

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Armagh

7th January 2024

## 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: emmash725@yahoo.com
- **Fr David Nugent, CC**  
E: frdavidnugent@gmail.com
- **Fr James Adawai, SMMM, CC**  
E: jfaustin84@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,

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Today is a reminder to us of the gift of faith and the love with which it is passed on. Today we celebrate those who handed on the faith to us and we remember them prayerfully asking God to reward them for the great gift they passed on to us. Often at Baptism celebrations, I remark on how the birth of the baby being baptised has changed the course of a family and so too more than any the birth of Jesus has changed how we all live and how we die.

As we emerge from the celebrations of Christmas it is an opportunity to reflect on how encountering Christ at Christmas has changed us, how it has enlivened us and given us courage to pass on the gift of faith to those around us with courage and conviction.

2024 will bring about its challenges and difficulties but also will be filled with blessings - let us all begin the year by counting our blessings and may I recommend that we begin by being thankful for faith, hope and love.

*Fr Barry Matthews Adm.*

**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.

**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.

## Weekly Collection

24th Dec: £6680 & €144.25

31st Dec: £6240 & €148.69

**The Hungry and Needy Christmas Day Collection** raised £16,091 & €379.92. We thank you for this incredible generosity towards those less fortunate than ourselves. These funds will be distributed to the needy in our community through our Parish Outreach on your behalf.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

*We pray for:* Joan Tighe, Phyllis Terrins, Mel Hughes, Maureen Lappin, Paul McGuinness, Leontia Loughran, Kathleen McNally and Harry McGinn.

## MONTHS MIND

*We pray for:* Rosemary McShane (10th) & John Hamill (13th).

*May they rest in peace.*



**Thanks** Fr Barry and the Parish Clergy wish to thank once again those who have supported the Parish over the Christmas period, to our volunteers and all who made the celebrations so memorable and to all those who attended and brought great joy - may God reward you with abundant blessings.

**Fr James Adawai SMMM** - we welcome Fr James who has joined the Parish team as an interim appointment. Fr James will assist the priests of the parish in their pastoral role and will work alongside them in the area of outreach and faith formation. Originally from Nigeria, Fr James is a member of the religious order the 'Sons of Mary Mother of Mercy' (SMMM)

**Coeliac Hosts** are available at every Mass in St. Malachy's Church and St. Patrick's Cathedral. Parishioners will no longer be required to contact the sacristans. Please receive from the Priest who is celebrating the Mass. We do advise that all those wishing to receive the coeliac hosts seek medical advice as they do contain traces of gluten.

**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.

**St Patrick's Festival Concert** Tickets for Phil Coulter's St Patrick's Festival Concert, which takes place in the Cathedral on Mothers Day (10th March) are now available in the Cathedral Gift Shop and also online at ticketsource.co.uk. This promises to be a wonderful moment here in the Cathedral.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group** resumes meeting at the Synod Hall on Tuesday 9th January at 8pm with a Mass celebrated by Fr Barry. Rosary at 7.40pm. All welcome.

**Eucharistic Healing Retreat at Benburb Priory** You are invited to a 2-day Eucharistic Healing Retreat led by Fr Brendan Walsh & Eileen King on Sat 13th & Sun 14th January, organised by Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group. Registration at 9am on Saturday 13th Jan. Retreat starts 10am-7pm. Retreat will include Holy Mass, Adoration; Rosary; Praise and Worship; Talks; Healing service and confessions. Registration fee for both days £40. To book please contact Tel: 07880701387 or 07845197010 or 02837548241. All welcome.

**St Patrick's P.S Armagh Open Days** - You are invited to our open days on Wed 10th & Thurs 11th January from 1.30pm-3:30pm. Meet our Staff, visit our Foundation Stage and discuss enrolment. Loughgall Road, Armagh. Tel. 02837523773. E: info@stpatricksparmagh.ni.sch.co.uk

**Catholic Schools Weeks** will take place from Sunday 21st to Saturday 27th January. This years theme is "Catholic Schools - Communities of Service". This week gives us an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the incredible contribution that our Catholic Schools make not just to society, but to the mission of the Church. Within our parish, we are indebted to the many people who contribute enormously to the values of Catholic education and we pay special tribute to the principals, teachers and support staff in all our Catholic Schools for their personal faithfulness and commitment to those in their care.

**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.

## 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.



## Prayer for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord



Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed Him to be Your Son, anointing Him with the Holy Spirit: grant that we may be faithful to our call as Children of God, listening to you, guided by Your Spirit, to fulfil our unique and definite purpose. Amen.