



# Holy Family Parish

*A praying, caring community centred in Christ*

A member of the North Belfast Pastoral Community: comprising the parishes of Holy Cross, Holy Family, Sacred Heart, St Patrick's & St Vincent de Paul

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

4 December 2022

Readings: A (I) ❖ Psalter: Week 2



### MASS TIMES

#### SUNDAY

Holy Family Church:  
6.00pm Vigil & 10.30am

St Thérèse of Lisieux Church:  
9.00am & 12noon

#### WEEKDAYS

Holy Family Church:  
9.15am Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

St Thérèse of Lisieux Church:  
10.00am Thursday, Friday & Saturday

### RECONCILIATION

Holy Family Church:  
Saturday 5.15pm-5.45pm

St Thérèse of Lisieux Church:  
Saturday after 10am Mass

### BAPTISMS

(Prior booking via Parish Office)

Holy Family: Saturdays at 4pm

St Thérèse: Sundays at 1pm

### DEVOTIONS

**Eucharistic Adoration:**  
Daily 10am-10pm (St Thérèse)

**Pilgrim Prayer:**  
Tuesday 8pm on Parish website & Facebook

**First Saturday:**  
10am (Holy Family)

**Taizé Prayer:**  
last Friday of the month  
8-9pm (Holy Family)

### ADVENT RESOURCES

To help us journey through the season of Advent this year, we invite you to consult the resources available on our parish website:

**A Digital Advent Calendar 2022:** An interactive digital Advent Calendar hosted by the Catholic Bishops' Conference. See [www.catholicbishops.ie/adventcalendar](http://www.catholicbishops.ie/adventcalendar).

**A prayer resource booklet** entitled "Advent at Home" is also available on the Latest News section of our parish website and Facebook page.

**THE SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS**

**HISTORY**

The Germans believed that the world was held in the branches of a tree called "god Odin." Each winter solstice, they worshipped the tree by decorating it with torches.

**CHRISTIAN ORIGINS**

It is said that St. Boniface knocked down the tree and planted a pine, symbol of God's everlasting love. He decorated it with apples (sin) and candles (the light of Christ).

**THE CHRISTMAS TREE**

**EXPANSION**

This tradition spread throughout Europe in the Middle Ages and, with the conquests and migration, arrived to America. Gradually, this tradition evolved.

**NOWADAYS**

Apples were replaced by spheres and the candles by lights, which represent the joy and light that Jesus brought to the world.

INFORMATION FROM CATHOLIC.NET

### SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Wed. 7<sup>th</sup> Dec: St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor  
 Thu. 8<sup>th</sup> Dec: Immaculate Conception of the BVM (Solemnity)  
 Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> Dec: Our Lady of Loreto (Optional Memorial)

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

### WEEKLY OFFERING

The weekly offering on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November came to £1,547.12. Thank you for your contribution.

### PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Today, Sunday 4th December at 2:30pm in the Parish Centre, Cavehill Road.** Stalls will include the rickety wheel, cakes, handmade crafts, children's crafts and face painting and, not forgetting, the Grand Draw. Sincere thanks to parishioners and some local businesses for their generous donations.

### BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

This year we will continue the tradition, of families bringing along the figurine of the Baby Jesus to be blessed at Mass on the 3rd Sunday of Advent (next Sunday, 11th). We invite you to take it home, wrapped and placed under the Christmas tree. On Christmas morning the 'Bambinello' is to be unwrapped and placed in the crib, connecting the Nativity set at home, and the Church where we worship each week.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL APPEAL

Many thanks to parishioners for your continued support. The Annual Christmas Appeal will be launched this weekend, with a special collection next weekend. If you require assistance, please telephone SVP Regional Office on 02890351561.

### JOB VACANCIES

**Newington Day Centre:** Finance Officer, 18 hours p.w. 02890351947 or [info@newingtondaycentre.org.uk](mailto:info@newingtondaycentre.org.uk)

**The Dominican Sisters:** Care Assistants (daytime, fully qualified). 02890370008 or send CV along with cover letter to [caitronaionahouse@gmail.com](mailto:caitronaionahouse@gmail.com)

### ANAM CARA BELFAST

Anam Cara Belfast monthly Parent Evening on Monday 12th December at 7:30pm in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Belfast. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents. Contact on 028 95213120.

### TRÓCAIRE FUNDRAISING UPDATE

In the coming weeks and months, a Trócaire team may call to your home, inviting monthly donations. Fundraising reps will be wearing Trócaire blue branded jackets or tabards, and will carry an I.D. badge. Contact: [louise.walker@trocaire.org](mailto:louise.walker@trocaire.org) or Tel: 0035315053225

### QUB CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY CAROLS

Sunday 11th December at 5pm, in aid of the Holy Family Maternity Hospital in Bethlehem. Followed by festive refreshments.

For more information and resources:  
[www.holy-familyparish.com](http://www.holy-familyparish.com)

### LISBREEN APOSTOLIC

..would like to thank the parishioners for their generous contribution to the fundraiser coffee morning last week. We raised an amazing £1,870 for the missions.

### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT AT BLESSED TRINITY

On Tuesday 13th December at 7pm in Somerton Road site Assembly Hall, 7pm-8pm. All are welcome.

### OPEN DAYS

For prospective P1 parents:- in Holy Family PS on Friday 09th December, 10am-11am & in St. Thérèse of Lisieux PS on Thursday Dec 15th at 10am. Open day for prospective Holy Family Nursery Unit parents on Tuesday 13th, 10am—11am.

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (8th DECEMBER)

HOLY FAMILY  
 Thursday @ 9:15am  
 ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX  
 Wednesday Vigil @ 7:00pm  
 Thursday @ 10:00am



### REST IN PEACE

**Recently deceased:** Niall McCullough (March) & Brendan Woods  
**Month's Mind:** Robert Webb, Teresa Duffy & Gerry Magee  
**Anniversaries:** Michael Higgins (10th), Ellen Holbrook (1st), Eilish & Kevin McKeating, Nuala Steele, Ellen Hannon & Martin Lorimer

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!*

### MASS INTENTIONS

Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Priest's Intention</i>
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup> :	Nuala Steele
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Priest's intention</i>
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> (7pm):	Martin Lorimer
Thu 8 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Priest's intention</i>
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Priest's intention</i>
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> (10am):	Joe D'Arcy (25th)
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> (6pm):	Stanley O'Kane (1st)
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> (9am):	Brendan Crummey RIP
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> (10.30am):	Patrick & Eilis White
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> (noon):	Daniel McCaughey

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Parish Clergy:** Very Rev. Michael Spence PP, Rev. Robert Sloan CC & Rev. Deacon Brendan Dowd

**Parish Telephone (Office hours):** 90743119  
**Office hours:** Mon-Thu 9.30am-2.30pm, Fri 9.30am-1.30pm  
**Address:** 226-228 Limestone Road, Belfast BT15 3AP

**Tel. Emergency Sick Calls only (24hrs):** 07802458240

**Email:** [holyfamily@downandconnor.org](mailto:holyfamily@downandconnor.org)  
**Website:** [www.holy-familyparish.com](http://www.holy-familyparish.com)  
**Webcam:** available on Parish website homepage