

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

03rd Dec 2017

First Sunday of Advent

Readings: B

Psalter: Week 1



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PARISH MASS TIMES & ADORATION

Holy Family Church

M-F 9.15am, Sat Vigil: 6.30pm, Sun 10am & 12noon

Confessions: Sat 5.45pm – 6.15pm

Adoration: Mon 10am – 4pm

St Thérèse Church

Mon-Sat: 10am, Sat Vigil: 6pm, Sun 10.30 & 12

Confessions: Sat 5.15pm – 5.45pm

Perpetual Adoration: Sun 1pm – Sat 5.45pm

(Eucharistic Adoration urgently requires people in St Therese Church between Midnight and 6am).

Tridentine Mass in St Thérèse Sundays at 4pm.

Divine Mercy in Holy Family Fridays at 3pm.

Please note, Mass in Holy Family Church on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (08th Dec) will be at 7.30am & 9.15am (no 11am Mass). Masses in St Thérèse Church remain unchanged.

SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER

Please note that, given that Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year, there will be **no 10.30am Mass in St Thérèse and no 12 noon Mass in Holy Family on Sunday 24th December.** The Christmas Vigil Masses at 7pm & 9pm remain unchanged.

REST IN PEACE

Anniversaries: Caoimhe McCullough, Mary Christina Hannon, Michael Eugene Hannon, Ellen & Michael Joe Hannon, Paul Shields (1st), Gerald & Desmond Gilfedder, Paddy Toal, Gloria & Carl McBride, Patricia & Harry Grieve, James Henry Close, James & Josephine Burns, Martin & Marie Salmon, Kevin McKeating, Ted McCormack, Frances McGuinness & Margaret Laverty

100 CLUB BUILDING FUND

WEEK 31

£200 – E McDonald, Lothair Ave & Mary Cooper, Lansdowne Road

£100 – Emmet McCann, Evelyn Gardens & Margaret O'Hare, Dunlambert Park

Promoter's Prize – Angela Mullan

COLLECTIONS

The **weekly collection** on Sunday 26th November came to £3015.46. Your generosity is much appreciated.

PARISH GIFT 1 PROGRAMME - [GIFT - GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER]

A reminder to our Year 8 young people that the 5th Parish GIFT 1 session will be held on Wed 6th Dec, 7-9pm, in Holy Family Gathering Space. Come along with your friends and enjoy fun, friendship, faith sharing, games, song and prayer. We look forward to seeing you. Check out the parish Facebook page for photos of the sessions.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Parish Fair was a great success, both socially and financially. The amount raised was an impressive **£5177.71**, an increase on last year's. A big thank you to the 50+ willing volunteers, who helped over Fri, Sat and Sun, and without whose help the Fair would not have happened, or been such a success. Particular mention to Joe Thompson, Parish Centre Manager, for all his help. Thank you to all who bought ballot tickets, donated cakes, prizes and items for the stalls, and to the many businesses in the area, which donated such generous prizes. A big thank you to all those who came to the Fair. Your enthusiasm and support are much appreciated. We hope to see you again next year.

And.....

To the winner of the **easel (Rickety wheel)** and the **Beechill weekend** – please contact the Parish Office asap.

BAPTISMS IN NOVEMBER

Freya Eve Kelly, Conor Joseph McTasney, Sadie Jean Stuart, Eden West, Charlie Brian Cooley, Caodhan Patrick Dornan, Rossa Joseph Hughes, Theo Josph McCart, Neasa Seimone McGrath, Saorlaith Ward, Aoibhe Grace Anderson, Ronan Paul McCann, Stella Robyn McGurk & Harley Brendan Parkhill-McGuinness

TROCAIRE

Trocaire Gifts – give a gift this Christmas and help transform lives. The full range of Trocaire Gifts is on sale in the Gathering Space of Holy Family Church after all Masses this weekend Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd December.

Trocaire Exhibition Launch – Art and Poetry – An Emotional Journey

An exhibition of art by artist Marjorie Laville Pain, complemented with poetry by Trocaire staff, explores gender-based violence at home and abroad. The exhibition will be launched on Tues 5th Dec at 7pm in the Gathering Space and will be available to view until Sun 10th Dec. You are warmly invited on Tues, refreshments will served

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES - AN UPDATE ON THE LATEST NEWS!

• The **Newsletter** is bursting with exciting news.

www.worldmeeting2018.ie

• **Poetry and Art Competition** - the entries of the children who won and who were highly commended are on display on the noticeboard in St. Thérèse Church..

• **Family Prayer Service** - our December Family Prayer Service in preparation for the World Meeting of Families will be held in Holy Family Church today Sun 3rd Dec, 5 - 5.30pm.

Everyone of all ages and stages is warmly invited to come along. Festive refreshments will be served afterwards

• **Online Advent Calendar** - the Season of Advent begins today Sun 3rd Dec. A beautiful online Advent Calendar will be available by logging on to www.catholicbishops.ie/advent-calendar. As a family you are invited to take a few minutes each day and use the Calendar as a countdown to Christmas.

• **New Year Resolution!** The Church's New Year begins today, the First Sunday of Advent. We are aiming to make a **PARISH NEW YEAR RESOLUTION!** Every family is invited to say **Grace Before and After Meals**. A beautiful card has been produced and will be distributed this weekend at all Masses.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

Holy Family: There will be no Eucharistic Adoration on Christmas Day.

St. Thérèse: Eucharistic Adoration will be suspended just before 6pm Mass on Saturday 23rd December and will resume after 10am Mass on Wednesday 27th December.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Next weekend, 09th and 10th December, after all Masses in both Churches.

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Refreshments after Masses in both Churches today Sunday 3rd.

SANTA'S TEA PARTY - THE COUNT DOWN IS ON!

We are very excited about welcoming Santa Claus and his helpers to Holy Family Gathering Space on Sun 10th Dec. Santa will meet and greet children [young and old!] after both the 10am and 12 noon Masses. Please come along and enjoy our festive hospitality. We look forward to seeing you there.

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The 3rd Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. In many countries it is also known as **BAMBINELLI SUNDAY** when parishioners, especially children, are invited to bring the crib figure of the Infant Jesus to Mass for a special blessing. This year, as we prepare for the World Meeting Of Families, we are going to introduce this tradition to our parish. The children will be invited to stand around the Altar carrying the Infant Jesus from the family crib for the blessing. They will be given a wrapping for the figure to be revealed on Christmas morning and placed in the family crib as a symbol of the gift of the Christ-Child being born in our hearts and homes.

The website www.feltmagnet.com offers beautiful ideas if you would like to make your own crib and figures

COUNTDOWN IS ON: 261 DAYS TO GO

MASSES IN THE COMING WEEK

HOLY FAMILY

Sat 09th (6.30pm) Ann McCready

Sun 10th (10am) Marie Cunningham MM

Sun 10th (12 noon) John Francis Walls

ST THÉRÈSE

Mon 04th (10am) Gloria & Carl McBride

Sat 09th (6pm) Frank McElkerney (1st)

Sun 10th (10.30am) Kathleen Carroll

Sun 10th (12 noon) Joe D'Arcy

LECTIO DIVINA

Why not consider joining our bible study group (Lectio Divina) for Advent? We are a small friendly prayer group, who would make welcome anyone of Holy Family Parish, who would wish to prepare prayerfully for Christmas. We meet at 10am every Tues morning, in the Adoration Chapel, Holy Family Church.

SECULAR FRANCISCANS

You are invited to attend our monthly meeting on Tue 05th Dec at 7pm, in the Gate Lodge of Holy Family Church. Please consider joining our friendly prayerful group for an encounter with St Francis and St Clare of Assisi. We are ordinary people living in the world with our families and our Parish communities, to follow the person of Jesus Christ.

LAY DOMINICANS

Meet the 2nd Sunday of each month at 3pm at 28 Fortwilliam Park. New members welcome. Next meeting 10th December.

HOSPICE ANNUAL CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 10th Dec in St Anne's cathedral at 3.30pm. All welcome.

CAROLS FOR ALL

In Fortwilliam & McCrory Presbyterian Church on Mon 11th Dec at 7.30pm. Featuring Cavehill Community Choir and local schools and Belfast School of Music. Refreshments served.

DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING FOR LIFE

On 12th Dec - Mass; Visit to the Blessed Sacrament; Rosary; Fast from 9am to 6pm; Please make some act of self-denial.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES ~ PRAYER

God, our Father, we are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son, one family, in the Spirit of your love. Bless us with the joy of love. Make us patient and kind, gentle and generous, welcoming to those in need. Help us to live your forgiveness and peace. Protect all families with your loving care, especially those for whom we now pray: [*We pause and remember family members and others by name....*] Increase our faith, strengthen our hope, keep us safe in your love, make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share. This we ask, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, mother and guide, **pray for us.**

Saint Joseph, father and protector, **pray for us.**

Saints Joachim and Anne, **pray for us.**

Saints Louis and Zélie Martin, **pray for us**

CHILDREN'S CORNER

A man is talking to God. The man asks God how much a million years is to him. God says that it's a second. Then he asks how much a million pounds is to him, God says it's a penny. So the man asks, "God can I have a penny?" And God replies, "Yes my child....just a second."