

**St. Pio's Prayer Group** on **Thurs 15th Feb** in St. Malachy's Church at 7:30pm. St Pio Relic available after Mass. All welcome.

**Lent 2018 Prayer Group** will commence **Mon 12 Feb** at 10:45am. Anyone interested in joining should contact Claire at the Parish Office 37522813.

**Medjugorje Prayer Meeting** in Sacred Heart Convent on **Tues 13th Feb** at 8.15 pm.

**Accord Marriage Preparation Courses** Due to demand marriage preparation courses need to be booked at least 10 months in advance. Book your course online at [www.accord-ni.co.uk](http://www.accord-ni.co.uk) or phone Kate on 028 38 334781.

**Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group** Life in the Spirit Seminars will take place each Tuesday in the St. Vincent de Paul Conference Centre, Chapel Lane at 8pm

**THIS WEEK: 13th Feb - Salvation with Vincent Costello**

20th Feb - The New Life with Carmel Horan

27th Feb - Receiving God's Gift with Archbishop Eamon Martin

6th Mar - Baptism in the Holy Spirit with Fr. Gerry Campbell

13th Mar - Growth with Patricia Kelly (testimony also from Martin)

20th Mar - Transformation in Christ with Fr. Owen Gorman

**Rally to "SAVE THE 8TH"** a massive pro-life Rally will be held in Dublin on Saturday **10th March**. Join thousands from across Ireland in support of the 8th Amendment of the Irish Constitution that protects unborn babies. Coaches travelling to the Rally from towns across Northern Ireland. For further details please contact the Rally for Life Committee on 02890278484 or click on [www.rallyforlife.net](http://www.rallyforlife.net)

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje** for 7 nights from Dublin. Wed 15th Aug. Accompanied by Fr John Mc Keever. £579 – deposit of £80 secures seat. Contact Martin 07889186915/Lucia 07926132847 for info.

**Valentine's Ball at The Priory** in aid of Hospice **Sat 17th Feb** in Benburb Priory at 7.30pm includes drinks reception, three course meal and music by the '3rd Wheel Band'. Everyone welcome. Tickets £49 available from Benburb Village Store or from 'The Bottle of Benburb'.

**The SVP Shop, Ogle Street** regrets it cannot accept pre-loved donations of furniture until further notice. Thank you for your support.

**The Westenders Group** will be hosting a tea dance on **Wed 14th Feb** from 2.30pm – 4.30pm at the Cathedral Road Recreation Centre. Cost £2 inc. refreshments and music. Everyone welcome.

**Cumann Seanchais Ard Mhaca** Lecture by Dr Eoin Magennis (Ulster University) on 'The 1918 South Armagh by-election' in Cardinal Ó Fiaich Library on **Wed 21st Feb** at 8pm. All welcome.

**Mass of Remembrance** The Southern Trust is hosting a special service for patients, clients & staff who have died on Tue 20th Feb at 7.30pm in Seagoe Parish Centre, Portadown.

**SVP Pancake Tuesday Coffee Morning** will take place in the SVP Centre, Chapel Lane on **Tues 13th Feb** 11am-1pm. The SVP Team would like to thank you for your continued support throughout the year, and we look forward to seeing you at this event!

**Armagh Pioneer Centre** Many people abstain from alcohol and take the short term pledge for the duration of Lent. Make your Lenten pledge by contacting Stella—38891002 or Brian—37524853.

**The Armagh Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** is looking for Doctors and Nurses to join the Pilgrimage Team from 12th to 17th May 2018. Live Registration with IMC/GMC is required. All enquires to the General Secretary, Mr Martin Feeney



**St Patrick's Cathedral Parish**

**Archdiocese of Armagh**

[www.armaghparish.net](http://www.armaghparish.net)

**Office Tel. 37522813**

Email: [armaghparish@btconnect.com](mailto:armaghparish@btconnect.com)

St Malachy's T 3751 0516

Cathedral T 3752 2638

SVP Help Line T 07733482604

Safeguarding T 07895 460797

SVP Shop T 07518909929

**11th February 2018**

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year**

**Reflection**

Jesus, in today's gospel cures a leper by the healing touch of his hand. A leper was completely outcasted from society, and still today, there are many people in our own society who are completely alienated and stigmatised. Jesus is moved with pity for this man. What moves you with pity? Who do you pity? What alienates you from others? Who is alienated in our communities? Who is it that we need to reach out to? Jesus' pity also conveys anger at the leper's situation. Jesus sends the man to the priests, as a testimony to them. It is the religious of Jesus' time who have alienated this man. What they are incapable of doing, Jesus has done by "stretching out his hand" in love.

Jesus, in Mark's Gospel, is forever asking people to keep quiet and not tell anyone about what he does. Yet, after such a radical encounter with God which frees this man from all that keeps him trapped, of course he would be shouting from the roof tops. Why would Jesus want his miracles to be kept a secret? Jesus wants to be able to fulfil his mission without attracting the wrong kind of attention. Eventually those who are against him will compile evidence but, for now, the less they know the better. We might think today of those who bravely speak out, even if it means they are punished in some way. May all of us have the courage, like the man who is healed in the gospel today, to proclaim the truth, even if it costs us.

On a different note, this weekend, we celebrate **World Day of the Sick**. It was St John Paul II who launched this special day back in 1992, a number of years following an assassination attempt on his life that led to a time of suffering and the experience of being seriously ill in hospital. The day coincides each year with the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have continued this special World Day – an occasion during which the whole Church bears witness as always with special concern to the tender mercy and love of God towards all who suffer.

It's a day to reflect on the needs of all who suffer, to pause and be prayerfully in solidarity with those who experience illness and with all who care for those who are facing sickness. Pope Francis encourages us to experience the merciful face of Jesus, showing his mercy and tenderness to those who live through sickness and suffering, respecting their own inalienable dignity and mission in life, as we serve life and health. To celebrate this special day, **Mass will be celebrated for the Sick and those who minister to the Sick in St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 11 February at 5.30pm and all are welcome.**

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us.  
Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.  
Blessed Joseph her Spouse, pray for us.

With every blessing  
Rev P McAnenly Adm

**The First Friday of Lent, 16 February**, at the request of Pope Francis, has been designated by the Irish Bishops as a National Day of Prayer for survivors and victims of abuse. Prayers will be offered at Masses on that day and we are all asked to remember this intention in our private prayers also. Archbishop Eamon will celebrate Mass on Friday, 16 February, at 10.00am, in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh to mark the second National Day of Prayer for survivors and victims of abuse. All are welcome.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Oisín Gill, Michael McKenna, Eileen Tierney, Jim Devlin & Mary Quigley  
**MONTHS MIND:** Jim Kearney (12th), Michael Dandy (12th), Patsy McShane (14th) & Kathleen Toal (16th)



**Na Piarsaigh Óg Lotto: 9/11/17/23** No winner. Next weeks Jackpot £1450

**Abbey Lotto: 7/9/18/19** No winner. Next weeks Jackpot £3050

**Tullysaran Lotto: 7/16/19/23** No winner. Next weeks Jackpot £2000

**St Colmcilles GAC Lotto: 11/14/18/21** No winner. Next weeks Jackpot is £550

Weekly collection amounted £678215 & €141.90.

The Order of Malta will take up their Annual Church door collection at all Masses in the parish next weekend. A further collection to help support the World Meeting of Families will take place at all Masses throughout the country on the weekend of Sat 24/Sun 25 February. We are asked to help support this worthy cause as Ireland prepares to host this world event in August.

**Parish Safeguarding Reps** are Aileen & Maura. Contact: tel. 07895 460797 or email at [armaghparishsafeguarding@gmail.com](mailto:armaghparishsafeguarding@gmail.com)

**Requests for Prayers/Masses to be arranged in the Parish Office. Only Anniversaries and Month's Minds left in the Parish Office by 12 noon on the Thursday of the week prior to the intention being remembered are guaranteed to be included on the list.**

**Baptism Course** All parents of children being baptised in the parish **must attend** a short course before the baptism. For info & booking contact the Parish Office.

**Adoration Chapel Adorers needed to cover:** Mon: 8am; Wed: 11pm; Fri: 11pm; Sat: 5pm. Please contact Nora 37525265

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** meet each **Tues @ 7pm** in the Synod Hall. **New members welcome.**

**Parish Records** Help us keep our system up-to-date by letting us know your change of address! If you've changed your address in the last year or are planning to soon, please call Claire in the Parish Office on 37522813

**JOY Youth Group** All young people aged 16-30 are welcome to join each Thursday at 7pm in the Cathedral Gate Lodge.

**Armagh Parish Trip to Wexford** will take place from **Mon 4th - 7th June**. Booking in the Parish Office. Cost: £235 per person sharing, or £310 for a single room. Deposit: £50 (non-refundable) must be paid at time of booking in the Parish Office.

**Trocaire Boxes** are now available at the back of the Churches in the Parish. Please take one and help support Trocaire during the Lenten Season.

**All notices for the upcoming Bulletin must be submitted no later than Tuesday at 5pm - please send them to [armaghparish@btconnect.com](mailto:armaghparish@btconnect.com) or leave in the Parish Office. Due to a high volume of requests we cannot guarantee that notices submitted will be published in the Parish Bulletin.**

### **Ash Wednesday 14th February**

The beginning of Lent and a day of fast and abstinence. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at all Masses.

Mass Times:

St Malachy's - 7am and 7.30pm  
St Patrick's Cathedral - 9.15am and 11am.  
Tullysaran 10am and 7.30pm  
Knockaconey - 7.30pm.

Lenten Masses: St Malachy's 7am & 7.30pm (Mon - Fri), St Patrick's Cathedral 10am.

### **The Camino de Santiago de Compostela: 25 September- 2 October**

Walk part of The Way of St James for the week, beginning at St Jean Pied-de-Port and we will walk the first part of this ancient route. The route takes pilgrims through stunning countryside, villages and towns and we will also walk past terraced fields, lush forests and beautiful vineyards. Over the course of the week, pilgrims will walk approximately 130 km and on the last day, we will be brought by coach for our walk into the ancient city of Santiago de Compostela where we will have the opportunity to visit the tomb of St James the Apostle. A spiritual director and guide will accompany the group. For further details about the "Camino Experience" at contact the Parish Office. Booking through [www.marian.ie](http://www.marian.ie)

**Lent 2018** On Wednesday, we begin the season of Lent and during the Lenten season, we're encouraged to engage in some form of penance in preparation for Easter. Whatever penance we might do, whether it's making an effort to go to Mass more often or trying to improve relationships within our homes or perhaps giving up something for the few weeks, our efforts should lead to a new way of living and behaving. While Lent is about many things, above all else, it's a time for conversion and a time for all of us to experience a change of heart. As we approach Lent, let's help support the work of Trocaire in the coming weeks. Trocaire focuses on helping families and local communities. Their focus country this year is Sierra Leone where they began working in the mid 1990's. While Lent invites us to a personal spiritual renewal, it also invites us to be mindful of the poor, oppressed and persecuted sisters and brothers and the need to reach out to them.

### **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, TULLYSARAN**

*ALL Baptisms & Weddings in Tullysaran must be booked in advance at Parish Office*

**Novena Mass** The Novena Mass on Monday at 7:30pm.

**Children's Liturgy Group** continues each Sunday at 10am Mass.

**Community Centre** Monday Indoor Bowls. 8-10pm; Tuesday baby massage class 10.30-11.30am. Corebox. 7-8pm, Spin Class 8.15-9pm; Wednesday Yoga 7-8pm; Thursday mum & daughter class 6.30-7.30pm, music 7.30-8.30pm, Couch to 5K every wed & fri @6.30pm.

**Tullysaran Community Association AGM** Wed 28 Feb @ 7.30pm.

**Tullysaran Music Classes** take place on Thursday evening. Singing 6:30pm-7pm; Tin Whistle 7:30pm (Beginners) & 7:30pm-8pm (Intermediate); Fiddle 7:30pm-8:30pm. All welcome.

### **CHURCH OF ST. COLMCILLE, KNOCKACONEY**

**Grange Ladies** We have football for Senior, U16 & U12 teams this 2018 season, all new players welcome. The 'Ireland Lights Up' walking track will be lit up for the next 6 weeks from 7pm - 9pm

**Minor Boys** training every Monday night.

**Lenten Retreat Day** will take place in SVP Centre on **Tues 27 Feb** from 10.30am-1.30pm. It's a day to step aside from the busyness of life, to reflect & pray. Time will be given to reflecting on the gift of family & praying for the protection of family life. The day will be led by Sr Anne Lyng, Diocesan Pastoral Coordinator. Tea/coffee & a light lunch will be provided. Booking at Parish Office

**Lenten Evenings of Prayer & Reflection** Two evenings will take place for all Ministers of Word & Eucharist in The Synod Hall. The evening for Ministers of Eucharist will take place on **Tues 20 Feb** & the Ministers of Word on **Tue 6 Mar**. Both at 8pm. All involved in these Ministries are invited. Anyone interested in volunteering for these ministries should contact the Parish Office.

**Parish Envelopes** for 2018 are currently being prepared. Anyone not receiving a box of envelopes & wishing to do should make contact with the Parish Office. It's only by using a Parish Envelope that the Parish can claim Gift Aid on your giving. We encourage all parishioners to register and to use their parish envelope to support their parish community.

**Confirmation Pledge** At the Ceremony of Light on **Thurs 1 Mar**, all P7 Pupils will have an opportunity to take the Pledge & make the commitment to abstain from alcoholic drink & drugs until they are at least 18 years old. Alcohol & drugs have become a big issue in our society & the decision whether to take alcohol and/or drugs during ones teenage years will have a major influence on the rest of ones life. Alcohol/drugs could be the obstacle to someone achieving their hopes & dreams. During these weeks, members of the local PTAA Group are visiting Primary Schools in our Parish to encourage young people to seriously consider making this commitment & taking the pledge. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with their child. In becoming a Pioneer, the person is joining a family of like minded young people who have made the decision to say NO to alcohol/drugs until they are 18.

**Temperance Sunday** Sunday 11 Feb is Temperance Sunday & it's also the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. It's a good time to reflect on our lifestyle, our social activities, the way we spend money, the habits of indulgence & the various addictions that can take hold of our lives. Perhaps it's a good time to think about a few terms that nowadays might be considered unpopular and even old fashioned e.g. self-denial, personal sacrifice, abstinence, self-discipline and penance. On Temperance Sunday each year, we're encouraged to think about the importance of being temperate in all things, not just in relation to our consumption of food and drink. On World Day of Prayer for Temperance, we acknowledge in a special way the members of the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association and we thank them particularly for their fidelity and for the example of their lives.

### **Prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes**

O ever Immaculate Virgin, Mother of mercy, health of the sick, refuge of sinners, comforter of the afflicted, you know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings, look with mercy on me. By appearing in the Grotto of Lourdes, you were pleased to make it a privileged sanctuary, whence you dispense your favours, and already many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and corporal. I come therefore with complete confidence to implore your maternal intercession. Obtain, O loving mother what I now request. Through gratitude for your favours, I will endeavour to imitate your virtues, that I may one day share your glory. Amen.