

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.

A REED IN THE WIND

John the Baptist was no reed swaying in the wind.

A reed swaying in the wind is a symbol of those who are easily influenced, who go along with whatever is popular and who have no convictions of their own.

But the humble reed can teach us something.

The fact that it is light means that it is at the mercy of every wind that blows.

But it has great strength too.

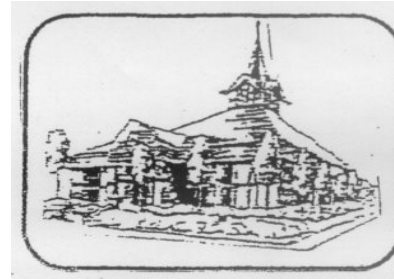
The greatest storm cannot uproot it.

Even when the giant oaks come crashing down, the slender reed still stands secure.

Lord, teach us that there is strength in weakness and suppleness, and give us the wisdom to know when to bend and when to stand firm.

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 15th Dec. 2019 Vol. 37 No 52

REJOICE!

Nothing gives greater joy to the human heart than knowing you are at peace with God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On this 'Gaudete'(Joyful) Sunday you will have such an opportunity when you are invited to stay after Mass and experience the change of heart of this healing sacrament. As I will explain you will be invited to come forward in a line and say '*I am sorry for my sins. I will try to ...*' Then pick one or more of the suggestions you will see on the large chart in front of you or here below. For example ,

'I will try to....'

Be more patient and kind; Be more pure;

Seek out the lonely; Let go of a grudge

Do more penance; To stop blaming others;

Use words of thanks and praise;

To listen more than I talk; to seek forgiveness;

Be more generous and helpful;

Go to Mass and say my prayers;

Bring more joy into our home; Stop cursing and lying;

Be grateful for my blessings;

To try to be a better person;

Then I will give each penitent individual absolution.

The traditional form of Confession will also be available on Monday 23rd December at 7.15pm.

SYMPATHY We offer our sympathy to the family of Patsy Bradley, The Branch who died during the week. May he rest in peace.

BAPTISMS

Our parish family welcomes:
Jake Paul McConnellogue
Racecourse Park

ANNIVERSARIES

John & Ethna McColgan, John King
Sadie Harley, Kathleen Doherty,
Daniel O'Kane, Sr. Winifred Kiernan
Andy Nolan, Mary McLaughlin
Eugene McLaughlin, Robert Lewis

SUNDAY COLLECTION 8th Dec.
£1992.12 and €91.08 Standing Orders
£375

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

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

MASS FOR THE SICK in Termonbacca on Tuesday 17th December, at 7.30 p.m.

ADVENT EVENING VIGIL (Confessions, Adoration and Mass) in

Termonbacca on Wednesday 18th December, at 7.30 p.m.

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 interested please contact Yvonne Rooney for details 71264087 or an application form yvonne.rooney@derrydiocese.org

Thornhill Ministries, Culmore Road
Tue 17 Dec Advent Retreat: 'With Mary we Ponder the Mystery' (9:30 am to 1:00 pm) Fr Paschal leads this time of spiritual nourishment as we prepare to celebrate the Christmas Miracle. Day includes Mass and light lunch. Booking essential. Suggested Offering £20.

Wed 18 Dec Reflection Morning (9:30 am to 12:00 pm) Includes Mass and light lunch / **Meditation Hour**

(6:30 pm to 7:00 pm).

Thu 19 Dec Décor Workshop (7:30 pm): Create a Table Centrepiece. Suggested Offering £30. For more info Contact 7135 233
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

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

THE OUTER WEST FAMILY support Hub at the Dunluce Family Centre, is collecting for their Christmas Hamper appeal. There is a box at side door of the Church and we would be grateful for donations.

MEMORIES OF THE LONG TOWER AND BRANDYWELL: A Collection of old cine film which has been transferred to DVD, taken from 1950's onward. The pack contains a double DVD with approx. 2hr 30mins of footage and contains many clips of Derry in the 50's up to 1980's. Much of the footage was filmed in the Brandywell area and the

HOLY FAMILY PILGRIMAGES 2020 MEDJUGORE

30th May –6th June
Cost £589 Deposit £100

LOURDES 3rd-8th July
Cost £699 Deposit £200

Tel Margaret 07732468511
for details

Savings Thurs: 8-9pm in

Long Tower School. The DVD costs £10.00 It is available from St Columba Heritage Centre, Long Tower Parochial House, McLaughlin's- William Street & Photochute- Strand Road, All proceeds to the upkeep of St Columba Heritage Centre.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS: Is gambling affecting your life? Perhaps we can help. Tel: 028 7135 1329.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: Can't stop? There *is* a solution. Tel AA 90351222
email csoofaa@btinternet.com. Web site: www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie

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, 71362475, mobile 07707311358 PSNI (101) or Social Services: Gateway Team 71314090,