



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)
Pilgrim Prayer: Tuesday 8pm on Parish website & Facebook
Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help: Wed 9:15am Mass
First Saturday: 10am (Holy Family)
Taizé Prayer: last Friday of the month 8-9pm (Holy Family)

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Mon 29: St Catherine of Siena, Doctor
Wed 1: St Joseph the Worker
Thur 2: St Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor
Fri 3: Sts Philip and James, Apostles
Sat 4: St Conleth of Kildare

“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.”
(St Catherine of Siena)

“One of the great treasures of Christianity is the divine exchange: Jesus became what we are, so that we might become what He is.”
(St Athanasius)



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

5th SUNDAY of EASTER

28 April 2024 ❖ Readings: B (I) ❖ Psalter: Week 1



POPE FRANCIS' WORDS TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND TO THE ENTIRE PEOPLE OF GOD

CHRIST IS ALIVE! He is our hope, and in a wonderful way he brings youth to our world, and everything he touches becomes young, new, full of life. The very first words, then, that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive!

He is in you, he is with you and he never abandons you. However far you may wander, he is always there, the Risen One. He calls you and he waits for you to return to him and start over again. When you feel you are growing old out of sorrow, resentment or fear, doubt or failure, he will always be there to restore your strength and your hope.

A great message for all young people

Putting all else aside, I now wish to speak to young people about what is essential, the one thing we should never keep quiet about. It is a message containing three great truths that all of us need constantly to keep hearing.

A God who is love

The very first truth I would tell each of you is this: “God loves you”. It makes no difference whether you have already heard it or not. I want to remind you of it. God loves you. Never doubt this, whatever may happen to you in life. At every moment, you are infinitely loved.

Christ saves you

The second great truth is that Christ, out of love, sacrificed himself completely in order to save you. His outstretched arms on the cross are the most telling sign that he is a friend who is willing to stop at nothing: “Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end” (Jn 13:1).

He is alive!

Finally, there is a third truth, inseparable from the second: Christ is alive! We need to keep reminding ourselves of this, because we can risk seeing Jesus Christ simply as a fine model from the distant past, as a memory, as someone who saved us two thousand years ago. But that would be of no use to us: it would leave us unchanged, it would not set us free. The one who fills us with his grace, the one who liberates us, transforms us, heals and consoles us is someone fully alive. He is the Christ, risen from the dead, filled with supernatural life and energy Alive, he can be present in your life at every moment, to fill it with light and to take away all sorrow and solitude. Even if all others depart, he will remain, as he promised: “I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Mt 28:20). He fills your life with his unseen presence; wherever you go, he will be waiting there for you. Because he did not only come in the past, but he comes to you today and every day, inviting you to set out towards ever new horizons.



ANNUAL PARISH CENSUS

A count of attendance will take place at all Masses across the Diocese this weekend, 27 and 28 April 2024. The annual parish census captures valuable information about the numbers, ages, and gender of people attending Mass. This information helps the Diocese and parishes to identify pastoral priorities, make plans to address them, and provide support to our faith communities. When you arrive at Mass, you will be given a small counter for yourself and for each person in your family group and will be asked to place the counters in baskets labelled according to age. There will be red counters for females and blue counters for males. The baskets will be labelled with age bands and the number of counters for each age band will be recorded after each Mass. We look forward to seeing you at Mass this weekend and thank you for your patience and co-operation.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

CÉAD MÍLE Fáilte to our new Bishop Alan McGuckian, who will celebrate the 10.30am Mass this weekend.

WEEKLY OFFERING. The weekly collection on 21st April came to £3,310.05. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. Donations can also be made by standing order, or the website Donate button, or the contactless donation terminals in both churches.

TRÓCAIRE On behalf of Trócaire and all those who will benefit from this year's Lenten campaign, many thanks for your support and generosity this Lent. A total so far of £8,705.51 has been raised by parishioners in Holy Family Parish (and this figure does not include payments made directly to Trócaire).

PARISH 100 CLUB. Week 6 winners: Murray Family, Joseph Connolly, Maureen Marquess, John Cunningham & Tara Cullinan (Promoter).

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. Volunteers sought please for Sundays 6pm -7pm & Wednesdays 4pm -5pm. Please contact the parish office.

MASS FOR THE SICK. Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick will take place in Holy Family Church, on Sunday 12th May, at 3pm. Everyone is most welcome. Should you need a lift, please contact the parish office.

MONTH OF MAY & THE SOLEMN NOVENA TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP (13TH – 22ND MAY 2024).

Each year, St. Gerard's Parish hosts this annual novena. This year, Holy Family Parish has been invited to host the novena (for seven of the nine days). Further details will follow.



COLUMBAN MISSIONARIES. We thank Fr. Paul McMahon for being with us at all the Masses last weekend. Fr. Paul also wishes to thank parishioners for the warm welcome he received, and for your generosity. It is still possible to return the envelopes to the parish office, or in the collection baskets.

ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX P.S. 50TH ANNIVERSARY. Community Open Day Wed 01st May, at 10am. To book:- lmclean859@c2kni.net or 02890770215.

RELIC OF BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS. To arrive in Benburb Priory on Sunday 12th May. See Latest News for details. Coach leaving St James Church, Whiteabbey. Tel: 07300866444. E: carloacutisireland@gmail.com.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 27 (6pm): Evelyn Brennan
Sun 28 (9am): Priest's Intention
Sun 28 10.30am: Sheila Callaghan MM
Sun 28 (12Noon): Dolores O'Connor
Mon 29: Tommy Markey (25th)
Tue 30: Priest's Intention
Wed 01: Peggy Holmes
Thu 02: John Lowry
Fri 03: Gemma O'Grady Nohilly
Sat 04 (10am): Joe Heaney



For more information and resources:

www.holy-familyparish.com

REST IN PEACE

Recently Deceased: Teresa McIvor, Una Milligan
Month's Mind: Sheila Callaghan
Anniversaries: Barbara Carson, Kevin Burns, Pat Shannon, Evelyn Brennan, Margaret Magill, Dolores O'Connor, Tommy Markey (25th), Peggy Holmes, John Lowry, Gemma O'Grady Nohilly

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!

