

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



20th August 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

## 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. Colmcille, 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

20th Aug: £4211 and €135.80

27th Aug: £5305 & €543.30

The Priests Dues Collection is being taken up at all Masses this weekend.

## 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.

## 22nd Sunday of the Year

### Reflection

Dear Parishioners,

Back to school usually marks the end of summer holidays and the beginning of another school year and neither prospect is very appealing. This week we wish all children and young people every blessing for the year ahead and we pray for principals, teachers and all those who work in our schools, that the Lord will sustain them and guide them.

In today's Gospel, we're reminded that being a true disciple of Christ can often mean saying what people don't want to hear, or doing what people don't want to recognise. The Gospel speaks about suffering and it tells us that the true Christian must take up their cross each day and follow Jesus.

The truth is that all of us have different crosses to bear as we live our lives but the good news is that we're not alone as we deal with our struggles and as we bear our crosses. In today's first reading, we hear how the prophet Jeremiah struggles with his faith in one of his many "laments". His faith caused him to be a laughing stock. He feels conflicted; although his faith is inviting insult and derision, it's also a fire burning in his heart. In spite of people's hostile reactions, he has been "seduced" by God and he cannot but speak out.

Is this how we feel about our faith? Is it like a fire burning within us, in our very bones, or are we lukewarm in our commitment? Following Jesus is a radical choice, now more than ever perhaps. Today's readings teach us to be less concerned with what people think and more concerned with living according to Jesus' teachings – however others may react.

On a different note, I wish to convey my sincere thanks to all associated with St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, for all the support and encouragement that I have received, since coming to the parish as Administrator eleven years ago. It has been a great privilege to have served in such a wonderful parish over the years and there have been many special and memorable moments and many great friendships have been created along the way. I wish to thank in particular Archbishop Martin, Bishop Router and Cardinal Brady as well as the different priests whom I have ministered with during my years here. I thank too the different staff members for all their help and support, as we worked together in dealing with the many demands of the parish, but I thank all the people of the parish for your kindness and care.

As I come to the end of this chapter in my life and as I begin a new one, I am very thankful to God for the many blessings of the past eleven years but I look forward to my new appointment in the Parish of Termonmaguirc and all that it will offer. As I move on, I ask that we continue to remember each other in prayer and I pray especially that the Lord will continue to bless you and your homes and families and may he continue to give you much peace and joy.

With every blessing  
Rev Peter McAnenly, Adm.

## REFLECTION – Our Lady's Birthday – Friday 8 September

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.

## Reflection for a new school year!

What will this year bring? We do not know; it will likely bring us its usual times of work and play, experiences of learning, newness, success and challenges. All things that are part of school life. It's a new beginning; the planting of a seed that will grow for a year; the seed of fruit that will blossom in times to come. It offers new hope; hope for good work, for successful results, for friendship, for fun, for learning. In this coming year, may there be learning, prayer and fun. May there be hard work, faith and friendship. May no one in school be lonely. May no one be left out in class. May no one suffer because of how others treat them. As we begin this new school year in hope, in prayer and friendship, may God begin it with us, be with us during it and successfully bring it to its conclusion, Amen.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

*We pray for:* Jim Quinn, Margaret Rafferty, John Paul Toal,  
Gerard Campbell, Kevin Keenan and Molly Lennon

## MONTHS MIND

*We pray for:* Helen O'Toole (8th) and Baby Joseph Gillespie White (9th)



**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 P7 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!

**Spire of Faith & Hope Celebrating 150 years of St Patrick's Cathedral**

An evening of Music with Eilis Fox, featuring St Patrick's Cathedral Choir & Catherine Grimley Hughes. Fri 29th Sept at 7.30pm. Scan the QR code to book your tickets.



**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 including alcohol, drugs, pornography, gambling, eating and smoking through Matt Talbot's intercession. The next Mass is scheduled for Mon 4 Sept at 7.30pm in St Malachy's Church. If you would like to enrol a name in the Matt Talbot Society please visit the website [www.matttalbotprayersociety.com](http://www.matttalbotprayersociety.com).

**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** – Humility is needed for those who choose to serve. Are you able to recognize your gifts and offer them in humble service? (Luke 14:1, 7-14) 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.

**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.

**150th celebrations** A special word of thanks to all who were involved in the planning and preparations for the special events which took place last weekend to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Dedication of St Patrick's Cathedral. The celebrations last Thursday and Sunday were wonderful occasions and a huge debt of gratitude is owed to all who were involved in helping to make them such memorable occasions for all. Take time in the coming days to visit the Cathedral and take a

few moments to pray before the beautiful Icon which has been written/commissioned to mark this special year in the history of St Patrick's Cathedral.

**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 (02837522813) or by emailing Caroline at [armaghparishfinance@gmail.com](mailto:armaghparishfinance@gmail.com)

**Best Wishes Sr Carmel** Best Wishes to Sr Carmel Flynn as it's 60 years on 8th Sept (Our Lady's Birthday) since she entered Religious Life. Wishing her continued health & happiness & God's Blessings on her ministry.

**Novena to St Teresa of Calcutta**

A Novena to St Teresa of Calcutta has been prayed in recent days at the 10am Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral and it will conclude on the Feast of the much loved saint on Tuesday 5 September. The Missionaries of Charity extend a special invitation to all, to join with them in offering this special Novena Prayer to St Teresa of Calcutta.

**Prayer to St Teresa of Calcutta**

St Teresa of Calcutta, you allowed the thirsting love of Jesus on the Cross to become a living flame within you, and so became the light of His love to all. Obtain from the Heart of Jesus (here make your request). Teach me to allow Jesus to penetrate and possess my whole being so completely that my life too, may radiate His light and love to others.

Amen.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, cause of our joy, pray for me.

St Teresa of Calcutta, pray for me.

**Novena to Our Lady of Sorrows** in Servite Priory, Benburb beginning Thurs 7th Sept until Friday 15th September. Mass each evening at 8pm except Sun 10th when a special Mass for the sick will be celebrated at 3pm. All welcome.

**Months Mind** of Fr Bernard Thorne OSM will take place on Tues 5th September at 7:30pm in the Servite Priory, Benburb.

**The Legion of Mary Pilgrimage to Knock** will be on Sun 24th Sept. The bus will leave at 7am from St Malachy's Church. For enquiries phone Denise 07856172206 or Margaret 07799 867714

**Annual Hospice Coffee Morning** will take place in the County Armagh Golf Club on Thurs 14th Sept from 10am-1pm. All welcome.

**St. Joseph's Young Priests Society** The opening Mass for the year will be held on Wed 6th Sept in St.Malachy's Church at 7.30pm immediately followed by the Rosary and short meeting in St. Vincent de Paul Centre, Chapel Lane. All are welcome to join us in praying for Vocations to the Priesthood particularly as this year has been designated to promoting Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood entitled, 'Taking the Risk for Christ'.

**Seeking to learn more about your faith...why not consider our Theology Programme?**

It runs for two years, one evening per week & 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 Sept. To know more contact Milanda at 0035342 9351316 or [milanda@parishandfamily.ie](mailto: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.

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

**Accord** 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

**Blessing of School Bags** Lord we thank you for your goodness to all your children. Be with these children throughout this new school year. May your blessing be upon these schoolbags, which the children will carry to and from school each day. Watch over the children in their coming and their going; keep them safe always; help them to be kind; bless their learning and their play. Enfold them at all times in your love. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A Teacher's Prayer – wishing all our teachers Gods blessing for the new year!**

I want to teach my students how to live this life on earth, to face its struggles and its strife and improve their worth.

Not just the lesson in a book or how the rivers flow, But how to choose the proper path wherever they may go.

To understand eternal truth and know the right from wrong and gather all the beauty of a flower and a song.

For if I help the young to grow in wisdom and in grace then I shall feel that I have won and I have filled my place.

And so, I ask your guidance God, that I may do my part for character and confidence and happiness of heart.