

The 11th Brigid of Faughart Festival will take place in Faughart, Brigid's birthplace and various locations in Dundalk, from **Sat 27th Jan - Sun 4th Feb** with a varied range of exciting and creative events for all. For further info/bookings visit www.brigidoffaughart.ie or phone Karen 00353 87 6821664.

The Westenders Group will be hosting a tea dance on **Wed 24th Jan** from 2.30pm – 4.30pm at the Cathedral Road Recreation Centre, Armagh. Cost £2pp, inc refreshments & music. All welcome.

Cuchulainn Hurling Club Table Quiz will take place on Friday 2 February 2018 in Co Armagh Golf Club at 8.00pm.

Saint Brigids Camogie Club Training Saint Brigid's Camogie Club are celebrating 50 years in the community. As part of the celebrations, there will be a dinner dance held in Armagh City Hotel on Sat 3rd March, we would like to invite all past, present player & members, parents & friends to this wonderful celebration. Tickets: £20 each. Contact Maggie on 07787 798164.

Mary's Meals desperately need metal spoons and biro pens! Items can be left in our centre in the old clinic, Dobbin St. on Tues or Thurs afternoons, or can be left in the baskets in St. Malachy's & the Cathedral. Please spread the word! Thank you!

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 or phone Kate on 028 38 334781.

Accord Marriage and Relationship Counselling If you have difficulty talking to each other try talking to us. To book an appointment at our Portadown Centre. Phone Kate on 028 38 334781


Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated from **Mon 29 Jan – Fri 2 Feb**. We thank God for the Catholic Schools in our Parish and all who work within them, The launch of Catholic Schools Week will take place in St John the Baptist Church, Portadown on Tuesday 23 January at 11am and all are welcome. As we look forward to the World Meeting of Families 2018, the theme for this special week will be "Catholic Schools – Called to be a family of families".

Archdiocese of Armagh Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes Anyone wishing to travel with the pilgrimage either as a pilgrim or assisted pilgrim you are cordially invited to contact Ann Gray 07736415305. Cost €720 + single room supplement. **12th-17th May 2018**. Assisted Pilgrims please submit names ASAP as there are limited places available. Closing date 12/02/1018. Annual Church Door Collection will take place at all Masses on weekend of 3rd February.

Armagh Harps Youth Registration for all children 3 years - U18 will take place on Sun 28th Jan in Armagh Harps Social Club from 10:30-12:30pm. All players wishing to play for teams in 2018 are asked to attend and register.

NI Children's Hospice & Anam Cara, an organisation that supports bereaved parents, will be holding a Bereavement Info Evening on **Tues 30th Jan** at 7.30pm in Corr's Corner Hotel, Newtownabbey. A guest speaker experienced in supporting bereaved parents will talk for about forty minutes. Afterwards there'll be an opportunity to speak/listen to other bereaved parents or to speak to the professional should you have any questions or concerns. This is a free event We would appreciate if you could RSVP to info@anamcara.ie before Monday 29th January 2018 or contact us on 02895213120.

Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group upcoming events at the SVP Centre, Chapel Lane:
Tues 23rd Jan: Meet for prayer, praise, and scripture reflection, at 8pm, rosary at 7.30pm.
Fri 26th Jan @ 8pm Mass for Healing of the Family Tree. Celebrant Fr Gerry Campbell.
Tues 30th Jan @8pm Life in the Spirit Seminars begin. ALL WELCOME!!

 **Na Piarsaigh Óg Lotto: 1/3/4/6** No winner. Next weeks Jackpot £1300
Abbey Lotto: 21/24/26/27 No winner. Next weeks Jackpot £2900
Tullysaran Lotto: 1/3/14/15 No winner. Next weeks Jackpot £2000
St Colmcilles GAC Lotto: 6/15/21/23 No winner. Next weeks Jackpot is £4050



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21st January 2018

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Reflection

"Mark my words" is a phrase that's often used when we want to emphasise something, rather like the way famous politicians tend to say "Read my lips". Marking words takes on a different meaning for church going Catholics this year, as most of the Sunday Gospel readings until the end of November, apart from Lent, Eastertide and the month of August, will be taken from the Gospel of St Mark.

St Mark's Gospel is the shortest (only 16 chapters) and is the most direct and clear of all the four Gospels. He comes across as a blunt "tell it like it is" no nonsense reporter, without frills or any kind of embellishment or ornamentation that are found in the other Gospels. Mark was probably not as well educated or sophisticated as Matthew (tax collector) or Luke (doctor) or mystical like John. It is broadly accepted that his was the first Gospel written – so this is perhaps the purest Gospel.

Mark's main interest was clearly in the person of Jesus himself, and you will notice in the extracts read from one weekend to the next how he follows Jesus through his public ministry in Galilee, then outside Galilee and on to Jerusalem immediately before and through his passion. At the very heart of Mark's Gospel is Peter's confession of faith that Jesus is "the Christ, the Son of the living God" in answer to the question "Who do you say I am?" While all of the Gospels are of course Christ centered, Mark's seems more so than the others because of the no frills, no nonsense approach. So this year, don't mark anyone else's words, mark Mark's!!!

The Gospel today invites us to reflect on Jesus' call of the first disciples. There's a simplicity to the scene where Jesus gathers his disciples. He issues the invitation to follow him, and the fishermen respond with a resounding yes, leaving their nets, boats and even their families behind, no questions asked. In the opening chapters of Mark's gospel, everything happens "at once" or immediately. There's a sense of urgency, the time has come, the kingdom of God is near, and Jesus needs helpers to work alongside him.

Jesus asks the same of all of us, his modern day disciples: "Follow me". We are summoned too. All of us are challenged to leave aside our worldly concerns, to see the world in a new way, and to begin a new adventure with Jesus.

With every blessing
Rev P McAnenly Adm

RECENTLY DECEASED: Mary Quigley, Kathleen Toal, Margaret Basketfield, Patsy McShane, Jim Kearney, Michael Dandy, Ann Tennyson, Rose-ann Rooney and Maura McGleenan
MONTHS MIND: Mary Donaghy (23rd) & Barry Smyth (26th),

Weekly collection 14.01.18 amounted to £ 6383.45 & € 125.27

The Annual Collection to help support Irish Bishops Conference will be taken up at all Masses this weekend.

Parish Safeguarding Reps are Aileen & Maura. Contact: tel. 07895 460797 or email at 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. All 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.

Vivaldi's Gloria The Senior Girls Choir from St Paul's High School, Bessbrook will present Vivaldi's Gloria, accompanied by The Generation Louth String Orchestra in St Patrick's Cathedral on **Sun 21 Jan** at 7pm. All are welcome!

Parking in the grounds of St Malachy's Church

At a recent meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council, parking in the grounds of St Malachy's Church was discussed. Unfortunately some people are parking vehicles carelessly and access around the Church is very often being blocked. Those who park within the Church grounds are asked to park within the parking spaces that have been assigned.

Lenten Evenings of Prayer and Reflection for Ministers of Word & Eucharist

All notices for the upcoming Bulletin must be submitted no later than Tuesday at 5pm - please send them to 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.

As we continue to prepare for the World Meeting of Families, two special evenings of Prayer & Reflection will take place for all Ministers of Word & Eucharist in The Synod Hall at St Patrick's Cathedral. The evening for Ministers of Eucharist will take place on Tues 20 Feb & the evening for Ministers of Word will take place on Tue 6 Mar. Both at 8pm. All who are involved in these Ministries in any of the Churches in our parish are asked to attend. Anyone interested in volunteering for these ministries is asked to contact the Parish Office.

The Do this in Memory Programme will continue in St Patrick's Cathedral on **Sat 10 Feb** at 7pm for all Primary Four Pupils and their parents.

World Day of the Sick will be celebrated on **Sunday 11 February**. The 5.30pm Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral will be offered on that evening for all who are sick at this time. During the Mass, those who are feeling unwell will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Sick.

Armagh Parish Trip to Wexford will take place from **Mon 4th - 7th June**. Booking in the Parish Office from **Wednesday 24th January**. Cost: £235 per person sharing, or £310 for a single room. To book please contact Claire in the Parish Office. Deposit: £50 (non-refundable) must be paid at time of booking.

AIFREANN NA GAELIGE: Ní léifear Aifreann na Gaeilge sa Choláiste Dé Sathairn 27ú Eanáir ach leanfar ar aghaidh leis an Aifreann ar 3ú Feabhra. **IRISH MASS** There will be no Irish Mass on Saturday 27 January, but it will resume on 3 February.

Icon of the Holy Family

Copies of the special Icon which has been commissioned in preparation for the World Meeting of Families have been placed in The Blessed Sacrament Chapel in the Cathedral and also to the side of Our Lady's Altar in St Malachy's Church. People are invited to venerate the lovely Icon and pray the prayer for the World Meeting of Families 2018.

Blood Donation The next blood donation session will be in St. Mark's Crozier Hall. **Mon 29th & Tues 30th Jan**. 1.30pm-4pm & 5.15pm-8pm

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 Activities / classes this week: Monday Indoor Bowls. 8-10pm; Tuesday Corebox. 7-8pm; Spin Class 8.15-9pm; Wednesday parent toddler group 10.30-12, Pilates. 7-8pm; Thursday music 7.30-8.30pm, Couch to 5K every Wed & Fri @ 6.30pm

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place from 18 – 25 January. The theme chosen for this year is: "That all may be free". Throughout the Christian world, people of different denominations come together during this special week for conferences, prayer services and social gatherings. As we celebrate the week, we recall how an Episcopalian Franciscan priest from America, Fr Paul Watson, started these gatherings in 1908 by praying for Christian Unity. This year and our Ecumenical Service will take place in St Patrick's COI Cathedral, Armagh on Wednesday 24 January at 7.30pm. The guest preacher will be Fr Kieran McDermott, Administrator of St Mary's Pro Cathedral, Dublin. All are welcome to join for the special service.

PRAYER

God our Father, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit ever more deeply into our hearts and minds that we may think thoughts of peace, speak words that build up and do the truth always in love, the truth that sets us free, the truth that gives us hope. Amen.

World Meeting of Families 2018 Whilst celebrations will be taking place within our own Parish in the coming months to prepare for the WMOF18, the main celebration will be taking place in Dublin from **Thurs 23rd—Sun 26th August**. Registration is important! If you wish to take part in WMOF2018 please register on www.worldmeeting2018.ie. This will assure you admission to the main celebrations in Dublin in 2018.

OFFICIAL FAMILY PRAYER FOR WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

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.

Lenten Retreat Day A "day with a difference" will take place in St Vincent de Paul Centre, Chapel Lane, Armagh on **Tuesday 27 February** from 10.30am – 1.30pm. As we journey through the Lenten season, it will be a day to step aside from the busyness of life, to reflect & to pray. Continuing our preparations for the World Meeting of Families, some 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, Pastoral Coordinator with the Archdiocese. It will begin with tea/coffee & a light lunch will also be provided. Places are limited and so booking is essential at the Parish Office.

Confirmation Pledge At the Ceremony of Light on **Thurs 1 March**, all P7 Pupils will have an opportunity to take the Confirmation Pledge & make the commitment to abstain from alcoholic drink & drugs until they are at least 18 years of age. The issue of alcohol and drugs has become a big issue in our world and in society and 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 and dreams. In the coming weeks, members of the local PTAA Group will be visiting the Primary Schools in our Parish to encourage young people to seriously consider making this commitment and taking the pledge. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with their son/daughter and in becoming a Youth 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.