

HOLY FAMILY PARISH



13 December 2015

Third Sunday of Advent

Sundays: Cycle C

Weekdays: 2 Psalter Week 3

REJOICE!

In his poem Japanese Maple, Clive James offers a heartrending description of some of the beauty he observes during what he believes are his final days.

You feel the drain
Of energy, but thought and sight remain:
Enhanced, in fact. When did you ever see
So much sweet beauty as when fine rain falls
On that small tree
And saturates your brick back garden walls

Faced with his mortality, the poet was able to celebrate and take pleasure in the simplest of things. The poem radiates with acceptance and a certain contentment as he reflects on the world and its 'sweet beauty'. (A year later he wrote of his embarrassment at still being alive after the attention the poem garnered!)

Today is Gaudete Sunday; the day takes its name from the Latin Gaudete meaning 'Rejoice'. The first line of our Second Reading uses the word 'happy' twice and 'happiness' once. This happiness Paul speaks of is not a passing mood, but a deeper happiness and contentment, a peace of heart. Do we take the time to cultivate this deeper sense of happiness? It is something we can think about as we prepare for Christmas. It is not the gifts and festivities that will bring us true and lasting happiness.

Triona Doherty



PRIESTS OF OUR PARISH

PARISH OFFICE: (028) 90743119 email: holyfamily@downandconnor.org

(Mon - Thurs 8.30am - 2pm, Fri 9am - 1.45pm)

Administrator:	Very Rev. Paul Strain	Holy Family Presbytery, 226 Limestone Road	(028) 90743119
Curate:	Fr. Paul Morely	Holy Family Presbytery, 226 Limestone Road	(028) 90743119
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EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER: 07778996031

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.HOLY-FAMILYPARISH.COM



REST IN PEACE

WE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY:

Caoimhe McCullough; Dick Murray; Elizabeth Lennon

FOR THOSE WHOSE MONTHS MIND OCCURS AT THIS TIME:

Jim Collins

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS AT THIS TIME:

Patricia & Harry Grieve; Maureen Ryan; Ted McCormack; William

O'Brien; James O'Brien; Gary Quigg; Louie Stone; Ann Mullin; Joseph Blaney;

Elizabeth Madden; Patricia Cochrane; Hugh Patrick McKenna; Eddie McKinney Sr; Eilis & Paddy White; Brian McIvor;

John Kelly; Orla Melaugh; Edward McIvor; Paul Cushnahan; Tony O'Neill; Michael & Elizabeth Healy; John & Mamie

McConnell; PJ & Chris Healy; Mickey & Anna Garrity

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD



PARISH LIFE



REMINDERS

You are warmly invited to a **SERVICE OF READINGS AND ADVENT HYMNS** today, Gaudete Sunday at 4pm in St Therese Church, followed by festive refreshments in Little Flower Girls' School Hall. All welcome.

LIVING YOUTH

Come and join us for our third Monthly Diocesan Youth Mass on Sun 20th Dec at 5pm (Confessions and Music Practice from 4.30 pm) in Holy Family Church. Refreshments after in the Church Gathering Space.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

The collection for Sun 06th Dec amounted to £3783.09, and the Priests' Stipend, for the support of our priests came to £3210.04. The Refugee appeal raised £5770. Many thanks to all those who contributed.

PERPETUAL ADORATION – CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

Perpetual Adoration in St Therese Church will be suspended at 7pm on Christmas Eve, and resume after 10am Mass on Monday 28th December. Adoration in Holy Family Church will continue as normal.

TEMPRARY ADORERS REQUIRED for Friday 1pm - 2pm and 2pm - 3pm in St Therese Church.

PARISH GIFT 1

Year 8s, what are you doing on Wed evenings in Jan and Feb? Come and join us for the Parish GIFT programme. Have fun with your friends, learn to juggle, do arts and crafts, first aid, cake decorating and learn more about your faith. Wed 7-9pm, HF Gathering Space. To register take a letter from the back of the Church, complete the back and return to the Parish Office with £10 fee. First Session Wed 6th Jan.

PARISH WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

Keep up to date with coverage of parish events by visiting www.holyfamilyparish.com / Facebook – recent postings include the Parish Bazaar, 4 Bridges Carol Service, Helen Barry's talk on 'Helping Children Through Grief', and the launch of Brendan Dowd's new album 'In Him All Things'.



PARISH CALENDAR

Will be available in each Church from this 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.



LITTLE FLOWER GIRLS' SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE

Fri 18th Dec at 11am in the school. Refreshments served from 10.30am.

ST. DOMINIC'S PAST PUPILS' UNION'S ANNUAL CAROL SERVICE

In the school on Mon 14th Dec at 7.30pm (Refreshments afterwards).

LUX CHAMBER CHOIR PRESENTS: "MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS"

23rd Dec at 7:30pm, St George's Parish Church, High Street. Admission £5. Conducted by Matthew Quinn (from Holy Family Parish)

ST THERESE OF LISIEUX PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAY

Thurs 17th Dec 2015 at 10am. Parents of children ready to start P1 in September 2016 are warmly invited to attend. For info - www.stthereseoflisieux.co.uk or 02890 770215.

RESURRECTION NURSERY AND PLAYGROUP - PRE-SCHOOL PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2016

Applications now available from the Nursery. Closing date for return of applications is 10 January at 12 noon.

COMMUNITIY NOTICES

Hearing Aid Clinic in Newington Day Centre Monday 21st December, 11am to 12.30pm.

Blood Donation in Cavehill Methodist Church Hall, Thursday 24th December 9.30am - 3pm.

Foster Carers needed in your local area. A good financial package is offered, to support young people in placement. Contact 90460500 or email: nioffice@actionforchildren.org.uk.

THE LIVE CRIB AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHAPEL LANE

12th December - 6th January. Entrance is free. Donations to the crib will go towards Tuesday's Child Following Yonder Star Christmas Appeal for children in Gaza, Kenya, Nigeria and child boat refugees rescued in the Mediterranean. There will be prayers each day in the crib for peace for every child, born and unborn. For further details e-mail events@tuesdayschild.org.uk or text 07808 814807



FEAST DAYS IN THE COMING WEEK

Monday 14th - St John of the Cross, priest and Doctor of the Church

Friday 18th - **St Flannan, bishop**

St Flannan lived in the 7th century, and was the son of a king of Thomond (parts of present day Counties Clare, Limerick and Tipperary). He entered Molua's monastery at Killaloe and became abbot there. He is remembered as a great preacher.



HOLY FAMILY PARISH 100 CLUB

BUILDING FUND WEEK 32

£200 - Phoebe Rose Cooley, Cooldarragh Park

£200 - Myra Dowds, Somerton Court

£200 - Mr & Mrs Toner, Castle Park

Promoter's Prize - Mary Shannon

POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

UNIVERSAL: EXPERIENCING OF GOD'S MERCY:

That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

EVANGELISATION: FAMILIES

That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus, a sign of certain hope.



THE DOOR OF MERCY - REMINDER

Today, Sunday, Bishop Treanor will open the Door of Mercy for the Diocese in St Patrick's Church. This will take place during 7pm evening Mass, and Parishioners from across the Diocese are invited to attend.

Pilgrim's journey of St. Patrick's Church, Belfast

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4LuNI9AAquA>

MESSAGE FROM CLONARD

In the next year we are hoping to discover that God himself wants to be known for his mercy more than anything else. Check out www.clonard.com or Facebook for details of the events we have planned to support this. In these weeks when there is so much sadness, displaced people and suffering, I am glad of the hope that our Holy Father's initiative gives us, focusing on the kindness, mercy, compassion and care of God for all people. I wish for you peace and renewed hope at Christmas. (Fr Brendan Keane CSSR).

NI HOSPICE - LIGHTS TO REMEMBER ANNUAL LIGHTS CEREMONY

Thurs 17th Dec. Refreshments at 6.30pm, ceremony at 7.30pm at Dominican College, Fortwilliam. Torchlight procession to Hospice and the tree lights will be switched on at 8.15pm. To sponsor a light www.nihospice.org.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES IN THE COMING WEEK

HOLY FAMILY

Mon 14th (9.15am) **Edward McIvor**

Thurs 17th (9.15am) **Tony O'Neill**

Sat 19th (6.30pm) **John Francis Walls**

Sun 20th (10am) **Rita Herdman (1st) & Edmund Farry (1st)**

Sun 20th (12 noon) **Maura McDaid**

Sun 20th (5pm) **Ciara Catney**

ST THERESE

Mon 14th (10am) **Paul Cushnahan**

Sat 19th (10am) **Jim Collins MM**

Sat 19th (6pm) **Dermot O'Flaherty**

Sun 20th (10.30am) **Ellen Concannon**

Sun 20th (12 noon) **Frank Kerr**

MASS IN THE EXTRAORDINARY FORM

In St Therese Church today, Sunday at 6pm and on Tuesday 15th at 7pm. Missals in English and Latin.

MASS TIMES IN HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Holy Family Church (all Masses available on webcam via www.holy-familyparish.com)

Mon-Fri: 9.15am

Sat Vigil: 6.30pm

Sun: 10am & 12 noon

Confessions: Sat 5.45pm - 6.15pm

Diocesan Youth Mass 3rd Sunday of every month at 5 pm

Adoration of the Most Holy Eucharist: Mon 10.00am - 4.00pm

St Therese of Lisieux Church

Mon-Sat: 10.00am

Sat Vigil: 6.00pm

Sun: 10.30am & 12 noon

Confessions: Sat 10.30am - 11.00am and 5.15pm - 5.45pm

Holy Mass in the Extraordinary Form 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm and 2nd Sunday of the month at 6pm

Perpetual Adoration of the Most Holy Eucharist: Sun 1.00pm - Sat 5.45pm, continuously