

MASSES

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm
Sunday 9.30am 11.00am, 12.30pm
Weekdays Mon Wed Friday
10.00am, Monday Tuesday Thurs-
day **7.15pm**

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
every Tuesday 10.30am-7.15pm

CONFESSIONS

Friday 10.30am –11.00am
Saturday evenings 5.30pm-6.00pm
Weekdays Tuesdays and Thursdays
after evening Mass

BAPTISM COURSES

1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month
at 8pm
BAPTISMS: Every Saturday 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

Thurs 7.45pm Scripture Group
New members always welcome!

Just a week left to bring your Christmas preparations to completion. Gifts bought and wrapped. Food preparation. Stocking up for the quiet days later of slumping before the T.V. The inertia and peace so welcome after these busy days of frantic confusion—but also days of thoughtfulness and love. Hoping everything will be just right. But plans can go wrong as they did for Mary. Accusations of infidelity and pleadings of innocence were not part of them nor birth in a cold bare stable. But God only wants a little room, a heart prepared to trust, just that little bit in the unknown, the unplanned, the unexpected, for God is Emmanuel –'God always with us.' Look out for Him in the gaps and empty spaces !



HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Sun 17th Dec 2017 Vol.34 No 52

Dear Parishioners,

There is good news and more good news!

Firstly I have been offered help with the Sunday Masses! Accordingly, we will be able to retain our three Sunday Masses for the foreseeable future. I have been saying four Masses each weekend and could not continue to do so indefinitely. Fr. McIntyre, Fr. McLaughlin, and Fr. Burke—all retired- have kindly accepted my invitation to come and assist. I also invited the Grey Friars to join them . I am still awaiting their reply. Thank you for your prayers on this pressing pastoral issue.

Secondly, I have secured funding to start a parish charity called 'A Warm Heart/h'. If you (or someone you know) are living in the cold because you can't afford to heat your home please get in touch with me directly or through our two St.. Vincent De Paul Conferences. I have become aware of this problem for some time. No one should have to choose between 'heat or eat'.

Thirdly, Congratulations to Holy Family School on their excellent Christmas Nativity Service on Thursday night in the Church. Superb!

SYMPATHY We offer our sympathy to the families of Paula Doherty Conor's Court, and Bill Gardiner Glenbank Rd who died during the week. May they rest in peace

OUR PARISH NOVENA concludes tomorrow (**Monday**) at the 7.15pm Mass as usual..

ANNIVERSARIES

John & Ethan McColgan,
Sarah Blakely, Robert Lewis
Patrick Hargan, Packie Gillespie
Mary & Jack Coyle Danny O'Kane
Marjorie Taggart, Patrick Noble,
Andy Nolan

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

6.00pm Eve Donnelly

11.00am Sean Harkin

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

6.00pm Caodhan Carlin Morrin
& family

12.30pm Kyra McGill & family

SUNDAY COLLECTION 3rd Dec
£2025.89 and €124.27

PARISH CAROL SERVICE will take place today Sunday 17th December at 6.00pm We invite the children to bring unwrapped gifts for the poor which will be distributed by St. Vincent De Paul Society.

MASS FOR THE SICK takes place in Termonbacca on Tuesday 19th December, at 7.30 p.m.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE

St.. Mary's Creggan Tuesday 19th Dec after 7.30pm Mass

St. Eugene's Cathedral
Saturday 11.00am - 5.30pm
Christmas Eve 2pm– 5pm.

ADVENT EVENING VIGIL

(*Adoration, Confessions and Mass*) takes place in Termonbacca, on Wednesday 20th Dec at 7.30 p.m.

FOLLOW THE STAR" to the Celtic Garden Christmas Trail at the IOSAS Centre, Muff. . Sat 9th – Sun 10thDec; Fri 15th – Sun 17th Dec and Wed 20th Dec at 4pm, 5:30pm and 7pm. Call 00353) 74 9384866

ADVENT TALKS AT COLUMBA HOUSE

The Columba Community invites you to a series of Thursday Advent Talks at Columba House, Queen Street. Mass at 7.30pm. each evening Call Columba House on 71 262407.

TROCAIRE "In love there is no room for fear, but perfect love drives out fear..." *John 4:18*. Trócaire's Christmas Appeal, 'Until Love Conquers Fear', is raising money to support people all over the developing world who face fear every day of their lives – like the fear of not being able to feed their children or the fear of having to flee their homes because of conflict. To find out more about the appeal visit www.trocaire.org

I AM CONCERT in St Columbs Hall today Sunday 17th December, 'I AM PRESENT'. Tickets £10. Available at Veritas or online ticketsource.co.uk/iam

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. These gifts are available at Veritas, Shipquay Street or www.trocaire.org. This year you can buy a selection of enduring gifts - like goats, chickens, school fees and other gifts in a friend's or relative's name.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Sunday - Christmas Eve Vigil Masses 6.00pm 7.30pm & 9.00pm.

Monday Christmas Day
9.30am, 11.00am and 12.30pm.

Because of the large crowds we experienced in the past at the 6.00pm Vigil Mass we have added another vigil Mass for reasons of health and safety. Please come to any of the five other Christmas Masses if you wish to be more comfortable. Extra stewards will be needed at all Masses. Please leave your name and telephone number and Mass choice in the sacristy

DIVINE MERY PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND

22-27th May 2018.

Flying Belfast—Krakow
Cost £718 (hold baggage extra)
Savings scheme Thursday nights 8-9pm at Holy Family Parochial House Deposit £100
Spiritual director Fr O'Kane
Tel.71267070 or 07732468511

CHILDREN IN CROSSFIRE

Ethical Gift Cards a present for the future this Christmas are now on sale at www.childrenincrossfire.org and also at Veritas on Shipquay Street

BEGINNER ONLINE IRISH LESSONS

Want to learn Irish but don't have the time to go to classes? Why not learn online from the comfort of your own home or out and about? For more info contact Mrs Larkin on 07488268208 or email fountoflearning@gmail.com

FREE TRAINING COURSE for CARERS

of people with Dementia will be held in Strabane and Derry this month: call 07484507178.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS

Can't stop gambling—need help? Tel 71351329

AA Can't Stop Drinking?

Call Alcoholics Anonymous 90351222
Two meetings weekly in immediate area Meetings daily within Derry area