



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

On Calvary, two ways of thinking collided. In the Gospel, the words of the crucified Jesus are in sharp contrast with the words of those who crucified him. The latter keep saying: "Save yourself"... Take care of yourself. Think of yourself. Not of others, but only of your own well-being, your own success, your own interests: your possessions, your power, your image. Save yourself. This is the constant refrain of the world that crucified the Lord...

Against this self-centred mindset is God's way of thinking. The mantra "save yourself" collides with the words of the Saviour who offers his self... Jesus said: Father, forgive them.

... Jesus did not rebuke his executioners or threaten punishments in the name of God; rather, he prayed for the evildoers. Fastened to the gibbet of humiliation, his attitude of giving became that of forgiving.

There, as he was being crucified, at the height of his pain, Jesus himself obeyed the most demanding of his commandments: that we love our enemies. Let us think about someone who, in our own lives, injured, offended or disappointed us; someone who made us angry, who did not understand us or who set a bad example. How often we spend time looking back on those who have wronged us! How often we think back and lick the wounds that other people, life itself and history have inflicted on us. Today, Jesus teaches us not to remain there, but to react, to break the vicious circle of evil and sorrow. To react to the nails in our lives with love, to the buffets of hatred with the embrace of forgiveness. As disciples of Jesus, do we follow the Master or do we follow our own desire to strike back? This is a question we have to ask ourselves. Do we follow the Master or not?

If we want to test whether we truly belong to Christ, let us look at how we behave toward those who have hurt us. The Lord asks us to respond not as we feel, or as everyone else does, but in the way he acts toward us. He asks us ... to show compassion and mercy to everyone, for God sees a son or a daughter in each person.

Pope Francis, Palm Sunday, 10 April 2022

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 12 (6pm):	Patrick & Maureen McMenamin
Sun 13(9am):	Isabella Semple
Sun 13 (10.30am):	Thomas Gavin
Sun 13 (12 Noon):	Jim McGarry
Mon 14:	Michael Loughran RIP
Tues 15:	Priest's Intention
Wed 16:	Josephine Marley



CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy: Very Rev. Michael Spence PP,
Rev. John O'Lavery CC & Rev. Deacon Brendan Dowd

Parish Telephone (Office hours): 02890743119
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): 02890351561

Email: holyfamily@downandconnor.org
Website & Webcam: www.holy-familyparish.com



PALM SUNDAY

13 April 2025 ❖ Readings: C (I) ❖

Psalter: Week 2

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

7.15am Mass (Holy Family)
8.55am Morning Prayer (Holy Family)
9.15am Mass (Holy Family)

HOLY THURSDAY

9.15am Morning Prayer (Holy Family)
10.00am Morning Prayer (St Thérèse of Lisieux)
7.00pm The Lord's Supper (Both Churches)
9.00-10.00pm Holy Hour & Night Prayer (Both Churches)

GOOD FRIDAY

9.15am Morning Prayer (Holy Family)
10.00am Morning Prayer (St Thérèse of Lisieux)
3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Both Churches)
7.00pm Stations of the Cross (Holy Family)
(Led by the young people from Scouts and Guides Units)

HOLY SATURDAY

9.15am Morning Prayer (Holy Family)
10.00am Morning Prayer (St Thérèse of Lisieux)
9.00pm The Easter Vigil (Both Churches)

EASTER SUNDAY

9.00am Mass (St Thérèse of Lisieux)
10.30am Mass (Holy Family)
12noon Mass (St Thérèse of Lisieux)

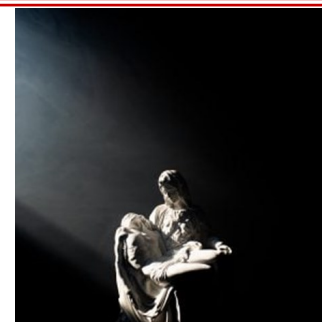
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Palm Sunday **Penitential Service:** 4pm in Holy Family
Holy Saturday: 10.15am (St Thérèse) & 5pm (Holy Family)

REST IN PEACE

Recently deceased: Frankie Loughran, Michael Loughran (England)
Month's Mind: Kay Rolston
Anniversaries: Ellen & Bernard Condit, Mary & Kay Doherty, Thomas Gilmore, Patrick & Maureen McMenamin, Thomas Gavin, Isabella Semple, Jim McGarry, Josephine Marley

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

WEEKLY OFFERING. The weekly offering on Sunday 6th April came to £4,312.98, and the monthly collection amounted to £3,882.70 . Thank you for your continued support. Donations can also be made by standing order, or the website Donate button, or the contactless donation terminals in both churches.

HOLY WEEK COLLECTIONS. A collection for the Poor will be held at Holy Thursday Masses, and there will be an envelope collection for the welfare of Christians living in the Holy Land, at the Good Friday Liturgy.

PARISH 100 CLUB. 1 WEEK TO GO! The 2025/2026 draw starts 17th April. We hope you will continue to support us, as we enter an exciting new draw year. This year, there are 3 members prizes of £150 each. Good luck to everyone!

YOUTH MASS. Sincere thanks to all the young people and volunteers who made last weekend's Youth Mass a very enjoyable and joyful occasion.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION EASTER ARRANGEMENTS. Adoration will be suspended at 6.45pm on Holy Thursday, resuming Wednesday 23rd April at 10am.

TRÓCAIRE LENTEN CAMPAIGN draws to a close in Holy Week. Please remember to return your Trócaire box to either church from Holy Thursday onwards, or donate online at www.trocaire.org. The Developing World Group invite you to the Trócaire Lenten Lunch in Holy Family Gathering Space, after the 6pm Vigil & 10.30am Masses this weekend. We thank you for your support for the La Paz community in Guatemala this Lent.

CHRISM MASS will be celebrated by Bishop Alan McGuckian in St Peter's Cathedral, on **Wednesday 16th April at 12noon**. All welcome.

ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX P.S. Invite you to their Passion Assembly in the school on Wed 16th April at 10am. Please phone the school office on 02890770215 to book a place.

FOOTWASHING ON HOLY THURSDAY. If you would be willing to participate, please contact the parish office.

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Good Friday and Easter Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. The office will reopen on Thursday 24th April at 9.30am.

WEDNESDAY TEAS. Are now suspended, and will resume Wednesday 30th April.

MILLTOWN CEMETERY SUNDAY. Sunday 11th May at 3.00 pm.

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL. The date for the third reading and vote on the Assisted Suicide Bill in Westminster is looming. You are encouraged to write to your local MP, using the postcards available in each church.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES P.S. (PARK LODGE). Seeks 1 temporary & 3 permanent supervisors, for 1 hour daily. Please contact the school office on 02890370686.

RECONCILIATION SERVICES IN LOCAL PARISHES:- Holy Family Church TODAY, Palm Sunday at 4pm. In addition, Wednesday 16th April at 7pm in St Gerard's & Wednesday 16th April at 7pm in Sacred Heart; Monday 14th April at 7pm in Star of the Sea, Whitehouse.

