

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

11 December 2016 03rd Sunday of Advent
Readings: Sunday A Psalter: Week 3



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PARISH MASSES TIMES & ADORATION

Holy Family Church

Mon-Fri: 9.15am, Sat Vigil: 6.30pm, Sun 10 & 12
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
Holy Mass in the Extraordinary Form 3rd Tues & 2nd
Sun of the month
Perpetual Adoration: Sun 1pm – Sat 5.45pm

REST IN PEACE

Recently deceased: Joseph Anthony Shevlin
Month's Mind: Sheila Reid; Eamon Crossin
Anniversaries: Michael Joe Hannon; Dermot O'Flaherty; Ann Mullin; Edward McIvor; Orla Melaugh; Hugh O'Hara; Eddie McKinney Sen.; Thomas Varghese; Paul Cushnahan; Pauline Flanagan; May Adair; Jack Ferran; Patrick Ferran; Estelle Comerton; Peter Comerton; Elizabeth Proctor; Jean Keenan; Louie Stone; James Gibney; Martin Lorimer; Elizabeth Madden; Kevin McKeating
ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD

COLLECTIONS

The **weekly collection** on Sunday 04 December came to £3297.06 and the **monthly collection** for the support of the priests of our Parish came to £2597.15. Many thanks for your continued support.

100 CLUB BUILDING FUND – WEEK 31

£200 – Aislinn & Aideen McParland, Cooldarragh Park and Mr Woods, Willowbank Gardens
£100 – John Mooney, Fortwilliam Fold & Anne White, Henderson Court
Promoter's Prize – Tara Cullinan

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS!

CHRISTMAS CEREMONIES

Gaudete Sunday (11th) Advent service at 5pm in St Thérèse Church (see notice below)
Penitential Service Sun 18th 7pm in Holy Family Church
Christmas Eve
St Thérèse – Confession (10.30am – 12 noon)
7pm & 9pm Vigil Mass
Holy Family – Confession (12 noon – 1pm)
7pm & 9pm Vigil Mass
Christmas Day
St Thérèse – 10.30am & 12 noon
Holy Family – 10am & 12 noon
Carol Service Fri 30th 7pm in Holy Family Church

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Will be holding a church door collection this weekend, 10th and 11th December.

CELEBRATING ADVENT - A SERVICE OF READINGS AND ADVENT HYMNS

You are warmly invited to a Service of Readings and Advent Hymns today Gaudete Sunday, 11th December at 5pm in St. Therese Church, followed by festive refreshments in 65 Somerton Road - a quiet hour to prepare for the coming of the Christ-Child and an escape from the hustle and stress of shopping and wrapping. A warm welcome to everyone.

PARISH CALENDAR

The Parish Calendar will be available in Holy Family and St. Thérèse Churches from next weekend 17th/18th December. 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.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH YOUTH CHOIR

To prepare for the Christmas Day 10am Family Mass in Holy Family Church, the Parish Youth Choir will be holding a number of practices, in Holy Family Church from 4pm - 5pm on the following Sundays - today 11th and 18th December. All young people, from Primary 3 up to Year 9, are encouraged to come along and take part, to make our Christmas Day Family Mass extra special. If you are a parent or a grandparent, please bring your child along! Everyone is warmly welcome! For further information please contact Mark Mooney.

WELCOME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR!

If a member of your family is coming home for Christmas, we would ask you to let us know, so that we can warmly welcome them to the parish Christmas liturgies. Simply text details of their name, and where they are coming from, to 07884248908, email the Parish Office holyfamily@downandconnor.org or tel. 90743119. We look forward to hearing from you!

ADORATION CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

St Thérèse – Adoration suspended Christmas Eve at 6pm until after 10am Mass on Tuesday 27th.
Holy Family – no Adoration on St Stephen's Day

SALE OF THE PASTORAL CENTRE

We would like to confirm that the sale of the Parish Pastoral Centre at 222 Limestone Road has completed.

LAST COFFEE MORNING BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Wednesday 14th December in the Gate Lodge.. Recommences on Wednesday January 11th. Happy Christmas to everyone.

LITTLE FLOWER GIRLS' SCHOOL

You are warmly invited to our annual Carol Service in the school assembly hall on Thursday 22nd December at 10.30am. This will be a great opportunity to take some time out from the hustle and bustle of preparations and focus our minds on the real meaning of Christmas. Refreshments will be served from 10.15am. Please come along and celebrate with us.

INDOOR BOWLS

Will restart Thursday 12th January 2017. Happy Christmas everyone.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

In St Peter's on Sunday 18th December at 4.30pm followed by festive refreshments afterwards in the Cathedral Hall.

FESTIVE FAVOURITES AT DRUMALIS

Friday 16 December at 7pm. Voices Chamber Choir under the direction of Loreto McAuley. Festive reception at 7:30 pm and a two-course supper will be served during the interval. Cost £25 pp (pre-paid ticket only). Contact 2827 2196.

A RENAISSANCE CHRISTMAS

Wed 21st Dec at 7.45pm in St George's Church, High St, with St George's Singers. Tickets £20 from Matchett's or at the door.

NORTHERN IRELAND HOSPICE - LIGHTS TO REMEMBER 2016

The annual Lights ceremony will take place on Tues 20th Dec at Dominican College, Fortwilliam,. Refreshments at 6.30pm followed by the Lights ceremony at 7.30pm. Torchlight procession to Hospice on Somerton Road and the tree lights will be switched on at 8.15pm. To sponsor a light or find out more call 028 9077 7123 or visit nihospice.org

WELCOMING CHRISTMAS' AT DRUMALIS

A service of song and reflection for friends and families at Drumalis Wednesday 21 December 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm.

ANNIVERSARIES IN THE COMING WEEK

HOLY FAMILY

Wed 14th (9.15am) **Hugh O'Hara**
Thurs 15th (9.15am) **Eddie McKinney Sen.**
Fri 16th (9.15am) **Thomas Varghese**
Sat 17th (6.30pm) **Anna O'Grady (1st)**
Sun 18th (10am) **Raymond Rea (1st)**
Sun 18th (12 noon) **Maura McDaid**

ST THÉRÈSE

Wed 14th (10am) **Paul Cushnahan**
Fri 16th (10am) **Pauline Flanagan**
Sat 17th (10am) **Frank Kerr**
Sat 17th (6pm) **Brian McIvor**
Sun 18th (10.30am) **Norman Preston**
Sun 18th (12 noon) **Ellen McNamee**

POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS ABOUT ADVENT

Advent encourages us to reflect on the contrast between our daily routine and the unexpected coming of the Lord. The Gospel, the Pope said, is not trying to frighten us, but “to open our horizons” to further dimensions, giving meaning even to everyday occurrences.

This perspective, he continued, is also an invitation to “sobriety, to not be dominated by the things of this world” but rather to keep them in their proper place. If, on the other hand, we allow ourselves to be overpowered by a concern for material things, we will not be able to perceive what is much more important: our final encounter with the Lord. And so, the Pope said, Advent is “an invitation to vigilance, because, not knowing when He will come, we must always be ready to depart.”

During Advent, Pope Francis concluded, “we are called to enlarge the horizons of our hearts, to be surprised by the life that is presented each day with its newness. In order to do this we need to learn to not depend on our own securities, our own established plans, because the Lord comes in the hour which we don't imagine.”

LEGION OF MARY

Invite women over 18 in their apostolate to homeless women in the Regina Coeli hostel. Contact 90612473.

LAY DOMINICANS

Will meet in 28 Fortwilliam Park today Sunday 11th December at 3pm. Contact Sr. Marie Joseph on 90370008.

HEARING AID CLINIC

Newington Day Centre Mon 19 December 11am-12.30pm

MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE PILGRIMAGES

Airport Transport and 7 nights B&B €279. Tel. 01 4434510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com Call for flight info - 00353 1 443 4510

STORMONT ROSARY VIGIL FOR LIFE

Please join us in a beautiful candlelight Rosary Vigil for the protection of Ireland's unborn babies at Parliament Buildings, Stormont (Main Gates) at 7.30pm this Monday 12th December, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadeloupe. For more information contact Rosary Crusade for Ireland on 028 9027 8484 or info@preciouslife.com

CHILDREN'S CORNER

The Gift

“Thanks for the electric guitar you gave me for Christmas,” little Johnny said to his uncle the first time he saw him after the holidays. “It's the best present I ever got. “That's great,” said his uncle. “Do you know how to play it?” “Oh, I don't play it,” the little fellow said. “My mummy gives me a pound a day not to play it during the day and my dad gives me five pounds a week not to play it at night!”

Christmas Statistics

-There are currently 78 people named S. Claus living in the USA, and one Kriss Kringle.
-To deliver his gifts in one night, Santa has to make 822.6 visits per second, sleighing at 3,000 times the speed of sound. Now that is quick!