



# 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

## MASS SCHEDULE

### SUNDAYS

Holy Family Church: 6pm Vigil & 10.30am

St Thérèse of Lisieux Church: 9am & 12noon

### WEEKDAYS

Holy Family Church: 9.15am Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

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

## SACRAMENT OF 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 Church: Saturdays at 4pm

St Thérèse of Lisieux Church: Sundays at 1pm

## DEVOTIONS

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

**Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help:** Wed 9:15am Mass

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

**Rosary:** 20mins before Mass Wednesday & Saturday

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

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

## SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Mon 4: St MacNissi, Feast  
Fri 8: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feast  
Sat 9: St Ciaran, Abbot

*"Through her [Mary] birth, the nature inherited from our first parents is changed."*

- St Augustine (354-430)



## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Parish Clergy:** Very Rev. Michael Spence PP, Rev. John O'Lavery 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

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

**Society of St Vincent de Paul (Helpline):** 028 90351561

**Email:** holyfamily@downandconnor.org

**Website & Webcam:** www.holy-familyparish.com

## 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

3 September 2023 ❖ Readings: A (I) ❖ Psalter: Week 2

### MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS FOR THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

1st September 2023

Dear brothers and sisters,

"Let Justice and Peace Flow" is the theme of this year's ecumenical Season of Creation, inspired by the words of the prophet Amos: "Let justice flow on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream" (5:24).

The evocative image used by Amos speaks to us of what God desires. God wants justice to reign; it is as essential to our life as God's children made in his likeness as water is essential for our physical survival. This justice must flow forth wherever it is needed, neither remaining hidden deep beneath the ground nor vanishing like water that evaporates before it can bring sustenance. God wants everyone to strive to be just in every situation, to live according to his laws and thus to enable life to flourish. When we "seek first the kingdom of God" (Mt 6:33), maintaining a right relationship with God, humanity and nature, then justice and peace can flow like a never-failing stream of pure water, nourishing humanity and all creatures.

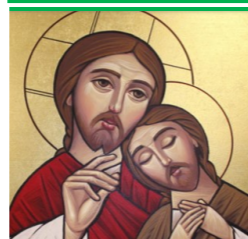
On a beautiful summer day in July 2022, during my pilgrimage to Canada, I reflected on this on the shores of Lac Ste. Anne in Alberta. That lake has been a place of pilgrimage for many generations of indigenous people. Surrounded by the beating of drums, I thought: "How many hearts have come here with anxious longing, weighed down by life's burdens, and found by these waters consolation and strength to carry on! Here, immersed in creation, we can also sense another beating: the maternal heartbeat of the earth. Just as the hearts of babies in the womb beat in harmony with those of their mothers, so in order to grow as people, we need to harmonize our own rhythms of life with those of creation, which gives us life".

During this Season of Creation, let us dwell on those heartbeats: our own and those of our mothers and grandmothers, the heartbeat of creation and the heartbeat of God. Today they do not beat in harmony; they are not harmonized in justice and peace. Too many of our brothers and sisters are prevented from drinking from that mighty river. Let us heed our call to stand with the victims of environmental and climate injustice, and to put an end to the senseless war against creation.

(See LATEST NEWS section in Parish website for full text of Pope Francis' Message)



## SEASON OF CREATION



## Beloved Disciples

### Spirituality for the Autumn of Life

A 4 week course for the over 60s, exploring and celebrating the gifts that older people bring to our Church community. Over a cup of tea/coffee there will be opportunities for talking and listening, and sharing what our faith means to us. Wednesday 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th September at 10.15am in Holy Family Church. Please contact the Parish Office to book your place.

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

**WEEKLY OFFERING.** The weekly collection on Sunday 27 August amounted to £2,822.63. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

**PARISH 100 CLUB.** Week 32 winners: Mr & Mrs Carlin, Oliver Morris, Pat Monaghan, Oonagh Murdock & Sheila Gallagher (Promoter).

**BREAKFAST AT ST. THÉRÈSE.** Following the Family Fun Day in Holy Family Church at the end of June, we are serving a breakfast treat after Mass, for those at the 9am & Noon Masses in St Thérèse Church, on Sunday 10th September.

**WE'RE BACK! WEDNESDAY MORNING TEAS** recommence on Wednesday 06th September, after the 9.15am Mass in Holy Family Church. We are looking forward to seeing everyone.

**UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE.** 8 weeks online, starts Mon 18th Sept. Contact livingchurch@downandconnor.org or tel: 02890690920.

**BEGINNING EXPERIENCE.** The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Beginning Experience offers a programme of bereavement support in St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Ave. on 30th Sept, 28th Oct & 25th Nov. Booking essential. Contact Marie on 07896119669 or email belfastbe@yahoo.com.

**LAY DOMINICANS.** Meet Iona House, 28 Fortwilliam Pk at 3pm today (Sun).

## BEST WISHES TO ALL THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AS THEY START BACK TO SCHOOL THIS WEEK.

### PRAYER FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Gracious God, as the summer begins to fade, new possibilities lie on the horizon. Bless all of those who are beginning or returning to their roles as teachers as well as those who lead and support students by their efforts. May this school year be a time of grace and potential as they teach, share, and challenge others to grow in faith, knowledge and wisdom. Bless the children and youth, along with their parents, as they begin a new school year. May their minds be open to learning and to the wonder of discovery and insight. Be with us as we embark on this new school year. Amen.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 2 (6pm): Molly Martin  
Sun 3 (9am): Clare & Terry McGuinness  
Sun 3 (10.30am): Eileen McGuinness  
Sun 3 (12Noon): Joanne Morgan  
Mon 4: Priest's Intention  
Tue 5: Priest's Intention  
Wed 6: James Madden (1st)  
Thu 7: Bernadette Gillen  
Fri 8: John Falls (40th)  
Sat 9 (10am): Amanda Crawford & Richard Millar



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

## REST IN PEACE



**Recently deceased:** Bernard Keenan, Tom Downey & Sheila McKay  
**Anniversaries:** Molly Martin, Eileen McGuinness, Margaret & Martin Hill, Clare & Terry McGuinness, Joanne Morgan, James Madden (1st), Bernadette Gillen, John Falls (40th), James Richard Hann, Patricia O'Hare, Sally Heffernan, Brendan Rice and James Henry & Sarah Quinn

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!*