

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Armagh

www.armaghparish.net



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

Monday - Friday: 7am
Mon, Wed & Fri: 7:30pm
Tues & Thurs: Prayer Service - 7:30pm
Sunday: 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: 07596 899 031

- **Fr Barry Matthews, Adm**
E: barrymatthews@gmail.com
- **Fr Emmanuel Fasakin, MSP, CC**
E: emmafash725@yahoo.com
- **Fr David Nugent, CC**
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- **Fr James Adawai, SMMM, CC**
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- **Deacon Paul Mallon,**
E: paul.mallon@tudublin.ie
- **Deacon Eunan McCreesh,**
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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: 07895 460 797
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,

Lent is difficult - for many of us the idea of a difficult lenten observance causes us a level of fear, will I be able for this? what if I break my lent? what if temptation gets too much?

Maybe you have given up something, maybe you have taken up doing something good, like a particular kindness to others or attending Mass daily, I am so very encouraged to see so many families attending daily Mass esp. at 7am.

Today is Laetare Sunday, a day where the Church pauses the penitential lent and 'rejoices' for even during lent we are a hopeful people, a people who are joyful because God is with us.

Today is also Mother's day - we thank God for the gift of our Mother's. Often it is Mothers who pass on the faith to us, they are often the centre of our homes. Today we give thanks for our Mothers and we pray for them, whether they are near to us or in God's arms in heaven.

Maybe tomorrow is an opportunity to begin something for lent, its never too late to join with Jesus on the Journey to a new Easter remembering God is more merciful than we can ever imagine. Reach out to Jesus in these days and unite the crosses you bear with his - like Simon of Syrene become his companion as He is always yours. Finally today - treat yourself, you deserve it!

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

Priest's Dues—£8,015 & €105.60

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for: Gay Fox, Kathleen Hyde, Ann McKenna, Roseann Quinn, Pat Speer, Pat Coney, Evelyn Loughlin and Paul O'Callaghan.

MONTHS MIND

We pray for: Michael Carson (10th), Jean McGarvey (10th) and Martin Johnston (13th).

May they rest in peace.



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

A special word of thanks to the "Cathedral Ambassadors" who have been visiting Parishes in the Diocese as part of our Fundraising Campaign. Our fundraising is going slowly currently but hopefully we will be able to start work on the Cathedral Steps later in the Spring. Work has recently been done on several damaged stained glass and storm glass panels as well as the installation of new TV screens. We thank all those who have contributed to date.

Parish Outreach—During the first weeks of Lent the Parish Pastoral Council have reached out to local charities in your name - donations have been made to the Stepping Stones Food Bank on Barrack Street and the Armagh Outreach Soup Kitchen on Market Street as well as the Society of St Vincent de Paul and the Missionaries of Charity. This outreach is an important aspect of our Parish Community reaching those on the margins and showing our care and support. Well done to all involved in this important work.

Weekly Envelopes We are currently preparing the weekly envelope distribution list. Anyone who has moved house or who would like to receive envelopes for the first time are asked to leave your details with Claire in the Parish office. We thank all those who continue to contribute in this way - your contribution makes a real difference.

Envelope Distributors We are currently seeking envelope distributors for the following areas:

- Daires Willows, Willowbank, Graveyard Lane
- Killuney Drive, Drumadd Green
- Ballyrath Road, Baltarran Rd
- Edward St—Railway Street
- Nursery Rd & Callanbridge Park

If you can help, please contact Claire in the Parish Office.

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 & encourage family and friends to engage with this special apostolate. We especially need adorers from 9am to 11am.

St Patrick's Festival Details of our St Patrick's Mass schedule are available online. There will be a 10am Mass in Tullysaran on St Patrick's Day Morning.

Triduum of Prayer Join us for a Triduum of Prayer in honour of St. Patrick at the 10am Mass on Friday 15th & Saturday 16th, concluding at the 11am Mass on Sunday 17th March

Lourdes Fun Bingo—Sunday 24th March 3pm Pearse Og's Club

St Patrick's Festival Bishop Donal McKeown & Bishop Patricia Storey will lead the 'Armagh Cathedral's Partnership' St Patrick's Event in the Marketplace Theatre on Tues 12th March at 7:30pm. Tickets are free but must be booked through the Market Place Theatre in advance. All are welcome

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: "Baptism in the Spirit" with Fr Gerry Campbell

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. 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 Tues at 7.30pm in St Catherine's Irish Secondary School. For more info 07856 172206

Tour Guide Volunteers We are currently seeking to increase our tour guide volunteer numbers - we currently have a group of tour guides however due to the expected increase in tours this summer we are in need of a few additional volunteers. Anyone interested in this are asked to leave your name in the parish office.

1000 Hours of Adoration for Vocations Archbishop Eamon has asked that Parishes in the Archdiocese of Armagh and Diocese of Dromore engage in 1000 hours of prayers through the intercession of Blessed Carlo Acutis. Our Parish will hold 12 hours of Prayer on Friday next March 8th in the Cathedral to pray for vocations - all are welcome to attend this special day of prayer and retreat which will begin at 8am Mass and end with Night Prayer and Benediction at 8pm.

St Joseph's Young Priest Society the next meeting of St. Joseph's Young Priests Society takes place on Wednesday 13th March in St Vincent de Paul Centre, Chapel Lane immediately following 7.30pm Mass in St. Malachy's Church. All are welcome to join us in praying for much needed Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life.