

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Armagh

www.armaghparish.net



Mass Times

St Patrick's Cathedral

Monday - Saturday: 10am

Sunday Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 11am, 12.30pm & 5.30pm

St Malachy's Church

Tuesday - Friday: 8am

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**
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- **Fr Emmanuel Fasakin, MSP, CC**
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- **Fr David Nugent, CC**
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- **Deacon Paul Mallon,**
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- **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
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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,

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the importance of pruning in order to become more fruitful. As a keen gardener, I understand the concept but am always aware of the need to be cautious and careful too. 'Not too much, but enough' was a keen saying of my late mother - meaning you must be careful not to damage the plant/tree while at the same time making the job worthwhile.

In our lives there are aspects which need pruning, maybe relationships which are unhealthy and not life giving - these may be relationships with people but may also be attachments to material things. Finding balance is so important in life - the concept of 'not too much, but enough' holds fast to the notion that we are on a journey so don't try to achieve everything overnight - gardeners know that often after pruning a fruit tree won't produce fruit the next year but when it produces again it is with an abundance that makes the wait worthwhile.

Friends, we are called to become the best examples of humanity, we are called to become saints but we can not do this without God's help and we must be willing to rely on God to aid our pruning - to fill us with courage and hope. Jesus used examples from the world around Him, to teach the disciples how to live, we too can learn so much from the created world around us if we take time to open our hearts to Jesus' words.

These days, many of our children are preparing for First Holy Communion, in their excitement and energy they know that their courage, strength and nourishment comes from the Eucharist and their relationship with Jesus, sometimes I think we all need a childlike sense of God's power. We pray for our families who are preparing for Sacraments and we pray for each other.

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.

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.

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 Collection

£5621 & €136.36

Education of Priests Collection

£3181 & €73.67

Trocaire Lenten Collection

£11,114.78 & €355.21

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for: Caroline Hackett, Colm Conlon, Hugh McCusker, Eamon Donnelly, Neil Johnston, Roma Maguire and Michael Haughey

MONTHS MIND

We pray for: Jeanene Kelly (28th) and Owen McAfee (3rd)

May they rest in peace.



Coming up! Next Wednesday is May 1st, the Feast of St Joseph the Worker. Mass times as normal. Friday is the First Friday of the month, the sick will be visited and confessions will be held on Thursday at 12noon. The First Friday holy hour takes place after the 7:30pm Mass in St Malachy's on Friday evening. Our First Saturday Mass in St Malachy's takes place at 9am - all are welcome and invited.

St Patrick's Cathedral Rosary Group invite you to join them in reciting the Holy Rosary each morning (Monday- Saturday) before 10am Holy Mass, beginning at 9.30am from Wednesday 1st May. Those unable to attend can listen online. All welcome.

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 Envelopes Some Parish Envelopes remain available for collection from the Parish Office. Thank you to everyone who helps with the distribution each year. If you haven't received your envelopes and would like to do so, please contact the Parish Office.

School's Singing Programme Liturgy takes place at 11:30am on Thursday May 2nd in St Patrick's Cathedral. All associated schools will be seated in the centre aisles and there will be a collection at the end towards the support of the programme. All are most welcome to attend this beautiful celebration of children singing.

Sacraments We congratulate the children who have received their First Holy Communion and pray for those families preparing for the Sacraments during these days. The next Do This in Memory Mass takes place on Saturday May 4th at 6:30pm.

Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Sunday 26th May. A bus will leave the main Cathedral Gates on the day at 7.30am. Price £20. Please bring a packed lunch. Booking at Armagh Parish Office.

Legion of Mary are inviting new members to join our Junior (7-11yo's) and Intermediate (12- 17yo's) groups on Mondays 6-7.30pm in SVP Centre, 1-5 Chapel Lane, Armagh. We pray the Rosary, learn more about our Faith, make new friends and become more involved in Church life. More Information can be found on the Parish website.

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

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.



St Joseph's Young Priests Society are planning to visit Redemptoris Mater Seminary, Dundalk at 2pm on Wed 1st May, the Feast Day of St Joseph the Worker. The Seminary was established in 2012 to form Priests for the Archdiocese of Armagh. Seven Priests have been ordained from this Seminary to date. There are currently 17 Seminarians in formation in the Seminary. This is an opportunity to

see and support the work in the Seminary and to meet the Seminarians. As the Seminary has asked to be advised of the number of persons wishing to go along beforehand, please contact 07752409636 for further information.

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.



Dates for your diary! Sr Mary Roe rscj will be leading a Lectio Divina Prayer on the Words of Our Lady on Wednesday 8th May at 3pm in the St. Vincent de Paul Centre, Chapel Lane. On Wednesday 6th June, there will also be a talk on the History of Devotion to the Sacred Heart at 3pm in the St. Vincent Paul Centre, Chapel Lane. All welcome.

St Malachy's Church Toilets Due to anti-social behaviour taking place, the toilets in St Malachy's will be closed during the day until further notice. Apologies for the inconvenience caused.

Cemetery Sunday 2024

St. Colmcille's Church - 9th June after 10am Mass

Church of the Immaculate Conception:

Old Graveyard - 14th June at 7:30pm

New Graveyard - 15th June after 7:30pm Mass

St Patrick's Cemetery - 30th June at 12noon.

Apostolic Work would like to thank all those who attended our Spring Sale on Saturday 20th April. We are forever grateful for your continuing donations and generosity which enables us to provide much needed funding to missionaries throughout the world. A special word of thanks also goes to Mrs McLaughlin & staff of Mount St Catherine's Primary School & to those who helped us make the day a brilliant success. Raffle winners were: J. Nugent, E. McAvinchey, B Nugent, C Hicks, M Kelly, K Hart, R McLaughlin, G McAvinchey, P Smith, M Kearney, K Hughes, G Haffey, M Hicks, E McCourt, U Mallon, H Murphy.

Legion of Mary will be gathering at Our Lady's Shrine at Dalton Road during the Month of May on Monday evenings at 8.10pm (after 7.30pm Mass in St Malachy's) to pray the Rosary. All are invited to join us.

Prayer to St Joseph the Worker

St. Joseph, by the work of your hands and the sweat of your brow, you supported Jesus and Mary, and had the Son of God as your fellow worker. Teach me to work as you did, with patience and perseverance, for God and for those whom God has given me to support.

Teach me to see in my fellow workers the Christ who desires to be in them, that I may always be charitable and forbearing towards all.

Grant me to look upon work with the eyes of faith, so that I shall recognize in it my share in God's own creative activity and in Christ's work of our redemption, and so take pride in it.

When it is pleasant and productive, remind me to give thanks to God for it. And when it is burdensome, teach me to offer it to God, in reparation for my sins and the sins of the world.

O good father St. Joseph! I beg you, by all your sufferings, sorrows and joys, to obtain for me my special intentions.

Obtain for all those who have asked my prayers, everything that is useful to them in the plan of God. Be near to me in my last moments that I may eternally sing the praises of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.