

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Armagh



Lenten Mass Times
St Patrick's Cathedral
 Monday-Friday: 8am
 Monday - Saturday: 10am
 Sunday Vigil: 6.30pm
 Sunday: 11am, 12.30pm & 5.30pm

St Malachy's Church
 Tues - Fri: 7am
 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
- **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
- **Thecla Brolly, Parish Safeguarding**
Tel: 07895460797
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 Kingdom of God is close at hand" - Today as we mark the 1st Sunday in Lent we truly reflect on the closeness of God in our lives. Maybe we are in the position where we find it difficult to recognise God's presence in our lives, Mother Teresa of Calcutta spoke of the 'Dark night of the soul' - I believe there are moments in each of our lives where we question if Jesus is present, those moments where the cross we carry is burdensome and overwhelming.

Lent is a journey - it is a journey with Jesus. We accompany him as He carries His cross to Calvary, as He accompanies us and the crosses we bear. Jesus does not always remove our crosses, but He gives us hope. We are a people who are blessed by Easter glory - not by the weight of the cross.

I often refer to the Lenten journey as reading a book while knowing the ending. We know the glory of Easter. We know that Jesus died and rose to glory for us and it is a reflection of His love for us that we make offerings of sacrifice and penance.

Maybe you are reluctant to begin a Lenten observance or maybe you have broken your Lent already. It's ok to begin today or to restart again today - actually my advice would be to 'Just do it'.

I wish you every blessing as we walk this special season together, as a community of faith bound together by God's grace 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.

Weekly Collection
 £5300 & €123.35

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for: Martin Johnston, Carla Knipe, Joseph Fitzgerald, Margaret Fagan, Mary Frances Fletcher, Jean McGarvey, Brian McCourt, Jonathan Knipe and Michael Carson.

MONTHS MIND

We pray for: Fr Tommy McNulty (18th), Liam Boylan (24th), Frank Delaney (25th) and Eamon Clarke (25th)



The Friends of St Patrick's Cathedral Fundraising Campaign continues. If you can help, please contact Fr Barry or Caroline in the Parish Office.

Safeguarding Today is Safeguarding Sunday. We thank our Parish Safeguarding team for their exceptional work in ensuring that the Diocesan Policies and Procedures are fully adhered to.

Parking on Parish Grounds We ask parishioners and visitors to exercise care while coming and going and when parking. We ask that care is taken to avoid parking in areas designated for disabled persons and use only marked car parking spaces. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Cemetery Notice We remind Parishioners that due to anti-social behaviour, benches are not permitted in St Patrick's Cemetery without prior permission and in the lawn grave sections no surrounds are permitted and graves must be seeded for grass. We thank you for your continued cooperation as we all seek to honour our beloved dead and ensure the cemetery is a sacred place for all. May they rest in God's gentle peace.

Peace Candle At the beginning of the year we placed a Peace Candle in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in St. Patrick's Cathedral. The candle burns perpetually for peace in our world. We encourage you to visit the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and offer a prayer for peace during these troubled times.

Adoration Please consider spending an hour with the Lord each week. Our Eucharistic Adoration takes place each day in St Malachy's Church from after Mass (8:30am weekdays) until evening (7pm weekdays - 5pm weekend). Please sign the attendance sheet in the Church and encourage family and friends to engage with this special apostolate. We especially need adorers for the morning hours 9am to 11am.



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 by scanning this QR Code. This promises to be a wonderful moment here in the Cathedral.

Lenten Programme 2024

Tuesday's - Armagh Holy Spirit Prayer Group invite you to Journey with the Holy Spirit at 7:30pm in St Malachy's Church. This week: "Salvation" with Bishop Michael Router

Wednesday's - Lectio Divina at 3pm in St Vincent de Paul Centre, Chapel Lane.

Stations of the Cross led by the Legion of Mary at 7pm in St. Malachy's Church (before Mass)

Friday's - Devotions- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet & Stations of Cross at 3pm in St Patrick's Cathedral

Lent is a special time of preparation and as a community we have many opportunities to journey together in prayer. All are welcome to join.

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.



Youth Parish Pastoral Council Any young adult aged between 18 and 28 who would be interested in joining a new initiative aimed at encouraging youth participation are asked to contact Fr Barry or leave their name in the parish office. As a parish we aim to engage more fully with our young parishioners and feel that they themselves need to lead the process. We intend to establish a Youth Pastoral Council where they will propose and deliver a programme to their peers.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults welcome new members to our weekly meetings. RCIA is for people who have not been Baptised or have not received the Sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation. We also welcome Catholics who have been away from the Church and wish to learn about their Faith. We meet every Tuesday at 7.30pm in St Catherine's Irish Secondary School. For more information: 07856 172206

Anam Cara Armagh the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wed 28th February at 7:15pm in 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.

Right to Life Support the amendment to reduced the Government's abortion law. Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and please post it to your MP in support of this amendment.

World Day of Prayer 2024 "I beg you, bear with one another in love" - a service for everyone will be held in St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral on Friday 1st March at 8pm. All welcome!

Dominican Contemplative Sisters, Drogheda Vocation Discernment Weekend in the Monastery of St. Catherine of Siena, Drogheda, Co. Louth. A92KR84, 6th - 18th Feb. For young, single women 18-35. Contact: Sr. Mairead O.P. at : sienavoc@gmail.com.

Trócaire Boxes are now available at the back of all our Churches. This year Trócaire's Lenten campaign focuses on the country of Malawi, Africa. Malawi is one of the least developed countries in the world and has been badly affected by climate change. In the Machinga district, for example, families must make a one-hour trip up to five times a day to collect water. Please support Trócaire in helping communities develop sustainable access to clean, safe and reliable water supplies by taking home a Trócaire box today or going to: www.trocaire.org.

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
 Body of Christ, save me.
 Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
 Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
 Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
 O good Jesus, hear me.
 Within Thy wounds, hide me.
 Suffer me not to be separated from Thee.
 From the malicious enemy, defend me.
 In the hour of my death, call me, and bid me come unto Thee,
 that with Thy Saints I may praise Thee, forever and ever.
 Amen.

At Three O'Clock

At three o'clock each afternoon, I say a special prayer,
 That God will keep my dear ones in his ever loving care.
 Because at three o'clock he died, one Friday long ago.
 And there were those who did not weep and those who did not know.
 I pray for relatives and friends who now have passed away,
 And all who are silent echoes of a distant yesterday.
 It may be Sunday, Monday, or the last day of the week,
 As I petition God to give the favour that I seek.
 But every day at three o'clock I say that special prayer,
 That he will keep my dear ones in his ever loving care.
 Amen.