



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 6: All Saints of Ireland, Feast
Thu 9: Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, Feast
Fri 10: St Leo the Great, Pope, Doctor
Sat 11: St Martin of Tours, Bishop



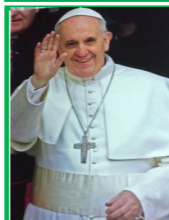
"Virtue is nothing without the trial of temptation, for there is no conflict without an enemy, no victory without strife."
- Pope St Leo the Great (400-461)

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

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

5 November 2023 ❖ Readings: A (I) ❖ Psalter: Week 3



POPE FRANCIS, ON THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

Pope Francis spoke about the call to holiness, and how it is both a gift from God, and a journey to be made together with our brothers and sisters and all the Saints, who are companions along the way. The Pope explained how the gift of holiness has come with our baptism, and we need to nurture it, so that it can grow and transform our lives. The Saints started out like us, the Pope pointed out, receiving the same gift we have received, and they are our friends who are very close to us, accompanying us on our journey.

"We have certainly encountered some saints in our daily lives", the Pope remarked, "a just person who lives out the Christian vocation with commitment and simplicity, people he likes to call "the saints next door." The Pope emphasized how the Saints are "our elder brothers and sisters, on whom we can always count," as they can help us when we make mistakes and get on the right path again, like "sincere friends, whom we can trust because they desire our wellbeing." "Their lives and witness in faith provide us with inspiration" the Pope said, and "in their prayers, we receive help".

In conclusion, the Pope encouraged everyone to know more about the lives of the Saints and learn from them how to face their own challenges in life. The Saints are close to us, we can turn to them in prayer, in communion with them in our gratitude to God for all. He has given us and the eternal happiness.

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

We are all challenged by Pope Francis, clergy and lay alike, to set out as missionary disciples with 'Hearts on fire, feet on the move' (Lk 24:13-35). Bishop Donal McKeown, Apostolic Administrator, has chosen today to write to all the faithful of the Diocese with a further missionary challenge for each one of us to step up to – to actively participate in the renewal of the Church in Down and Connor. He calls on us to be "voices of hope" for the Church and for the generations of faithful to come.



On Friday we celebrated the Feast of St Malachy with a Day of Prayer for the Mission of the Church in Down and Connor, and began a time of prayer, sharing, listening, and discernment. We ask you to respond to Bishop McKeown's call, and get involved in the conversations about the future of your parish, that will take place in the weeks ahead. We want you to share your hopes, your aspirations, and your concerns. We want you to think about what the suggested Families of Parishes that have been shared with you today means for your parish, and what it means for you personally. What role could and will you play as part of your Family of Parishes?

A meeting on Pathways to the Future will be held on **Monday 27 November in the St James Pastoral Centre, Shore Road, Whiteabbey at 7pm.** To register, please contact the parish office on 90743119 or at holy-familyparish.com. This is your opportunity to join the conversation about the future of our Church in Down and Connor and to be a voice of hope for the future.

The full Pastoral Letter from Bishop Donal can be viewed in the Latest News section of our website. Summary copies, as well as the list of Families of Parishes, are available in each church. The Pathways launch booklet is also available on the website, and hard copies can be obtained at the parish office.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR (in aid of parish funds) on Sunday 26 November @ 2.30pm in the Parish Centre, Cavehill Road. **A limited number of ballots are still available. Please leave, asap, your ballot stubs and money in the wall safe inside either church, or in the collection, or with the parish office. Please return any unwanted ballots to the parish office asap. We would be grateful for donations:- toys new & used, bottles (shampoo to champagne), Christmas goodies for hampers, cakes and any unwanted gifts.** Please leave donations into the parish office, or phone the office to arrange collection. Sincere thanks for your support.



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

WEEKLY OFFERING. The weekly collection on Sunday 29 October amounted to £2,365.552. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. Donations can also be made by standing order, or via the Donate button on the website. In addition, contactless donation terminals are in operation in both churches.

PARISH 100 CLUB. Week 41 winners: Siobhán McQuaid, Tony Killough, Gerry McMahon, Mr & Mrs McParland & Dolly Eaton (Promoter).

VOLUNTEER AT HOSPICE. Looking to enhance your CV and make a positive impact on your community? Apply at nihospice.org or phone 90781836.

KNITTING HATS AND SCARVES FOR THE HOMELESS. Fr Stephen, Sr Oonagh, and the women in Hydebank undertaking this project, would be grateful for spare balls of wool. Please drop any wool you can donate into the parish office.

KNIT & CHAT at Cavehill Coffee, 683 Antrim Road 10am – 12noon on Tuesdays. If interested, please contact 90770576. All welcome.

NOVEMBER, MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November is a time for remembering and praying for our loved ones who have gone before us. It is a time when we are particularly conscious of those in our parish who are grieving and all those families who have lost loved ones in the past year. We time to pause and reflect on the hope God can bring to our lives, especially during times of bereavement.

NOVEMBER DEAD LISTS. Are still available in both churches, to be returned to the wall safe in either Church, or to the parish office.

MEMORIAM CARDS. You are invited to place memoriam cards on the special notice boards in both churches, and to pray for all who have gone before us into eternal life.

ANNUAL MASS FOR THE DECEASED AND BEREAVED. Will be celebrated in Holy Family Church on Tuesday 21 & Wednesday 22 November at 7.30pm. Those families and friends who have lost a loved one during the past year are especially welcome.

PIONEER PLEDGE FOR THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS. Further information on 01 80-5 4226 or via www.pioneers.ie

CELEBRATION OF MASS FOR THE DECEASED TEACHERS OF DOWN AND CONNOR. Thursday 23rd November at 7.30pm in Good Shepherd Church, Ormeau Rd. Please forward the deceased's name and school to dctrusteeservice@downandconnor.org. The Mass can also be viewed online at www.holyrosaryparishbelfast.net.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 4 (6pm): Philomena McDonnell MM
Sun 5 (9am): Emmanuel McElkerney
Sun 5 (10.30am): Sheila Reid
Sun 5 (12Noon): Marie Cooper
Mon 6: Gerry Magee (1st)
Tue 7: Dead lists
Wed 8: Betty Paul & Reena Joseph
Thu 9: Dead lists
Fri 10: Eithne Brady
Sat 11 (10am): Carol McCartan



For more information and resources:
www.holy-familyparish.com

REST IN PEACE



Recently deceased: Patsy Barry, Juliana Doyle, Gerard Bradley & John Smyth
Month's Mind: Philomena McDonnell
Anniversaries: Eilish & Kevin McKeating, Emmanuel McElkerney, Sheila Reid, Marie Cooper, Gerry Magee (1st), Betty Paul, Reena Joseph, Eithne Brady, Rita Doherty, Mark Holmes, Rosena Meehan, Terence McManus, Elizabeth O'Reilly, James Hann, Fr. Des. Wilson, William Butcher

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!