



# 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

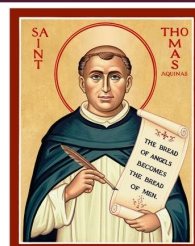
**Rosary:** 20mins before Mass Wednesday & Saturday

**First Saturday:** 10am (Holy Family)

**Taizé Prayer:** last Friday of the month 8-9pm (Holy Family)

## SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Mon. 26: Ss Timothy & Titus  
Tues. 27: St Angela Merici  
Wed. 28: St Thomas Aquinas  
Fri. 30: St Aidan  
Sat. 31: St John Bosco



*Nothing created has ever been able to fill the heart of man.  
God alone can fill it infinitely. St Thomas Aquinas*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Parish Clergy:** Very Rev. Michael Spence PP,  
Rev. John O'Laverty 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 IN ORDINARY TIME

25 January 2026 ❖ Readings: A (II)

Psalter: Week III

### SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

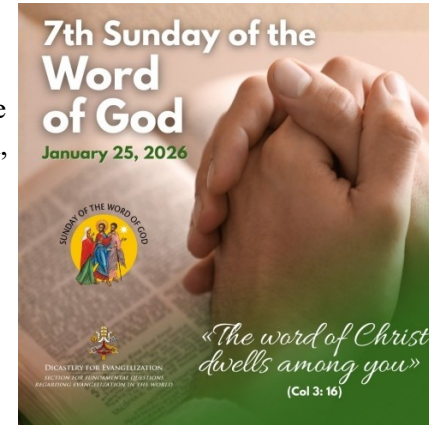
On this 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, we celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God, under the motto "*The word of Christ dwells among you*" (Col 3:16). This day invites us to reflect on, celebrate and share the Word of God in our lives.

The celebration was established by Pope Francis, emphasizing the essential connection between the Risen Lord, Christian communities, and Sacred Scripture. The Pope calls on all believers to make the Word of God a living presence in their hearts, guiding their actions, and inspiring their witness.

Archbishop Rino Fisichella, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization, explains this year's theme: "*Saint Paul's words to the Colossians, 'The word of Christ dwells among you', invite us not only to listen to the Word but to let it dwell within us. The Word shapes our thoughts, guides our desires, and unites the Christian community. To welcome it is to allow Christ to speak through our lives, bringing hope and life to those around us.'*"

Sunday of the Word of God is a reminder that Scripture is not just to be read or studied, it is to live within us, bearing fruit in our lives & communities.

This year, the celebration coincides with the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul, marking the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Just as the Word transformed Paul on the road to Damascus, it continues to call Christians today to open their hearts and share the Gospel with the world.



### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY SUN. 18TH – SUN. 25TH JANUARY 2026

As the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity draws to a close, we continue to reflect on the theme: '*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling*' (Ephesians 4:4).

**You are warmly invited to mark the week of prayer for Christian Unity with Taizé Prayer Around The Cross on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January, 8pm-9pm, in Holy Family church. Everyone is very welcome, and refreshments will be served afterwards in the Gathering Space.**

## 4 Corners Festival *Bringing Belfast Together*

31<sup>st</sup> January - 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026. The 4 Corners Festival invites us to explore the profound meaning of "Journey" in our beloved Belfast. As we journey through this year's Festival, we are invited to see change itself as grace - renewing our hearts, our communities, and our city. A full festival programme can be found at [www.4cornersfestival.com](http://www.4cornersfestival.com).

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

**WEEKLY OFFERING.** The weekly collection on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January came to £2,482.02, and the collection for the Diocesan Faith & Pastoral Development Fund (formerly Living Youth), was £1,602.84, as well as £250 by standing order. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. For information on standing order and contactless methods of donation, please contact the parish office.

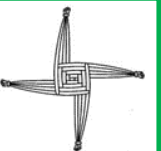
**PARISH 100 CLUB.** Week 41 winners: Mrs E. Kelly, Fionnuala Carson, Anne Cassidy & James O'Hare (Promoter).

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION.** Adorers needed please for Wednesdays 11am—12noon & 12noon - 1pm; Fridays 2pm-3pm, Saturdays 3pm-4pm & Sundays 7pm –8pm.

**THE DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP - TWEZIMBE CENTRE.** The Developing World Group will host coffee, tea and treats after Masses in Holy Family church THIS WEEKEND, in aid of the Twezimbe Centre, Uganda. Your support is much appreciated.

**ORDER OF MALTA CRIB BOX APPEAL** Sincere thanks for the donations to the Christmas crib appeal, which raised £1,500 for the Order of Malta **Holy Family Maternity Hospital in Bethlehem**, located 800 metres from the birthplace of Jesus.

**ST BRIGID'S CROSSES.** You are warmly invited to Holy Family Gathering Space at 7pm TONIGHT, SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> to make St Brigid's Crosses. Help to keep this age old skill and tradition alive. Experience isn't necessary, as those with the 'know how' will willingly give a helping hand. Rushes will be provided, please bring a pair of scissors.



## Catholic Schools Week 2026

At the end of Catholic Schools Week, we give thanks for all the work that goes on in our Catholic schools. The theme for the week was *Catholic Schools – Normal Lives, Called to Holiness*, inspired by the words of Pope Francis on Saint Carlo Acutis. This message is relevant to all of us. In his letter *Gaudete et Exultate*, Pope Francis taught that each person is called to holiness, through love and witness in everyday circumstances.

We congratulate our local post-primary schools; Blessed Trinity College, Dominican College Fortwilliam & St Malachy's College, recipients of the Spirit of Catholic Education Award 2026. This award is in recognition of their dedication and lived Christian witness to developing and nurturing the spiritual and prayer life of their school communities.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 24 (6pm):	Séamus & Maura Twomey
Sun 25 (9am):	John McStravick MM
Sun 25 (10.30am):	For the People of the Parish
Sun 25 (12Noon):	Joe Hamilton (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Mon 26	Anne Fitzsimons MM
Tue 27:	John Doyle
Wed 28:	Teresa McCaughey
Thurs 29:	Bernadette Keenan MM
Fri 30:	Angela & Seán Lowry
Sat 31:	George & Cassie McCullough



**For more information and resources:**  
[www.holy-familyparish.com](http://www.holy-familyparish.com)



## REST IN PEACE

**Recently Deceased:** Séamus Perry

**Month's Mind:** John McStravick, Anne Fitzsimons, Bernadette Keenan

**Anniversaries:** Phil McIlwee, Thérèse Timoney, Rosaleen McKinley (5<sup>th</sup>), Meta McDaid, Kieran Madden, Séamus & Maura Twomey, Davy McDowell, Joe Hamilton (1<sup>st</sup>), John, Doyle, Teresa McCaughey, Angela & Seán Lowry, Niall O'Neill (50<sup>th</sup>), Fionnbarr Doran, Maeve Gilroy (1<sup>st</sup>), James Conlan

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!*