

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

Baptisms: 5:3

Church of the Immaculate Conception

Sunday: 10am

St Colmcille's Church

Saturday: 6pm

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: barrynmatthews@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: 07895 460 797
armaghparishsafeguarding@gmail.com

Sacristans: Roger Duggan, Gary McGuirk & Kieran Kelly

St Patrick's Cathedral: 028 3752 2638

St Malachy's Church: 028 3751 0516

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

SVP Helpline: 07733 482604

Dear Friends,

'Stay Awake' this is the message of Hope that the First Sunday of Advent offers us - our hope comes from the Lord who is close to us.

Advent is a wonderful opportunity to renew our relationship with the Lord - each of the Sundays we focus on a gift of faith (Hope, Peace, Joy, Love) while at the same time the readings throughout the season focus us on God's plan for His chosen people. As the Advent wreath is illuminated so too are our hearts as we focus on the moment that changed how we live and indeed how we die - we focus not only on that moment of Jesus' birth but we also focus on the moment when we will meet Him on judgement day mindful always of God's mercy and compassion.

We celebrate Advent this year renewed with the message of Hope which the upcoming Jubilee fills us with. We are reminded that we are pilgrims of hope on the journey through life. Advent is a moment of hope as we reflect on the light of the newborn Child Jesus' who was hope personified. This advent as we all go about our preparations let us not forget the reason for this great season - Jesus Christ. This is a moment to renew and develop our relationship with the Lord and also to encourage those around us in the ways of faith.

There are many ways which we can encourage others during advent - one such way is to give the gift of faith this year - maybe a nativity set to someone without one - maybe simply a Mass Bouquet or card with a crib scene to remind others of the reason for the celebrations. One way which I enter the season each year is by reading the Gospel of Luke (24 Chapters), if you begin reading a chapter on the 1st December you will have a Gospel completed by Christmas Eve, this is a lovely idea for individuals and families alike, let's do it as a faith community...

Wishing you a blessed week,
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 or 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 lovely variety of cards and gifts for special occasions, including traditional Irish crafts and gifts and souvenir booklets on the Cathedral. We are now stocking a large selection of Christmas Cribs, gift items and Christmas Mass Bouquets. Beautiful Christmas Prayer Guild Cards are now in stock - ideal for sending abroad. Give the gift of Faith this Christmas. Christmas Mass Bouquets are available in the Sacristy of St Malachy's Church



St Patrick's Prayer Guild Mass Bouquets and Mass Cards are 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 contact details 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 - £5151 & €171.71

Cathedral Maintenance & Repairs - £3861.00 & €43.21

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for: Malachy Lennon, Ann Darling, John Haughey, Lill Treanor, Ilga Denava, Ursula Corvan, and Martin O'Neill.



MONTHS MIND

We pray for: Joseph Carlisle (5th), Dolore McGleenan (7th) and Paul Kelly (7th)

Mass Time Changes

As part of our wider consultation on Mass times within the Parish the following changes will be effective from the 1st weekend of Advent - November 30th / December 1st

• St Colmcille's Church, Knockaconey - Mass will be every Saturday evening at 6pm (Baptisms at 5pm)

• Tullysaran - Mass will be every Sunday morning at 10am (Baptisms 10:45am).

These changes will be effective on a trial basis from Advent to Easter and will be reviewed then.

Family Mass All are welcome to join our Family Mass on Sunday 8th December - the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Tullysaran at 10am.

Advent Reflections On each of the four Sundays of Advent you are invited to join in St Malachy's Church at 7pm for an hour of Adoration and prayer reflecting on the figures in the nativity - the crib. This is a lovely opportunity to reflect on how you too can be part of the nativity story in our world today.

Christmas Food Hampers Together with our social outreach partners, the Parish is continuing to prepare food hampers for Christmas to those who may need them. Anyone interested in donating are asked to leave items from the following list to be included in the hampers. Tea / Coffee, Sugar, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Beans/ Peas, Cereal / Porridge, Tins of Sweets, Tinned Custard/ Rice, Biscuits. These items can be left in the sacristies or at the Parish Office.

Thanks to all who have contributed towards our parish food appeal to date, we are continuing to collect items up until Sunday December 15th and will distribute through our outreach partners from that date. This is a wonderful initiative and one that is based on the Gospel value of sharing what we have to make a more equal society. Your contribution will make an important difference.

The Fundraising Campaign The campaign to raise much needed funds for the renovation of the Cathedral is ongoing - thanks to all those who have supported us to date. Anyone who is in a position to support the fundraising please contact Fr Barry. Maybe it is an opportunity to remember a loved one who has died by making a gift in their name.



Christmas Draw Tickets are £10 each or 3 for £20 and the 1st prize is £5,000. Tickets are available in the Parish Office, Parish Shop, the Sacristies of the Churches and from ticket sellers. Anyone interested in selling tickets please contact Caroline in the Parish Office.

Christmas Crib Exhibition There is a special tradition in Rome of exhibiting Cribs in Churches. The Parish Pastoral Council are inviting anyone with a 'spare' Crib to donate it to the Parish where we can display it in the Synod Hall during the Christmas Season. All cribs are welcome but especially cribs from other countries and any interesting ones will be of particular interest. The idea is that families would visit the display of cribs in the Synod Hall over Christmas however we don't want anyone to be left without a crib so only consider donating a spare one!

Christmas at the Cathedral 2024 This years artists are Malachi Cush, Karl McGuckin, Eilish Fox and St Catherines College Choir. Tickets are available on Ticketsource for Thursday 12th December. We look forward to a special evening to prepare for the Season of Christmas.



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 & friends to engage with this special apostolate. Adoration from 7-10pm each Tuesday in the Adoration Chapel.

Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group welcome you to join us at the Synod Hall on Tuesday evenings from 8-9.30pm to experience spiritual growth and community. Rosary at 7.45pm. The last Tuesday of every month there will be Adoration & Prayer Ministry. All welcome.

Life in the Spirit Seminars will take place on Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th December from 9:30am-4:30pm in the Synod Hall of St Patrick's Cathedral. All welcome.

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.



Week of Prayer for Vocations The Vocations commission of the Archdiocese of Armagh have organised a week of prayer to promote Vocations to the Priesthood from December 1st to 8th. Please keep this intention close to your heart and central to your prayer during this time.

Divine Mercy Monthly Mass All are welcome for the first Thursday Divine Mercy Mass at the Church of St Colmcille, Knockaconey. Confessions starts at 7pm with Rosary/Mass at 7.30pm. It is surely a wonderful time to commit our families and ourselves to the mercy of God.

Christmas Book Willie Nugent's new Christmas book "Maisie Comes to the Rescue" is now on sale in a number of local shops including the Cathedral Gift Shop. See local press and Armagh I for details. Entire proceeds for charity.

Found Holy Medal found in Irish St outside St Malachy's Church. If you think it might be yours, please contact the Parish Office.

Lectio Divina Sr Mary Roe will lead Lectio Divina in preparation for Christmas in the SVP Centre on Wednesday 4th Dec, 11th Dec and 18th Dec at 2:30pm. All welcome!

Monthly Rosary On the first Saturday of each month, we will have a rosary at the grotto at St. Malachy's Church to pray for peace in the world and for the protection of life from conception to natural death. Please join us at 3pm. The first rosary is on Saturday 7th November. All welcome.

Legion of Mary The Legion of Mary invite their Auxiliary members and friends to refreshments in the Synod Hall after 10am Mass on Saturday 14th of December.

Prayer for the Advent Wreath

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people. He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us. He is the Saviour of us all. O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light the first candle of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this in His holy name. Amen.

