



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)

Pilgrim Prayer: Tuesday 8pm on Parish website

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)



EASTER SUNDAY

5 April 2026

Readings: A (I) ♦ Psalter: Week 1



HAPPY EASTER

Fr. Michael, Fr. John, Deacon Brendan and the Parish Pastoral Council would like to wish all our parishioners and visitors a very Happy Easter.



We wish to thank all those who helped to prepare and to celebrate our Holy Week and Easter liturgies.

Many thanks also to all parishioners who contribute to the life of the parish in so many ways - very often behind the scenes.

May the truth of the Resurrection encourage our spirit, and enliven us with the gifts of faith, hope and love this Easter Season.

AN EASTER THOUGHT... "The great gift of Easter is hope, Christian hope, which makes us have that confidence in God, in His ultimate triumph, and in His goodness and love, which nothing can shake". (Cardinal Basil Hume)

A JOKE FOR EASTER SUNDAY. In the Eastern church, there is a tradition of telling jokes on Easter Sunday morning. People tell jokes as a way of celebrating the great cosmic joke that God played on Satan, that first Easter Sunday.

With the passion and death of Jesus, Satan thought he had won, that goodness had been destroyed, and that God's plan for the world had been frustrated.

But by raising Jesus from the dead, God had the last laugh. Satan had not won after all. In fact, he had been utterly vanquished. Goodness had won out over evil, light over darkness, life over death.

That is why people in the East tell jokes on Easter Day. That is why we should tell jokes too. So a little Easter joke....

A passenger wanted to ask the taxi driver a question, so he leaned over and tapped him on the shoulder. The driver screamed, lost control of the taxi, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the footpath, and stopped just inches from a large department-store window.

For a few minutes, everything was silent in the taxi. The startled passenger apologised to the driver, saying he didn't realise a mere tap to the shoulder would frighten him so much.

"No, no," the driver replied. "It's all my fault. Today is my first day driving a taxi. For the last 25 years, I've been driving a hearse".

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

WEEKLY OFFERING. The weekly offering on Palm Sunday came to £2,531.19. The second collection this Easter Sunday will be taken up after Communion, for the support of our priests. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. For information on standing order and contactless methods of donation, please contact the parish office. If you have not received your new box of envelopes, please contact the parish office.

TRÓCAIRE TRÓCAIRE LENTEN LUNCH. The Developing Working for a Just World their exceptional generosity in supporting the Lenten Lunch which raised £1,736.66, together with £230 Gift Aid, totalling £1,966.66. Your generous support for Trócaire is changing lives; it's getting to those people who desperately need it, and really is making a difference. You can still donate to Trócaire by phone: 02890 808030 or at www.trocaire.org.

PARISH 100 CLUB. The 2025/2026 parish draw year has closed, and thank you again to members, promoters and the 100 Club Committee. The new parish draw will commence 14th May. We hope existing members will rejoin, and we look forward to welcoming new members. Please keep an eye on the bulletin for details.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION EASTER ARRANGEMENTS. Adoration will resume after 10am Mass on Easter Thursday, 9th April.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY. There will be Children's Liturgy on Easter Sunday, but none on Sunday 12th April. Liturgy will resume Sunday 19th April.

YOUTH ALPHA. Thank you and congratulations to the young people who took part in the Youth Alpha programme, during the Sundays of Lent. Sincere thanks also to the co-ordinators and group leaders, for their part in making the course so worthwhile.



FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY. Sunday 12th April. Celebrated in St Peter's Cathedral at 2.30pm, and in Sacred Heart church at 2.15pm. Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet & Mass.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER FOR PRIESTS. Visit <https://youtu.be/zhfbgZpv8AA> to view this short video. Let us join Pope Leo in praying for our priests.

RECHARGE. A young adult group based in St Colmcille's Church, East Belfast, for 18- to 35-year-olds, meeting twice a month to "recharge" our spiritual batteries through prayer, intellectual formation and friendship. April dates for your diary:-
Tues 7 @ 7.30pm: Holy Hour & Adoration, followed by drinks in the Hearth Bar.
Tues 21 @ 7.30pm: Group Study course, followed by social.

DOWN & CONNOR DIOCESE NATIONAL EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK. Sunday 19th April, www.eucharisticadoration.ie. T: 07972103130 (Patricia) or 07963581543 (Patrick), for bus details.

The Parish Office will close Easter Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. Normal office hours will resume on Thursday 9th April. The Churches will remain open, and Mass will be as usual, during Easter week.



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

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon 6 :	Marie Monaghan
Tue 7:	Phil Egan
Wed 8:	Frankie Loughran (1st)
Thu 9:	Isabella Semple
Fri 10:	Clare McCaughey
Sat 11 (10am):	Angela McKenna



REST IN PEACE

Recently Deceased: Mary Henderson, John Rafferty, Fr Michael Morrissey OCam

Anniversaries: Mary Begley, Mary & Kay Doherty, Brian Nolan, Brian Austin, Sadie O'Kane, Thomas O'Kane, Bridie Cassidy, Lily Moreland, Alannah Crawford, George Cooley, Marie Monaghan, Phil Egan, Frankie Loughran (1st), Isabella Semple, Clare McCaughey, Dessie Cormican, Nora McSherry, Joe O'Connor

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!

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