

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: 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

Thurs 7.45pm Scripture Group

New members always welcome!

Illusions

Emmanuel long awaited
King / Messiah anticipated
Royal robes, neatly sewn
A crown, a ring, a golden throne.

Then a baby's cry caused such
confusion
Shattered notions and illusions
For in a stable, cold and bare
He took his first lungful of air.
She fed him with her milk so sweet
And then she heard the running feet
Of shepherds hurrying from the hills
Called by angels while time stood
still.

Wise men later from afar
Led by light of that bright star.
He grew in wisdom, he spoke of love
And of his Father in heaven above.
He shared his joy and his flesh to eat.
A king who washed his servants' feet.
He laughed, he cried and he cries
again
For his is the cry of this world in pain.

'Surprising One' in endless disguise
Concealed in hearts of those despised,
Or those we condemn and criticise.
'O give us sight, Lord, give us eyes
And like those Wise Men, make us
wise.'

[fr patrick o kane]

We wish you all a happy and holy Christmas.

SYMPATHY We offer our sympathy to the families of Mary McLaughlin Hatmore park, Mary Hegarty Marianus Park and Laura Devine Sheelin park who died during the week. May they rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARIES

Eugene McDevitt Annie Beattie,
Roy Beattie, Nellie Brady
May Garnon, Jim & Elaine Kerry
Greta Ward, Patrick O’Kane
Margaret McCrystal, Gibson Family,
Green Family,
Hugh & Elizabeth Toland

A word from Fr. O’Kane

Just to remind you that my friend Roma Downey is sponsoring a new parish charity I have formed called ‘*A Warm Hearth, a Warm Heart*’. If you know of someone in the parish who has to choose between eating and heating please contact me or our St.. Vincent De Paul parish conferences. No one should be hungry or cold in this parish if we are to live up to our name of being a parish family. We have a beautiful new calendar for every home—larger than last year- to remind you of Mass times and other important parish events through the year. Also a family prayer card in this Year of the Family.

A Last Look

Before we say goodbye to this season of ‘mirth and good will’ let me recall with you some amusing incidents from the past such as the story told to me by a father who had a glimpse at his son’s letter to Santa .

‘Dear Santa, I have been good all year, most of the time’ [a good start!] *I would like an X Box If your elves can’t make one, you can find one on Amazon’!*

Then there was our open crib incident: I saw a young boy creep into the crib; he shook hand with Jesus and before he left took a ride on the donkey’s back!

During a Nativity Play: the boy acting the role of the inn- keeper had a soft heart. When Joseph asked for lodgings for the night he took pity on him and Mary. He said ‘*Come on in.*’ However, the boy playing Joseph saved the plot. After a good look around inside he said ‘*Mary this place is a ‘kip’- we would be better off in that stable ‘*

Happy Christmas!
Fr. Paddy

SUNDAY COLLECTION 17th Dec
£2025.89 and €109.95

CHRISTMAS BOX collection for Fr O Kane will be taken up at all Masses at Christmas

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Today 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

WEEKDAY MASSES are as normal Tuesday 7.15pm Wed,10am Thur 7.15 and Fri 10am.

THE ANNUAL GOAL MILE WALK takes place in Derry on St Stephen's Day, Tuesday, December 26 Starting Sainsbury's carpark at 12 noon, walkers will go across the Peace Bridge to Ebrington Square and back again to Sainsbury's. Just turn up on the day – with a handful of loose change to throw in the collection bucket

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

Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Workshops

January 12/13th February 16/17th
March 9/10th April 13/14th
May 11/12th June 8/9th
Booking online at
www.accordni.com

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS
Cant stop gambling—need help?
Tel 71351329

AA Can’t Stop Drinking? Call Alcoholics Anonymus 90351222
Two meetings weekly in immediate area Meetings daily within Derry area

Grey Friars

Unfortunately the grey friars are not able to accept my invitation to help in this parish as they say they are already committed to the Three Patrons.