



# Holy Family Parish

*A praying, caring community, centred in Christ*

A member of the North Belfast Pastoral Community: comprising the parishes of Holy Cross, Holy Family, Sacred Heart, St Patrick's & St Vincent de Paul

## 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)

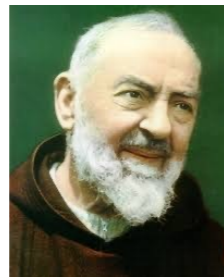
Holy Family Church: Saturdays at 4pm  
St Thérèse of Lisieux Church: Sundays at 1pm

## DEVOTIONS

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Daily 10am-10pm (St Thérèse)  
**Pilgrim Prayer:** Tuesday 8pm on Parish website & Facebook  
**Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help:** Wed 9:15am Mass  
**First Saturday:** 10am (Holy Family)  
**Taizé Prayer:** last Friday of the month 8pm-9pm (Holy Family)

## SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Mon. 23 St Padre Pio  
Wed . 25 St Finbarr  
Thu. 26 Ss Cosmas and Damian  
Fri. 27 St Vincent de Paul



*"Do not worry over things that generate anxiety. One thing only is necessary: to lift up your spirit and love God."* St Padre Pio

## 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):** 07802458240  
**Society of St Vincent de Paul (Helpline):** 028 90351561

**Email:** holyfamily@downandconnor.org  
**Website & Webcam:** www.holy-familyparish.com

## TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 ❖ Readings: B (II) ❖ Psalter: Week 1



## TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

"Future generations will never forgive us if we miss the opportunity to protect our common home. We have inherited a garden; we must not leave a desert for our children." *Joint statement from Pope Francis, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury.*

### Theme: "To Hope and Act with Creation"

In the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans, we see the biblical image of the Earth groaning (Rom 8:22). Today we hear the cry of the Earth all around us. The times we live in show that we are not relating to the Earth as a gift from our Creator, but rather as a resource to be used. And yet, there is hope and the expectation for a better future. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but rather actively striving for new life amidst the struggles.

The Season of Creation has a special significance for the Catholic Church, particularly since Pope Francis established 1 September as an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The Season of Creation is marked throughout the Christian world from 1 September to 4 October (Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) and celebrates the joy of creation as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment. *(Irish Catholic Bishops Conference)*

### ACTION

This year the Season of Creation encourages parishes to engage with the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty (FFNPT). The Treaty brings together nations, civil society, and faith groups to reduce fossil fuel use. Parishioners can endorse the FFNPT through the Faith Letter, available at the following website: [fossilfuel treaty.org/faith-letter](https://fossilfuel treaty.org/faith-letter).

### PRAYER

The Pope's Intention for September: For the Cry of the Earth

*We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth, and of victims of natural disasters and climate change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.*

God of the land, the sea, the sky:

Creator of all that is seen and unseen.

Open our hearts to the rhythm of Creation in the swells of the ocean, the movements of air and wind, the breath of all living things.

Open our eyes to the fragile beauty of the biodiversity of which we are a part.

Open our ears to the sounds of life around us.

Open our minds to the awareness of our deep relationship with all your Creation.

**Creator God: May we hope and act with Creation.**

### EVENT

**5 Oct Blessing of Pets & Animals**

11.00am in St Thérèse grounds & 12noon in Holy Family grounds.



### RESOURCES

season of creation.org  
jointthedotstogether.org  
<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals.html>  
[https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations.index.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations.index.html)

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

**WEEKLY OFFERING.** The weekly offering for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September came to £2,397.62, and the Autumn offering, towards the support of our priests, was £977.30. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. Donations can be made by standing order, or the website Donate button, or the contactless donation terminals in both churches.

**PARISH 100 CLUB.** Week 27 winners: D. Cullinan, Anne Cromie, Mr & Mrs McKee, Bernadette Molloy & Jean Privilege (Promoter).

**NEWINGTON DAY CENTRE CHURCH DOOR COLLECTION.** Newington Day Centre is a charity organisation in the heart of the parish, which looks after the elderly in the community, and also provides support and respite for carers. Government funding is very limited. The Centre therefore relies heavily on charitable donations, and any financial support you can give will be gratefully received. A special collection will be taken up after all Masses next weekend, 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

**ST CLEMENT'S JOURNEY OF FAITH GROUP** is a faith and friendship group in St Gerard's Parish. Info available this weekend, or [e:stelementsfaithgroup@gmail.com](mailto:e:stelementsfaithgroup@gmail.com).

**TAIZÉ PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS.** You are warmly invited to Taizé Prayer Around The Cross on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September, 8pm - 9pm in Holy Family Church. Everyone is very welcome, and refreshments will be served afterwards in the Gathering Space.

**LITTER PICK.** To mark the Season of Creation, the members of our parish youth groups (Youth Club, Guide and Scout Units) will be helping to care for our common home, by doing a litter pick on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 12noon-1pm, leaving from Holy Family Church. Children are very welcome to join us, but must be accompanied by an adult. Litter picks will be provided, and refreshments will be available afterwards in the Youth Club.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION.** Please contact the parish office if your child is in p3, p4 or p7 in a non-parish school, and wishes to receive the sacrament of First Confession, First Holy Communion, or Confirmation in 2025.

**ST PADRE PIO.** Mass and blessing with holy relic today Sunday at 7pm, in St Vincent de Paul Church, Ligoniel.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR – SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER @ 2.15pm, in the Somerton Road Site of Blessed Trinity College.** Details and arrangements to follow.

If you have any unwanted gifts, please hold on to them for us. If you volunteered in the past, or would like to volunteer this year, please contact the Parish Office as soon as you can, to facilitate planning. And if you have any hampers that you no longer have use for, we would be very grateful for them.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 21 (6pm): Gerald Gilfedder  
Sun 22 (9am): Denis O'Hagan  
Sun 22 (10.30am): Mary Haughey (35th)  
Sun 22 (12Noon): Fiona McCloskey  
Mon 23: Sally Brown  
Tue 24: Priest's Intention  
Wed 25: James Larkin  
Thu 26: Priest's Intention  
Fri 27: Priest's Intention  
Sat 28 (10am): Joe McNamee



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

## REST IN PEACE



**Recently Deceased:** Colette Magee & Mary Coleman  
**Anniversaries:** Brian Hughes, Patrick Cassidy, Joseph Catney, Baby Domhnall Kelly (5th), Rosaleen Deignan, Patrick Camplisson, Alfie Dowd, Elizabeth Lloyd, John, Muriel & David Boston, John Blackham, Gerald Gilfedder, Denis O'Hagan, Mary Haughey (35th), Fiona McCloskey, Sally Brown, James Larkin

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!*