



Holy Family Parish

A praying, caring community, centred in Christ

Holy Family Parish is a member of a Family of Parishes, comprising the parishes of St Patrick's, Holy Family and St Gerard's.

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 Facebook page

Rosary: 20mins before Mass Wednesday & Saturday

First Saturday: 10am (Holy Family)



SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Thu 18: St Flannan
Sat 20: St Fachanan



God is loving us in the present, not a past love, not a future love, but a present love.

Third Sunday of Advent

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): 07928968773

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

Email: holyfamily@downandconnor.org

Website & Webcam: www.holy-familyparish.com



Third Sunday of Advent

14th December 2025

Readings: A ♦ Psalter: Week 3



ST.VINCENT DE PAUL

CHRISTMAS ANNUAL COLLECTION

Will be taken up at all Masses this weekend.

With growing demand for financial assistance, any support you can give will be greatly appreciated. Those who are in need

of financial assistance can contact the Society on 028 90351561.

JOURNEYING TOWARDS JESUS IN ADVENT

Our parish programme, reflecting on the Advent Sunday gospels, will have its final session on Wednesday 17th December, at 10.15am, in the meeting room in Holy Family Church. All welcome.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Penitential Service

Sunday 21st December at 4pm in Holy Family

Confessions

Saturday 20th December 10.30am – 11.30am in St. Thérèse

Saturday 20th December 5.00pm – 5.45pm in Holy Family



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

HOLY FAMILY

Vigils 6pm & 9pm, Christmas Day 10.30am

ST. THÉRÈSE

Vigil 7.30pm, Christmas Day 9am & 12noon



PENITENTIAL SERVICES IN NEIGHBOURING PARISHES

ST GERARD'S & HOLY CROSS: Wednesday 17th December @ 7pm

SACRED HEART: Thursday 18th December @ 7pm

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES IN NEIGHBOURING PARISHES

ST PATRICK'S: Vigils 6pm & 9pm, Christmas Day 9am & 11am

ST GERARD'S: Vigils 6pm & 9pm, Christmas Day 10.30am

SACRED HEART: Vigil 7pm, Christmas Day 9.30am & 11.30am

HOLY CROSS: Vigils 6pm & 9pm, Christmas Day 10am & noon

ST VINCENT DE PAUL: Vigil 6.30pm, Christmas Day 10am

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY. Following today's blessing of Bambinelli, please take home your Bambinello, and place it under the Christmas tree. Let it be the first gift unwrapped on Christmas morning, and placed in the crib.



CELEBRATING THE CENTENARY OF THE CANONISATION OF ST THÉRÈSE

In his Apostolic Letter 'Divini amoris scientia' Pope John Paul II said that the Lord has continued throughout history to reveal Himself to the little and humble, and that St Thérèse shines brightly among the little ones to whom He has revealed, in a most special way, the secrets of the Kingdom. The Holy Father tells us that the spiritual radiance of St Thérèse has spread throughout the whole world, and that she is one of the great masters of the spiritual life in our times.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

WEEKLY OFFERING. The weekly collection on Sunday 7th December came to £2,288.92, and the monthly collection, for the support of the priests, was £2,905.62. Contributions to the white and blue envelopes, via standing order during November, were £1,750 & £470 respectively. Contactless and website donations in November amounted to £171. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. For information on standing order and contactless methods of donation, please contact the parish office.

PARISH 100 CLUB. Week 35 winners: N. Maguire, F. Pelan, A. Lavery & A. O'Kane (Promoter). Congratulations to all the winners.

PARISH OFFICE. Will be closed Wednesday 17th December.

PERPETUAL ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. Adorers needed for Wednesdays 11am—12noon & 12noon - 1pm; Fridays 2pm-3pm, Saturdays 3pm-4pm & Sundays 7pm –8pm. Please contact the parish office.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS. Eucharistic Adoration will stop at 7pm on Wednesday 24th December, to resume after noon Mass on Sunday 28th December.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS WITH OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS. **Holy Family PS's p3 Christmas pageant** on Tuesday 16th December at 11am & **St Thérèse P5-P7 Carol Service** in St Thérèse Church on Thursday 18th December at 1.30pm.

TEAS AT ST THÉRÈSE CHURCH. Thank you to our Hospitality & Welcome Team, for providing teas and tasty treats after 10am Mass last Thursday 4th. They were enjoyed and appreciated by all.

WEDNESDAY TEAS IN HOLY FAMILY.. have stopped for Christmas, and will resume Wednesday 7th January. Sincere thanks to the Hospitality Team for all the cuppas and treats this past year.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD. We are seeking Ministers of the Word for weekend Masses in both churches. If you would like to contribute to this special part of our Liturgy, contact the parish office.



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS. You are invited to donate a Poinsettia plant in memory of a loved one, which will be used for the decoration of the churches and cribs. Plants can be left in either church from today, Sunday 14th December. A Mass will be offered in each church during the Christmas season, for all those in whose memory the plants are donated.

PARISH CALENDAR 2026. Will be available after all Masses in Holy Family Church and St Thérèse Church from next weekend. You are invited to take one home, drop one into friends and neighbours who are housebound and perhaps send one to family and friends who are away from home.

JUBILEE OF PRISONERS. This weekend, we celebrate the Jubilee of Prisoners. We pray for prisoners, their families and prison staff; for victims of crime, those working in the criminal justice system and the many people caring for those affected by crime.

BELFAST JESUIT CENTRE. Visit Latest News on our website or www.bjc@jesuit.ie for information on all the upcoming events, including the Joyeux Noël film on Thurs. 18th December at 7pm.

STELLA MARIS SHOEBOX APPEAL. We are still taking shoeboxes of donations, and all donations will be gratefully accepted. Please leave shoeboxes into the parish office.

NI HOSPICE LIGHTS TO REMEMBER. Starts at Dominican College, Fortwilliam on Thursday 18th December at 7pm. Gathering to dedicate a light in memory of deceased loved ones.

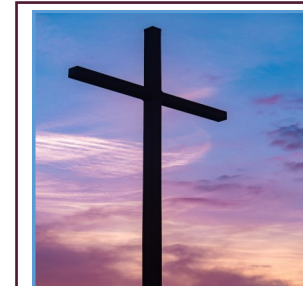
MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 13 (6pm):
Sun 14 (9am):
Sun 14 (10.30am):
Sun 14 (12noon):
Mon 15
Tue 16:
Wed 17:
Thurs 18:
Fri 19:
Sat 20 (10am):

For the People of the Parish
Ellen McNamee
Mary Morgan
Anna O'Grady
Pauline O'Hara
Special intention
Brian McIvor
Patrick & Kathleen Hart
Brian McAteer
Ciara Catney



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



REST IN PEACE

Recently deceased: Eileen McCullough, Theresa Sheppard, Brendan Graham **Month's Mind:** Grace McIlroy **Anniversaries:** Michael & Pauline Flanagan, Mary Morgan, Ellen McNamee, Anna O'Grady, Pauline O'Hara, Máire O'Reilly, Brian McIvor, Patrick & Kathleen Hart, Brian McAteer, Breda Burke Richards (Dublin), Angela Rasdale Hamilton, Bernice Campbell, Seán Hughes, Dr Eoin Maguire, Josephine McCollam, Elizabeth Madden

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!