



# 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

### THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD (MONDAY 8TH APRIL)

"For the story of Jesus to be told, it needs more than God's word to be spoken, it also needs the human word to say yes. In the annunciation Luke shows us that the God who chooses Mary must wait on Mary's own response. The love that offers itself is the love that must wait. Even God has to wait for women. Even God needs permission from mothers-to-be if his saving plan is to go ahead. That is why there are two annunciations: God's annunciation to Mary and Mary's annunciation to God. God's best plans can only happen when there is human co-operation, when God's word and our word come together. When those two annunciations come together, God's word always becomes flesh."

*(Denis McBride, Waiting on God)*



## 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

# 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY of EASTER

7 April 2024 ❖ Readings: B (I) ❖ Psalter: Week 2



The word "Easter" comes from Old English, meaning simply the "East." The sun which rises in the East, bringing light, warmth, and hope, is a symbol for the Christian of the rising Christ, who is the true Light of the world. **The Paschal Candle** used during the Easter Vigil is a central symbol of this divine light, which is Christ. It is kept near the ambo throughout Easter Time, and lit for all liturgical celebrations.

## PRAYER OF TURNING TOWARD THE RISEN CHRIST

We turn to you, risen Christ, and pray:  
for those whose dreams have been shattered, may they turn toward restored hope; for those who have grown weary from constant turmoil, may they turn toward peace; for those who feel disheartened, may they turn toward a spirit of encouragement; for those who have stopped believing in happiness, may they turn toward a reason to rejoice.



We turn to you, risen Christ, and pray:  
for those who find little value in their work, may they turn toward fresh motivation; for those with faltering relationships, may they turn toward a disposition to love; for those whose outlook on life is bleak, may they turn toward a rekindling of joy; for those who lack self-worth, may they turn toward their imperishable goodness.

We turn to you, risen Christ, and pray:  
for those who are sorrowful, may they turn toward you and find renewed gladness; for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, may they turn toward healing; for those in challenging transitions, may they turn toward trust in your guidance; for those who have lost their inner direction, may they turn toward home.

We turn to you, risen Christ, and pray:  
for those troubled in their faith, may they turn toward confidence in your love; for those who feel burdened, may they turn toward reliance on your strength; for those seeking vengeance, may they turn toward a heartfelt desire to forgive; for those who doubt joy will ever arise, may they turn toward your resurrection.

### Prayer

Risen Christ, we turn to you with full reliance on your resurrected presence with us here and now. We renew our trust in your grace to restore our joy when it lies hidden in our entombed self. Turn us again and again toward hope. Open our hearts to recognise you in the garden of our everyday lives. Amen

*Taken from Prayer Seeds: A Gathering of Blessings, Reflections, and Poems for Spiritual Growth © 2017 by Joyce Rupp. Used by permission of Ave Maria Press®, Inc. All rights reserved.*

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

**WEEKLY OFFERING.** The Good Friday collection for the Catholics in the Holy Land came to £1,241.45. The white envelope for Easter Sunday totalled £3,712.48. The Easter Sunday collection amounted to £2,372.50. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. If you have not yet received your box of envelopes, please contact the parish office.

**PARISH 100 CLUB.** Week 3 winners: Declan Shannon, J Maxwell, Frances Doran, Mary McGrogan & Adelaide Moreland (Promoter)

**TROCAIRE** Working for a Just World  
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.

Boxes & Donations can still be returned to the church. You can also donate directly to the Lenten campaign through the Trócaire website, at www.trocaire.org

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY.** Today 7th April, from 2.15pm, in Sacred Heart Church. Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Mass & Confessions. All welcome.

**VISIT FROM THE COLUMBAN FATHERS.** The Fathers will speak at all Masses on 20th & 21st April. They will talk to us about the Far East magazine, acknowledging and thanking those parishioners who support the magazine currently, perhaps encouraging others to subscribe.

**ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX P.S. 50TH ANNIVERSARY.** We would be grateful if any former staff or pupils would be willing to send a short video message into the school, with a story about their time in the school, for inclusion in a digital presentation. Please contact the school office.

## EVERY BLESSING FOR THE SUMMER TERM

We wish the children & young people, who return to school this week, God's blessing for the summer term. To the children preparing for First Holy Communion, we will pray for you. To the young people, especially those completing coursework assignments, and preparing for exams, we wish you well, and we will pray for you too.

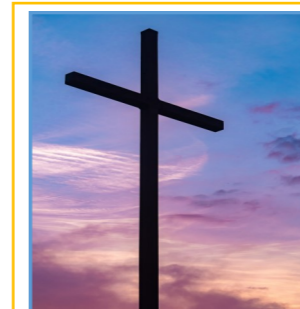
## MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 06 (6pm): Patrick & Maureen McMenamin  
Sun 07 (9am): Angela McKenna MM  
Sun 07 10.30am: Carmel & Louis Quinn  
Sun 07 (12Noon): Jim McGarry (1st)  
Mon 08: Patrick Devine  
Tue 09: Marie Monaghan  
Wed 10: Priest's Intention  
Thu 11: Catherine Boyle (née D'Arcy) MM  
Fri 12: Joe & Annie & McEvoy Family  
Sat 13 (10am): Paddy McCoy MM



## For more information and resources:

[www.holy-familyparish.com](http://www.holy-familyparish.com)



## REST IN PEACE

**Month's Mind:** Angela McKenna & Catherine Boyle (née D'Arcy) **Anniversaries:** Patrick & Maureen McMenamin, Brian Austin, Carmel & Louis Quinn, Jim McGarry (1st), Joe & Annie McEvoy, Marie Monaghan, Bridie Cassidy, Lily Moreland, George Cooley, Dessie Cormican, Patrick Devine, Mary Begley

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!*