bring me to my destination, safely, every single day  
Help me with each undertaking, as the hours go on their way.  
And when evening falls upon me, and I fear to be alone,  
Take my hand O blessed Mother, once again and lead me home.

## 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: Eddie Lappin, Patrick Fearon, Carol Brady,  
Daisy McClelland and Mary Grimley



**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. Over twenty thousand people gathered on & around the hill on that historic occasion. We thank God for our Cathedral Church & for the great house of prayer that it is. We give thanks for being able to celebrate the Mother Church of our diocese during these weeks. An exhibition on the Cathedral is taking place at present. thanks to all the in the different schools in our parish for all their research & hard work. People are encouraged to visit the Cathedral & see the fruits of the children's work!

**Thurs 25 May** An invitation to all Mothers & Grandmothers in the Archdiocese of Armagh. 7pm: Evening Prayer followed by a presentation on the history of St Patrick's Cathedral (not live streamed). Refreshments to follow in The Synod Hall. All Mothers & Grandmothers are asked to bring a piece of cloth, 8in by 8in, which symbolise their many crosses in life. These will be pieced together to create a special Diocesan Tapestry, which will acknowledge their pain & suffering of the past but also their hopes for the future!

**Sun 11 – Tues 13 June** A first class relic of Blessed Carlo will visit the Cathedral. Blessed Carlo was beatified by Pope Francis in Assisi in October 2020. His friends remember him as a young dreamer, service-oriented and full of charisma. He died in 2006, at only 15 years of age, after a battle with leukaemia. His life may have been short but it made a huge impact. Recently, in the process for the teenager's beatification, his tomb became a real pilgrimage site.

**Sunday 11 June**

11am Mass  
12.30pm Mass  
5.30pm Mass  
7pm Rosary  
9pm Night Prayer

**Monday 12 June**

8am Mass  
10am Mass  
12noon Midday Prayer  
3pm Rosary  
6pm Evening Prayer  
7.30pm Mass  
9pm Night Prayer

**Tuesday 13 June**

8am Mass  
10am Mass (Relic departs immediately after Mass)

**“Hike the Reek” 17th June** – an invitation to the people of our Parish & our diocese to join in climbing Croagh Patrick, to raise funds to help support the ongoing restoration of St Patrick's Cathedral. Sponsor Cards available through Armagh Parish Office. It's hoped that many people will commit to this fundraising initiative & join in what promises to be a very special Parish & Diocesan Day! Raise £150 sponsorship in this 150th year, to help preserve the Cathedral for the future! A Bus will leave the main gates of St Patrick's Cathedral on the day at 7am. Those travelling are asked to bring a packed lunch. £15 per person. Booking & Payment at Parish Office.

**Matt Talbot Mass** Matt was freed from addiction through Mass, Adoration & the Rosary. The Matt Talbot Prayer Society prays daily & specifically for those enrolled to be freed from addictions through Matt Talbot's intercession. The next Mass is scheduled for Mon 5th June at 7.30pm in St Malachy's Church. If you would like to enrol a name please visit [www.matttalbotprayersociety.com](http://www.matttalbotprayersociety.com)

**First Friday of June** A Holy Hour will take place in St Malachy's Church on Friday 2 June from 8-9pm. Confessions in St Malachy's Church on Thursday 1 June at 12noon.

**Visit to the Grave of Primate Dixon** Archbishop Martin led a special Prayer

Service recently at the newly restored grave of Primate Dixon in the Cemetery of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, Windmill Hill, Armagh. On Thurs 25 May at 10.50am (Feast of St. Madeline Sophie Barat), people are invited to visit the grave & join for a short prayer service for the former Primate & for the Religious who rest in the cemetery. Those attending are asked to meet outside Siena Convent at 10.45am.

**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 25p 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.

**Do this in Memory Programme** The next gathering for all P4 Pupils and their parents will take place in St Patrick's Cathedral on Sat 10 June at 6.30pm. (Feast of Corpus Christi)

**First Holy Communion** Congratulations to all the young people in our Parish who celebrated their First Holy Communion recently. Thanks to all who helped prepare the children for this special milestone in their lives. May they always be aware of the nearness of God as they grow older and as they progress in their lives.

“May you always feel as close to Jesus, as you do today. May you always count on him, to gently guide you on your way. May you always trust in God, to answer every single prayer. May you always feel him blessing you, with tender, loving care”

**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: **Sat 27th May @ 11am** - Mount St Catherine's PS, Our Lady's PS, St Malachy's PS, Saints & Scholars PS & Armstrong PS. **Sun 28th May @ 2pm** - St Patrick's PS & Christian Brothers PS. P7 Pupils, parents and a sponsor may attend the Confirmation ceremonies.

**Vocations** If we love, we know the presence of God. Take time to be aware of God's loving presence. Are you open to the Holy Spirit? (John 14:23-29) 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 & brothers. Enkindle in the hearts of men & women the spark of a vocation. Grant that Christian families may desire to give your Church, helpers in the work of tomorrow.  
Amen.

**Fatima Pilgrimage 2023** 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** Sat 3rd June. A bus will leave the main Cathedral Gates on the day at 7.30am. Price £20. Please bring a packed lunch. Booking at Armagh Parish Office.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** We remember in prayer the many people throughout our diocese who are going off on this pilgrimage in the coming days. May they be blessed with safe travel and may it be a blessed pilgrimage for all.

**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.

**Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate to visit Armagh** Three PVMI Sisters are to visit our parish for two months during the summer. Last year they visited the neighbouring parish of Keady and during the time when they are here, they will be involved in home visitation within the parish. Sr Margery Therese, Sr Theresa Marie and Sr Alina Marie will come to the parish on May 31 (Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary) and they will be with us until the beginning of August. We look forward to welcoming them in the coming weeks.

**Dates of Blessing of Graves 2023**

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

**St Pio** A relic of Padre Pio will be available after 10am Mass on Thursday 25th May on the occasion of his birthday.

**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 041 685 1563

**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

**Prayer by Telephone** The Sisters of Mercy in “Bethany” Dundalk welcome any one who may wish to request prayer, especially during these difficult times. All enquiries are confidential. Tel 00353429331602 (9am– 9pm daily)

**Dromantine Sunday** 11th June from 1pm – 5.30pm. Entertainment for all the family. Food and Refreshments available.

**Ciorcal Comhrá Irish Conversation Group** will meet every Monday 6-7pm in the Men's Shed for tea & craic. Suitable for all levels. All welcome.

**College Farm Nursery School** principal of 25 years, Mrs Brenda Murphy, is retiring. The school will hold a party on 27th June 10am-2pm. All past/present parents & pupils are welcome. To make a contribution to Mrs Murphy's retirement gift contact the school office on 028 3751 8276.

**Anam Cara**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding an Evening for bereaved parents on Wed 31st May at 7:15pm in the Armagh City Hotel. Event is free & open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online support service. Contact us on [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie) or 028 95213120 for any queries.