

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Armagh

## Mass Times

### St Patrick's Cathedral

Monday - Saturday: 10am  
Sunday Vigil: 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

**Confessions** in St Malachy's Church on  
Saturdays @ 12 noon.

## Parish Contacts

**Parochial House: 028 3752 2802**

**Emergency Phone: 07596899031**

- **Fr Barry Matthews, Adm**  
E: barrymatthews@gmail.com
- **Fr Emmanuel Fasakin, MSP, CC**  
E: emmafash725@yahoo.com
- **Fr David Nugent, CC**  
E: frdavidnugent@gmail.com
- **Deacon Paul Mallon,**  
E: paul.mallon@tudublin.ie
- **Deacon Eunan McCreesh,**  
E: eunan.mccreesh@gmail.com

### Parish Office

Cathedral Gate Lodge, 41a Cathedral Rd.  
Tel: 028 3752 2813  
Opening Hours: Mon - Friday: 10am-3pm

- **Caroline Caherty, Finance Manager**  
armaghparishfinance@gmail.com
- **Claire Corr, Parish Secretary**  
armaghparishoffice@gmail.com
- **Maura Kelly, Safeguarding**  
armaghparishsafeguarding@gmail.com

**St Patrick's Cathedral: 028 3752 2638**  
**Sacristans: Roger Duggan & Kieran Kelly**

**St Malachy's Church: 028 3751 0516**  
**Sacristan: Gary McGuirk**

**Baptisms & Weddings** - to book your baptism or wedding, please contact the Parish Office.

Dear Friends,

Today we light the "Peace Candle" on our Advent stand - we know all too well the need for Peace in our troubled world. This weekend as we pray for peace we think of the war torn countries but we also think about our own relationships. Maybe this weekend as we begin to write our Christmas cards or send greetings maybe there is someone who you haven't spoken to in a while - maybe send them a greeting or a card. True peace begins within ourselves and this week is an opportunity to reflect on what aspects of our lives we need to heal - hand these areas over to the infant child - place these worries into the manger this Christmas.

Fr Barry Matthews Adm.

**Advent** Today is the second Sunday of Advent - we encourage families to make a special effort to keep the Christmas message as central to their preparations as possible.

**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. Anniversaries are read out at all Masses on weekday and one Sunday Mass. Months Minds will be remembered at the 12:30pm Mass on Sunday following the Months Mind. We request that you leave your anniversary in as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

**Visitation** Anyone wishing to receive a visit from a Priest or have a house blessing are invited to leave their name, address, postcode and phone number in the Parish Office. Anyone who is aware of a family member, friend or neighbour who is housebound are invited to let the Parish Office know to ensure those most in need are attended to. Family Members are reminded to ensure that their loved ones in Hospital are seen by the Hospital Chaplain on duty and that they receive the Sacrament of the Sick.

### Weekly Parish Collection

26th November - £5526 and €157.22

**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.

**St Patrick's Prayer Guild Mass Bouquets and Mass Cards** Our new range of Mass Bouquets and Mass Cards are now available in the Cathedral Shop and in the Sacristy of St Malachy's Church after Masses. The 10am Mass each Saturday in the Cathedral is dedicated to St Patrick's intercession and the intentions for these Mass Cards/Bouquets will all be included in this weekly Mass.

**Adoration** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues each day in St Malachy's Church. Parishioners are encouraged to drop in, light a candle and offer a prayer. We encourage families to take a little time out to visit.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for: Kevin Heuston, Robert McCann, Paddy Hughes,  
Neilus Toner, Roma Corr and Maura Ryan.

May they rest in peace.



**December 8th - The Feast of the Immaculate** - A special evening of Prayer and Hymns will take place in St Patrick's Cathedral. Mass at 7:30pm, followed by Adoration & a Candle Lit Vigil accompanied by the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal (Drogheda). The evening concludes at 10pm with Benediction. Confessions available throughout the evening. Please do make a special effort to join what promises to be a Sacred moment of Prayer and Preparation for Christmas through the Intercession of Our Lady on this important Feast Day.

**Mass in Tullysaran**—Church of the Immaculate Conception—Friday December 8th at 7:30pm. Months Mind of Fr Brian White.

**The Friends of St Patrick's Cathedral** As you are aware there is some major works needed on the Cathedral and the Cathedral steps. We are hoping to move forward in the Spring towards these projects. The Cathedral costs over £200,000 per year to maintain and as such we are hoping that our fundraising efforts will help offset some of this cost. Direct Debit Mandates are available in the Parish Office for anyone wishing to assist in this way. Anyone in a position to assist our fundraising campaign is invited to speak to Fr Barry or Caroline in the Parish Office.

**Altar Servers** We are currently recruiting new Altar Servers. Forms may have been received through the schools - alternatively parents/guardians can contact the Parish Office.

**Missionaries of Charity** One hour of prayer, scripture and song before the Blessed Sacrament, every Wednesday from 7-8pm in the Missionaries of Charity House.

**JPII Awards** Any young person wishing to become involved in parish ministry i.e. Reader of the Word or Eucharistic Minister is asked to leave their name in the Parish Office or speak to Fr Barry

**Read a Gospel in as month**—A tradition has begun over the last few years of reading a chapter of St Luke's Gospel beginning on December 1st - by Christmas Eve you will have read a whole Gospel. Maybe this could be your advent offering. Why not start today and make up for the lost days.

**Parish Shop— Advent Opening Hours**—As well as the normal Mon-Sat hours the Parish Shop will be open each Sunday in Advent following the 11am Mass until the beginning of the 12:30pm Mass. Christmas Mass Bouquets and a large selection of Christmas items are available in the Parish shop. Do please drop in for a browse. A new Leather Cover Mass Enrolment Card is now available and would act as a lovely gift for those away from Armagh this year.

**Christmas at the Cathedral** Tickets are available from Ticket Source for Malachi Cush's concert which takes place on December 15th in the Cathedral. Do book your place early for what will be a wonderful evening.

**Shrine to St Patrick** A new shrine to St Patrick has been set up in the Sacred Heart Chapel in St Patrick's Cathedral. Call in and light a candle and offer a prayer at this sacred space

**Monday December 11th (Tomorrow)** - the 10am Mass will be transferred to St Malachy's Church to facilitate the recording of the Archbishop's Joint Christmas Message. The Cathedral will be closed until 1pm.

**Cathedral Choir Christmas Carol Service**—Carol Service takes place in the Cathedral on December 17th at 5:30pm. The 5:30pm Mass that evening is transferred to St Malachy's.

**Volunteers** As a Parish community we are always delighted to welcome new volunteers to our various outreaches. As we look forward to the new year we are conscious of the initiatives that will begin to take place. Anyone interested in volunteering is asked to contact the Parish Office or any of the Priests/Deacons.

**Bambinelli Sunday** Next Weekend (December 16/17th) we light the Joy Candle. This is Gaudete Sunday - where we begin to reflect on the joy that comes from our relationship with Jesus. We encourage parishioners, especially families, to bring the infant Jesus figure from their crib at home to be blessed at Mass. This is a lovely tradition begun in Rome by St Pope John Paul II.

**Church Doors** During the winter months we are asking parishioners to help us conserve energy and keep the heat inside the Churches. We ask that you would close the manual doors tightly after you enter (automatic doors will close themselves). We have also closed half of the main doors in St Malachy's Church & St Patrick's Cathedral and hope this makes some impact. Thank you for your help and support in this matter.

**New Crib Scene** You will notice that our Crib in St Patrick's Cathedral has moved to the front of the sanctuary. Many people who join us on the webcam have mentioned that they would like to see the crib. The symbolism of the crib is as follows: the curved structure represents the arms of God embracing the world. The star is held by the arms over the infant Jesus' manger and is a solid oak creation reflective of the oak trees around the Cathedral. The curved back of the floor space represents the earth and how Jesus is present in the world. The lighting is designed to reflect the fact that Jesus is the light of the world. We are so thankful to John Devine (Teacher in St Patrick's Grammar School) who constructed the structure for this years crib.

**St Vincent de Paul** wishes to thank all those who contributed to their Christmas appeal last weekend. Your generosity touches the hearts of many this Christmas.

**Trocaire - Annual Christmas Sale of Gifts of Change** is taking place this weekend after Masses in both St. Patrick's Cathedral and St. Malachy's Church, and next weekend in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Tullysaran and in St. Colmcille's Church, Knockaconey. Throughout the world and especially at this time in Gaza, Israel, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Ukraine, families are caught up in war and are enduring heartbreaking deprivation. In a year when your love and compassion are deeply needed and deeply appreciated, we appeal to you to help change the lives of these families by supporting our Christmas Sale of Gifts of Change

**Anam Cara Armagh** the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wed 20th Dec at 7:15pm in the Armagh City Hotel. This event is free and 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 or 028 95213120 for any queries.

## Advent Prayer

Dear Jesus,  
you entered our world on  
Christmas as the Prince of  
Peace. This Advent, as we  
strive to become  
the best version of  
ourselves, fill us with a  
deep and abiding peace.  
Help us share that peace  
with everyone we  
encounter, especially those  
who need it most. Amen.

