OUR LADY OF MONTLIGEON PRAYER GROUP- praying for all the souls in Purgatory meets in Termonbacca, on the last Wednesday each month at 12:30pm. Also in St Joseph's Church Galliagh every Monday after 11am Mass.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD: Have you been hurt by abortion? Tel Michelle 07871765181.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS: Is gambling affecting your life? We would like to help. Pick up the phone and ring 028 7135 1329.

Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Workshops September 25th/26th November 20th/21st 2026 These courses are now online for booking at www.accordni.com

'Embrace the Grace' Young Adult Catholic Conference - 29 August 2026 - Legion of Mary: 'Embrace the Grace' is a conference on faith and culture for young adults (18-40) with talks, prayer, Mass, confession, workshops, food and social in the historic Legion of Mary headquarters at De Montfort House, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7. It will be a chance to build faith in friendship with young adults from across the country. This event takes place on Saturday 30 August from 9.30am to 6.00pm with a social afterwards. Tickets cost €20 and can be booked on the eventbrite website by looking up 'Embrace the Grace'. Any queries can be directed towards deusetpatria@gmail.com.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND: Marriage Encounter Ireland invites married couples to a residential Weekend from Friday 2 to Sunday 4 October 2026 at the Focolare Centre, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare. Step away from daily distractions to deepen your communication, renew your love, and rediscover the joy of your marriage. Visit www.marriageencounter.ie

SAFEGUARDING Any concerns with regard to the Safeguarding of children and Vulnerable Adults within the Church please contact Marie O'Kane, the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) on +447596500793 or email: dlp@derrydiocese.org

Northern Ireland emergency services PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 028 7131 4090 (and ask for the Duty Social Worker) Gateway Services, Northern HSC Trust 028 9442 4459 Regional Emergency Social Work Services 0800 1979 99

PRIVACY NOTICE The Diocese of Derry complies with GDPR regulations. A privacy notice is available on the Parish Website Live stream and recordings of Mass and Services in Holy Family Church are available on line. Parishioners should note that the first 2 rows of seats are visible on line.

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH



Sun 16th August Vol. 44 No 33

MASSES
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm
Sunday 9.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm
Mon ,Wed ,Fri, Sat 10.00am Tues and Thurs 7.15pm

CONFESSIONS
Saturdays from 10.30am-11.30am & 5.15pm-5.50pm
Tues ,Thurs 6.45pm – 7.10pm
Divine Mercy 3pm Monday– Friday

BAPTISMS
Saturday at 4.30pm

MARRIAGES
Three months notice and marriage preparation necessary

PAROCHIAL HOUSE
71267070
1 Aileach Road Ballymagroarty BT48 0AZ
Email:office@holyfamily-parish.com
Website: www. holyfamily-parish.com
Webcam: Click on website and follow the links
Parish Office 9.45am-1.45pm Mon– Fri

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Gormley
Curate Fr Kevin Mulhern

EVEN A CRUMB OF MERCY IS ENOUGH

Matthew 15:21–28 tells of the Canaanite woman who begs Jesus to heal her daughter. At first, Jesus seems silent and distant. Even the disciples want her sent away. Yet she refuses to leave. Her prayer is simple and urgent: "Lord, help me."

When Jesus speaks about the children's bread not being thrown to the house-dogs, she answers with remarkable humility and trust: "Even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table." She does not insist that she deserves anything. She simply believes that even the smallest crumb of God's mercy is enough to transform her daughter's life.

Jesus responds: "Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted." This Gospel teaches us that God's silence is not necessarily God's absence. Sometimes prayer appears unanswered, but faith continues to call upon him. The woman moves through silence, apparent rejection and humiliation without surrendering her trust.

She also crosses every boundary: she is a woman, a foreigner and an outsider. Yet Jesus reveals that faith—not race, status or belonging—opens the heart to God's saving mercy.

A prayer for the week

"Lord, help me. Even a crumb of your mercy is enough."

SYMPATHY We offer our sympathy to the family of Jim McGarigle, Donal Casey Court who died during the week. May he rest in peace

BAPTISMS Our Parish family welcomes: Caoili O'Neill , Barleyfields Ahlora-Dia Monica O'Donnell, Barr's Lane

ANNIVERSARIES We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time Mickey Gill, Charlie Lynch, Jackie Coyle, Mona Leonard, Mickey Quigley, Kieran Doherty, Esther McElhinney, Edward Callaghan, Jim McLaughlin.

SUNDAY COLLECTION 9th August £2131.16 Standing Orders £400 and €200.23 Thank you for your generosity

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD That the men called to priesthood will "...have a care for justice [and] act with integrity..." as they preach the message of God's salvation for everyone, the Good News that the Church is "...a house of prayer for all the peoples

LEGION OF MARY meets on Wednesday evenings at 5.45pm. Anyone willing to do Our Lady's work is asked to call Patricia on 02871417867

ROSARY ON THE COAST. Rosary on the Coast will be at 3pm today Sunday at Benone We will pray for unborn children. Tel 077303 30028

THE NATIONAL NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF KNOCK takes place at Knock Shrine from Thursday 13 to Friday 21 August 2026. Novena ceremonies will be celebrated daily at 3.00pm and 8.00pm, with workshops and guided prayer sessions also taking place throughout the nine days. This year's theme is **"Sheltered in God's Love.** See the full programme at: https://www.knockshrine.ie/national-novena-2026-guest-speakers-and-programme/

JOB OPPORTUNITY, DERRY DIOCESAN TRUST: Administrative & Financial Officer (18 hours per week), Waterside Parish, Parochial House, 32 Chapel Road, Derry. Rate of pay: £12.88 per hr - £13.50 per hr. For application packs please email: recruitment@derrydiocese.org or tel 028 7126 2302. Completed applications must be returned to Personnel, Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, or via email to recruitment@derrydiocese.org no later than 12 noon Monday 24 August

ST JOSEPH MEN'S CAMINO *Every Camino changes us in ways we don't expect, every man needs one.* Join men from across Ireland on **Saturday 12th September** for a 25km pilgrimage through the Boyne Valley, beginning in Drogheda. The day includes Mass, Adoration, Rosary, Confessions, fraternity, lunch and dinner, with after-dinner speaker **Fr. Mark Quinn**. Open to men aged 18+. Cost: €65 (student € 55). Registration, accomodation and details: www.dominicans.ie/events. Enquiries: op.evangelisation@gmail.com.

ANAM CARA Bereavement Information Evening especially dedicated to supporting surviving siblings Tuesday 15 September at 7pm.
As part of our commitment to supporting everyone following the death of a child, we are exploring opportunities to further support the entire family. This event is the first, hopefully of many, of that commitment. This event is open to all parents whose child or children have died, regardless of the age of their child, circumstances of their death, or time since bereavement. We are also opening this Bereavement Information Evening to bereaved adult siblings over 18.

ST JOSEPH'S BOYS SCHOOL YEAR GROUP INDUCTION DAYS
8.40am—12noon Year 12 and 14 Monday 24th August
Years 9, 10, 11—Wednesday 26th Year 8 and 13 Friday 28th Aug.
All classes will attend Tuesday 1st September