

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



30th July 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 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

2nd July - £6505 & €113 (Priests Dues)

9th July - £4205 & €109

16 July - £4506 & €220

23 July - £4240 & €89.92

The annual collection to help support the Sick and Retired Priests of our diocese, will be taken up on the weekend of 5/6 August.

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.

NEW candles, pictures & slate ornaments to mark the 150th Anniversary of the Cathedral are now on sale.

17th Sunday of the Year

Reflection

Dear Parishioners,

In our Gospel today we're told "The Kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field."

As we listen to the parable, it gives us a tiny glimpse of what the world looks like when we take this kingdom of God stuff seriously. It brings great joy, especially when it's unexpected. Sometimes there are hidden treasures of God's kingdom going on right under our noses. (Remember the mustard seed revolution parable from last week?)

Over the last few Sundays we have heard Matthew 13 and the parables on the growth and development of God's kingdom. Today, we're told what to do when we find it. It may be unexpected; it may be the result of a long search and journey, but once found, nothing else matters.

We're driven by our desires. It's what we desire most that effects what we do and the choices that we make in life. In both parables, the finder responds wholeheartedly and in complete surrender. We should ask for the ability to make the radical decision for the treasure. Jesus tells us that there is only one thing worth pursuing at any cost and that is the kingdom of God. And deep joy is real proof of its presence!

With every blessing
Rev Peter McAnenly, Adm

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

Prayer

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.

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for: Eithne McCreesh, Gertie Bradshaw, Fr Bernard Thorne OFM and Patrick Agnew

MONTHS MIND

We pray for: Martin Conlon (4th), Frank Watson (4th) and Kevin McAvinchey (5th)



First Friday Friday 4th August is the first Friday of the month. There will be a Holy Hour in St Malachy's Church on the Friday evening from 8-9pm. Confessions on Thursday 3rd August at 12noon.

Exhibition to mark 150th anniversary of the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral An exhibition is taking place at present and thanks to all the Primary Seven Pupils in the different schools in our parish for all their research and hard work. People are encouraged to visit the Cathedral during these weeks and see the fruits of the children's work!

Dates for the diary! As we continue to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral, an outdoor festival for families will take place in The Shambles Yard in Armagh on **Thursday 24th August** from 5 -7pm. It will include music and a wide range of entertainment for families throughout the diocese and beyond. Afterwards, a special Liturgy/Prayer Service will take place at 7.30pm in St Patrick's Cathedral and representatives from different groups and parishes across the diocese will be involved. On the morning of **Sunday 27th August** at 11am, Cardinal Timothy Dolan (Archbishop of New York) will celebrate a special Mass of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral. During the Mass, we will give praise and thanks for the faith and worship that has been expressed within the Cathedral since it was dedicated 150 years ago. All are invited to these special events, as we mark this significant milestone in the history of our Cathedral.

Spires of Faith & Hope – Celebrating 150 years of St Patrick's Cathedral An evening of Music with Ellis Fox. Also featuring St Patrick's Cathedral Choir & Catherine Grimley Hughes. Friday 29th September at 7.30pm.

Matt Talbot Mass Matt was freed from addiction through Mass, Adoration and the Rosary. The Matt Talbot Prayer Society prays daily and 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 for those struggling with an addiction. The next Mass is scheduled for Mon 7th Aug at 7.30pm. If you would like to enrol a name in the Matt Talbot Society please visit the website www.matttalbotprayersociety.com.

Diamond Jubilee Congratulations to Sr Mary Roe RSCJ, who celebrates the 60th anniversary of her Religious Profession on 11th August. As we congratulate her on this significant milestone, we wish her continued health and blessings for the future.

Welcome to students from Malta A warm welcome to the 16 students & their teachers who came to the parish during the week. The students are involved in a summer programme with the Missionaries of Charity for two weeks.

Deacon Brian McNally We welcome Deacon Brian to our parish for a few weeks. He was ordained deacon in Rome in mid June and is on placement with us this summer. We continue to remember him in prayer, as he continues on his path towards priesthood.

Diocesan Clerical Changes In the recent changes for the Archdiocese of Armagh, Archbishop Martin has appointed Fr Peter McAnenly as Parish Priest of the Parish of Termonmaguirc (Carrickmore) and Fr Barry Matthews as Administrator of St Patrick's Cathedral Parish. He has also appointed Fr David Nugent as Curate in the Cathedral Parish.

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.

Vocations "Ask and you shall receive: seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you." (Luke 11:1-13) 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.

Dioceses will be unite to pray for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood, at the Apparition Chapel in Knock at 1.30pm, on the Feast of our Lady of Knock. (17th August)

Charles Wood Summer School The 30th anniversary of the Charles Wood Summer School will take place in Armagh from Sun 20th – Sun 27th August. There will be a packed programme of events during the course of the week. See the Charles Wood Summer School Website for more details.

Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate leave Armagh Three PVMI Sisters have been in our parish for the last two months. Sr Margery Therese, Sr Theresa Marie and Sr Alina Marie have been involved in visiting many homes and they have been associated with some of the schools and organisations within the parish during the course of their stay. We thank them for being with us and for all their work and we wish them all the best as they return to USA and every blessing for the future.

Seeking to learn more about your faith...why not consider our Theology Programme? It runs for two years, one evening per week and two weekend modules in the year. It's accredited by St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth. No educational entry requirements, just an interest in learning about God. Assessment is based on written assignments at the end of each module; there are no written exams. The programme starts on 12th September. To know more, contact Milanda at 0035342 9351316 or milanda@parishandfamily.ie

Weddings in Armagh Parish Best wishes to those couples who are planning to celebrate their marriage in the Parish in the coming months. Couples planning to get married in the Parish later this year or next year, should ensure that they have booked their Church and 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.

Diocesan Tapestry Pieces of cloth, which were brought to the Cathedral some weeks ago by Mothers and Grandmothers across the Diocese, have now been weaved into a lovely "Diocesan Tapestry". The pieces of cloth symbolise the crosses/sufferings as well as the hopes of so many mothers and grandmothers. The Tapestry has now been placed on a wall in The Synod Hall area of the Cathedral and it will be a lasting reminder of this 150th year. Special thanks to those who produced the Tapestry!

The Dedication of St. Patrick's Cathedral Copies of a brief history on the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral, by Jack O'Hare are now on sale in Cathedral Shop.

Our Heritage – Our Cathedral Fundraising Campaign

Archbishop Eamon Martin has launched a special Fundraising Campaign, to support the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of the magnificent St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh. People are being invited to become a regular donor as a "Friend of St Patrick's Cathedral" or to make a one off contribution to mark this 150th year.

Recently, the Archbishop said "Looking ahead, we aim to secure a regular support and enhancement income of at least £200,000 per annum for this unique building. We are conscious that this is a challenging time for fundraising, but as we emerge from the Covid pandemic, we move forward convinced that the people of today and tomorrow need more than ever the light of faith and hope".

In recent weeks, we have had the first phase of fundraising within our parish and in the coming weeks, it's hoped that the fundraising will be extended more widely and everyone will have an opportunity to contribute. Archbishop Martin said at the launch: "Join us as we preserve the treasured landmark and sacred space of St Patrick's Cathedral, for generations to come and help us to ensure that our Cathedral remains a living centre of prayer, tranquillity, and renewal for the next 150 years and beyond".

Further information about the Fundraising Campaign is available from Armagh Parish Office (028/048 37522813) or by emailing Caroline at armaghparishfinance@gmail.com.

Walk for Mary's Meals The annual Walk for Mary's Meals from Armagh to Castleblaney will take place on Mon 7th August. If you see walkers on the day, please help support them & donate to such a worthy cause. A representative from Mary's Meals will speak at some Masses in the Parish this weekend.

World Youth Day is taking place in Lisbon, Portugal during the coming week. The theme for the event is "Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk 1:39) We remember in prayer the young people from our diocese who are joining for this global celebration of faith.

Reek Sunday Sunday 30 July We remember in prayer Archbishop Martin and the many pilgrims who are climbing The Reek/Croagh Patrick on Sunday 30 July. May all be blessed with a safe and enjoyable pilgrimage.

Prayer for Summer

Let's put ourselves into the hands of the Lord and pray that God will bless us and our families during these wonderful months of summer.

May we all help make our homes, places of relaxation, joy, love, peace and safety. May we be generous and considerate, not thinking only of ourselves, but helping others enjoy the blessings of summertime. Lord God, creator of all things, guide our steps and strengthen our hearts during these months of summer and vacation days. Grant us refreshment of mind and body. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.