



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

Sunday: 10am

St Colmcille's Church

Saturday: 6pm

Confessions in St Malachy's Church on Saturdays @ 12 noon.

St Patrick's Cathedral: 028 3752 2638
St Malachy's Church: 028 3751 0516

Sacristans: Roger Duggan, Gary McGuirk & Jimmy McKee

Parish Contacts

Parochial House: 028 3752 2802

Emergency Phone: 07596 899 031

- **Fr Barry Matthews, Adm**
E: barrymatthews@gmail.com
- **Fr David Nugent, CC**
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- **Fr James Adawai, SMMM, CC**
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- **Deacon Paul Mallon**
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- **Deacon Eunan McCreesh**
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- **Deacon Gabriel Neal**
E: gabrielneal366@gmail.com

Parish Office

Cathedral Gate Lodge, 41a Cathedral Rd.
Tel: 028 3752 2813
Opening Hours: Mon - Fri: 10am-3pm

- **Caroline Caherty, Finance Manager**
armaghparishfinance@gmail.com
- **Claire Corr, Parish Secretary**
armaghparishoffice@gmail.com
- **Thecla Brolly & Moneena Delaney**
Parish Safeguarding Reps
armaghparishsafeguarding@gmail.com

Baptisms & Weddings

To book a baptism or wedding, please contact the Parish Office.

www.armaghparish.net

SVP Helpline: 07733 482604

Dear Friends,

I find it striking that the theme of light features so centrally in the readings at Mass this weekend, especially when there is so much darkness around us. The nights are long and daylight feels short, but it is not only the season that weighs on us. When we turn on the television, scroll through our phones, open a newspaper, or even speak with friends and family, we are confronted with darkness — scandal, sadness, war, and the rhetoric of division. All of this can wear us down. It can leave a sense of emptiness that is hard to put into words. I think many people are feeling this at present.

And so today, perhaps we are being invited to step back and recognise the true light in our midst — a light that cannot be extinguished. The light of Jesus: our guiding light, the light of our hearts, even when the world tries to place Him “under a tub,” when His message of hope is hidden by agendas that seek to silence it.

At the beginning of this new year, I suggested that as a parish we would place a renewed focus on encouraging young people and families to attend and to re-engage with their faith where it may have lapsed. I spoke about the importance of being a community that is open, welcoming, and intentional in inviting younger families into a lived experience of faith — helping them to deepen their understanding of God's presence in their lives.

Many young families are hesitant to bring children to Mass, worried that they might make noise or distract others. Let me reassure you: the sound of children in a church is not a disruption, but a blessing. It is a sign that the Church is alive. Families enliven our community, and we are reminded of the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

Last Sunday, I spoke about my Granny Matthews — a woman of courage and deep faith. In difficult circumstances, she nurtured her family in faith while providing for them and supporting others in her community. For me, she was an example of St Brigid in action. Her life reminds us that we, too, have a role to play in encouraging others on their faith journey, especially young adults and families.

We know the many pressures young people face today — material and temporal, but also emotional and spiritual. Let us not ignore the reality of the darkness, but instead, as a community, strive to bring light into it. And the greatest light we can offer is the unconditional love of Jesus.

With every blessing, 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.

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 £6161.63 & €114.92

Bishop's Conference £2085 & €12

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for: Josephine McAleavey, Eamon Rafferty, Deirdre Toner, Angela Golding, Mary Duffy, James Toal, Sinead Convery and Stephen Smith.

MONTHS MIND

We pray this week for: Mattie Lennon, Jacek Januszewski and Berry O'Doherty

May they rest in peace

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.



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.



Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group Life in the Spirit Seminars will take place in the Synod Hall of St Patrick's Cathedral at 7:30pm-9pm on Tuesday evenings from 10th February - 24th March. Week 1- God's Love with Colin McGurnaghan. All welcome.

St Patrick's Cathedral Pilgrimage to Fatima Leaving 8th Oct for 7 nights. £895 per person sharing. Direct flights from Dublin, full board and full religious programme. For more info and to book your place, please contact Joe Walsh Tours 0808 1890468.

Weekly Parish Envelopes We are currently ordering next year's envelopes and take this opportunity to encourage anyone who supports the Parish financially to please consider using an envelope or a Standing Order. Using either of these methods enables us to claim 'Gift Aid' a government scheme which allows us to claim 25p extra for every £1 donate. Please see the website <https://www.armaghparish.net/parish-envelopes/> for more information. Special thanks to all who support the Parish financially in any way - your contributions assist us to make a difference in the community and working together we can do much more.

Archdiocese of Armagh Congress on Youth, Family & Faith will take place in Armagh City Hotel 20th-22nd March. This is an important opportunity for us as a faith community to consider how we can encourage greater participation by our young adults and families. Please keep the congress in your prayers during these weeks of preparation. Here in our Parish we will include a special prayer each Monday evening at the Novena in honour of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal to pray for the success of the congress.

Altar Servers Any P5/P6 children who would be interested in becoming an Altar Server in either the Cathedral or St Malachy's Church are asked to leave your contact details in the Parish Office. We will begin a training programme for our servers over the next few weeks.

Parish Ministries Anyone interested in becoming involved in a Ministry in the Parish are invited to contact the Parish office or any of the Priests/Deacons. Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Stewards and Collectors, Collection Counters, Altar Society, Choirs, Tour Guides, Cathedral Shop. New volunteers are always required to ensure that our Parish remains vibrant and life giving. A special word of thanks to all those who already give of their time so generously. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful team reaching out to the community - please consider joining the team - you won't regret it!

Lenten Lectio Divina There will be Lectio Divina on the Lenten Sunday Gospels after 10am Mass on Thurs 19th Feb, 26th Feb, 5th March, 12th March, 19th March and 26th March in the Parochial Hall. All welcome to attend any or all of the gatherings.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje 7th -14th May 2026. £590 per person sharing. For info & booking contact Kevin: 07732220632

Songs of Peace The opening Concert of the 2026 St Patrick's Festival, Armagh featuring St Patrick's Cathedral Choir, Jubilus Choir and guests will take place on Sunday 8th March at 7pm in St Patrick's Cathedral. Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased by scanning the QR Code. Please do come along and support this special evening.



St Patrick's Cathedral Choir have recently launched their new CD which is available in the Cathedral Shop. A special gift for yourself or someone who might enjoy listening to the sacred sounds of the Cathedral from the comfort of their homes.

LEAP We thank the LEAP - Young Adult Group who have recently worked with the support of MAMO contracts in preparing the Parochial Hall grounds for our planned Marian Garden more details to follow.

Holy Communion to the Sick & Housebound We are aware that many people who are sick/housebound wish to receive Holy Communion regularly. We encourage family members who are regular Mass attendees to purchase a pyx in the Cathedral Shop and to speak with any of the Priests/Deacons about bringing Holy Communion to their loved one weekly. Priests and Deacons visit the sick monthly. If you wish to add a name to our list please contact the Parish Office.

Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes Wednesday is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes. Mass with the Anointing of the Sick will take place on Saturday 14th February at 10am in St Patrick's Cathedral. All are welcome. We especially unite with those who are sick and housebound in our parish. We encourage parishioners to bring the weekly bulletin to family members and neighbours who may be housebound.

Prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes

Oh ever immaculate Virgin, Mother of Mercy, Health of the Sick, Refuge of Sinners, Comfortress of the Afflicted, you know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings. Look upon me with mercy. When you appeared in the grotto of Lourdes, you made it a privileged sanctuary where you dispense your favours, and where many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and corporal. I come, therefore, with unbounded confidence to implore your maternal intercession. My loving Mother, obtain my request. I will try to imitate your virtues so that I may one day share your company and bless you in eternity. Amen.

