

MASSES

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm

Sunday 9.30am 11.00am, 12.30pm

Weekdays Mon. Wed. Friday **10.00am**,

Tuesday & Thursday **7.15pm**

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

every Tuesday 10.30am-7.15pm

CONFESSIONS

Friday: 10.30am

Saturday 5.30pm-6.00pm

Tuesday and Thursday :before or

after evening Mass

BAPTISM COURSES

1st & 3rd Thurs of the month 8pm

BAPTISMS: 1st and 3rd Saturday

of the month at 7.00pm

MARRIAGES Three months notice

Parochial House 71267070

Email:office@holyfamily-parish.com

Web www.holyfamily-parish.com

Parish Sisters 71260398

Holy Family School 71267798

St. Eithne's School 71377077

PARISH GROUPS

11am Choir practices Tuesday at

7.45 . New members welcome

Scripture Group Thurs 7.45pm

New members always welcome!

A.A. Fridays and Sundays at 8.00pm

in Upper Room.

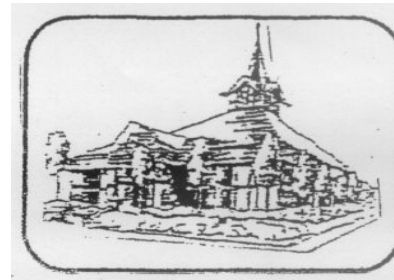
THE BIRD OF HOPE

Hope is the thing with feathers.
That perches in the soul
And sings the tune without words
And never stops at all.
And sweetest in the gale is heard
And sore must be the storm
That could abash the little bird
That kept so many warm.
I've heard it in the chilliest land,
And on the strangest sea
Yet, never in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.

(Emily Dickinson)

AN INSPIRED CHRISTMAS

GIFT Trocaire is again offering Christmas Global Gift Plan - a memorable collection of practical and life changing Christmas gifts which will be delivered directly to hard pressed families in the developing world. . This year you can buy a selection of enduring gifts - like goats, chickens, water, school fees, homes and other gifts in a friend's or relative's name These gifts are available at Veritas, Shipquay Street or www.trocaire.org or pick up a leaflet in the church for information.



HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Sun 8th Dec. 2019 Vol. 37 No 51

BE A SIGNPOST

How is your Advent going?
We're a week in already. Less than three weeks to Christmas and so much still to be done!
Where to start?

If we have time to listen, there are some pointers in our readings today. Following the example of John the Baptist, our Advent task is to 'prepare a way for the Lord'. Of course in these busy weeks we have shopping to do, presents to buy, parties and festive gatherings to organize; these are important parts of our Christmas celebrations. But how are we preparing to meet Jesus this Christmas? Can we create space amid the hustle and bustle? And not just in our own personal lives—we are also called to be witnesses, to be the people who 'cry in the wilderness', announcing the Good News to others. We must be signposts, our words and actions pointing towards Christ. Our task this Advent is to make Jesus known . In our dealings with others as we count down to Christmas, let us try to be like John the Baptist, pointing always to Christ.



SYMPATHY We offer our sympathy to the family of John Gibson Springvale Park who died during the week. May he rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARIES

Maud Gallagher, Patricia Noble
Sean O'Gallshobhair, Artie Barr
Michael Anderson, Bridie Brown,
Marian McGuinness, John Bradley
John Davis

SUNDAY COLLECTION 1st Dec.
£1954.88 and €78.84 Standing Orders
£375

JOHN PAUL 11 AWARD There will be a meeting for those participating in the award on Monday 16th December at 7pm in the Committee Room. Please bring along record cards.

PARISH CAROL SERVICE will take place next Sunday 15th December at 6.00pm We invite the children onxce again to bring unwrapped gifts for the poor which will be distributed by St. Vincent De Paul Society.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NATAVITY PLAY will take place in the Church on Wednesday at 7.30pm All welcome

HOLY HOUR FOR AN INCREASE IN VOCATIONS: Fr Pat O'Hagan PP Merville will lead a Holy Hour to pray for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood and

Religious Life on Thursday 12th December beginning with Mass at 7:30pm in St. Eugene's Cathedral. All welcome.

THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL will be taking up their annual Christmas collection this weekend at all Masses The Society have moved their offices from 22 Bridge Street to Ozanam Centre, 4 Elagh Business Park, Buncrana Road. The phone number for anyone looking for help or for a collection remains the same 71265489.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE The Diocese in conjunction with Youthlink NI is offering an exciting training opportunity for young people aged 16-18 interested in Youth Work and Leadership Training. If you are interested contact Yvonne Rooney the Diocesan Pastoral Youth Leader 71264087

yvonne.rooney@derrydiocese.org

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR ADULTS The Diocese is also offering a training course for adults interested in Parish Pastoral Ministry. This course will be a Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice and it will run over 5 Saturdays and a few evenings beginning on Wednesday 4th March 6pm-9pm in Maghera Pastoral Centre. If you are interested, please contact Yvonne Rooney for details or an application

form yvonne.rooney@derrydiocese.org 71264087

ST. EUGENE'S SCOUT GROUP is looking for Scout shirts. If you have one and are willing to give it please contact Celine group leader on 71263800 or 07784553769

Thornhill Ministries, 121 Culmore Road, . Advent: , 11 & 18 Dec

Reflection Mornings (9:30 am to 12:00 pm) Includes Mass & lunch.

Meditation Hour 6:30 -7:00pm

Décor Workshops: Tues 10 (7:30 pm) (Christmas Wreath) /Thu 19 Dec (7:30 pm) (Table Centrepiece). For more info Please Contact 7135 233

Derry Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Medjugorje 28th July: We are inviting young people aged 16-18 to join us on pilgrimage to Medjugorje for 7 nights from 28th July-4th August. Cost is £599 and there will be a budget plan to help with this. Names and deposit of £100 are due by 20th of December. For more information or to book in please contact lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org

BHCP Senior Christmas Lunch (Free Event) Friday 13th December 12 -2pm Ballymagroarty Community Centre 3 Course Christmas Lunch with entertainment from local choirs

THE OUTER WEST FAMILY support Hub at the Dunluce Family Centre, is collecting for their Christmas Hamper appeal. There is a

HOLY FAMILY PILGRIMAGES 2020
MEDJUGORE 31st May - 7th June
LOURDES 3rd-8th July
Tel Margaret 07732468511 for details
Savings Thurs: 8-9pm in

box at side door of the Church and we would be grateful for donations.

NEW SCHOOL OF MUSIC Would you like to learn a new instrument or continue learning an instrument There are some places available for lessons in Guitar, Clarinet, Flute and Violin at 1 St. Columb's Court Bishop St. £15 per lesson (30mins). If interested Tel School of Music 07366602407

ST MARYS COLLEGE 60th Anniversary Gala Concert Wednesday 11th Dec/ at 7pm Tickets on sale now Child £2 Adult £4

FOYLE YARNSPINNERS will meet tomorrow Monday at 7.30pm in Verbal Arts Centre Bishop Street. Guest speaker this month is James McEldowney who has won the Bard of Armagh Competition twice

SAFEGUARDING Any concerns in regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church contact: Noel O'Donnell, Diocesan Pastoral Centre,, 71362475, mobile 07596500793 or Celine McKenna, Diocesan Pastoral Centre,