

Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group meet on Tues at 8pm at SVP Centre for prayer & praise.

Charity Christmas Fun Bingo in the Pearse Og Club **Sunday 9th Dec**. Admission £3 per book. Prizes inc. Turkey vouchers, hampers...etc. Entertainment & a special visit from Santa! Proceeds to Children's Orphanage & Sister Muriel, Medugorje.

Christmas Charity CD Two songs written by Willie Nugent and performed by Dublin singer Larry Hogan have been released on a CD "Christmas Time in Armagh" and "The Market down at the Shambles" in aid of "The Friends of the Cancer Centre City Hospital Belfast" and "The Royal Hospital for Sick Children Belfast". Check local press for details.

St Patrick's Grammar School proudly presents A Night at the Musical with Special Guests Conor Headley & compere John Paul Connolly on **Fri 7th Dec** in the School Assembly Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets £7 & £5 Concession. Tickets are available from School Office or School Staff.

Mullacreevie Community Association need help with decorating their outdoor crib for the Christmas Season. Anyone willing to help or provide ideas, or donate large figurines, should contact Anne 07544426229

Armagh Widows next meeting on **5th Dec** at the Community Centre, Cathedral Rd, 7pm-9pm. New members welcome.

Grand Christmas Bazaar at Benburb Priory Stalls, Raffles, Christmas Fayre, Spin the Wheel...etc on **Monday 3rd Dec** at 8pm

Cumann Seanchais Ard Mhacha: Lecture by Dr Matthew Stout, DCU: 'Ringforts in Ireland: Archaeology, History & Tradition' on **Wed 5 Dec** 8pm in Cardinal O Fiaich Library. All welcome.

Youth 2000: Christmas Retreat Youth 2000 will be holding their annual Christmas Retreat in Newbridge College, Co Kildare from Friday 7th – Sunday 9th December. Many young people (aged 16-35) from across Ireland are expected at this donation only event and newcomers will be very welcome. This is a great opportunity to find out what your faith is all about in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Free buses available. Online booking necessary. See www.youth2000.ie or call 01 6753690

Annual Christmas Carol Service in St. Luke's Church, St. Luke's Hospital **Thurs 6th Dec** at 7pm followed by refreshments in Mullinure. Tickets £5 in aid of Trust Charity. Contact Mary 07767402743 for tickets or pay at door.

School Aid Romania St. Patrick's Grammar School are hosting a coffee morning in St Vincent de Paul Centre Chapel Lane on **Sat 8th Dec** at 10am. Please come along and show your support. All welcome.

Mary's Meals wish to thank parishioners for the fantastic response to our Talks on 18th November. We are extremely appreciative of your ongoing support. Our Dobbin St base will be closed in December & January and the baskets in the churches removed but we will replace them when we reopen again in February. Wishing each and every one of you the blessings of the Christmas season and our heartfelt gratitude again.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje on 19th June 2019 for 7 nights – cost €645 Spiritual Advisor Fr. Paul Montague, tallanstown parish . Ph James 087-2202173

Middletown & Tynan Historical Society will be hosting the book launch of 'Saint Joseph's, Mullaghard, Tynan (1813-2018), A Millennium of Church History' in the Middletown Parish Community Hall, Church Street on **Sat 8th Dec** at 3pm. Everyone is welcome to attend the presentation, books will be available to purchase at £10 each and light refreshments will be served.

Southern Area Hospice Annual Light up a Life Illumination Ceremony Dedicate a light on our tree this Christmas for Southern Area Hospice Services – Tuesday 11th December in The Palace Demesne, Armagh at 11am and all are welcome!

Big Buds Out of School Club in Mt. St. Catherine's P.S. 2pm-5.30pm. £2.50 per hour per child
If interested can you call 02837511003, between the hours 2pm-5pm Mon-Fri.



Na Piarsaigh Óg Lotto: 12/14/18/23. Next week's Jackpot £1650
Abbey Lotto: 3/11/20/25. Next week's Jackpot is £1660
St Colmcilles GAC Lotto: 2/5/11/18 Next week's Jackpot is £2700
Tullysaran Lotto: 5/18/19/23 Next week's Jackpot £2000

St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish

Archdiocese of Armagh

www.armaghparish.net

Email: armaghparish@btconnect.com

Parish Office - 37522813
St. Malachy's - 37510516
Cathedral - 37522638
SVP Help Line - 07733482604
SVP Shop – 07518909929
Safeguarding - 07895460797

First Sunday of Advent

Reflection

Today is the first Sunday of Advent and the beginning of the Church's Liturgical Year. During the season of Advent which runs from today until 24th December, we're preparing for the coming of Christ. While there is a tendency to concentrate on the Nativity as the celebration of Christ's historical coming in to the world, it's important that we don't lose sight of the other aspects of his coming as well. During these days of Advent, we should reflect on the coming of Christ in a threefold way:

We commemorate the historical birth of Jesus as Son of God. "The Word was made flesh and lived among us". Jesus shared in our humanity so that we might share in his divinity.

We acknowledge the fact that Christ continues to come to us in mystery every day, especially in his Word and in his Sacraments. The Lord's abiding presence is with us and within us.

We look forward in hope to Christ's final coming at the end of time. The Lord will come again in glory and hand over the Kingdom to the Father.

And so:

We celebrate Christ's coming in history at Bethlehem;

We celebrate Christ's coming in mystery each day;

We celebrate Christ's coming in majesty at the end of time.

In the meantime, the society in which we live will move us towards Christmas with great speed, reminding us constantly of the number of shopping days that are left. In the midst of all the many distractions, we have to be careful not to miss "the reason for the season". Despite our efforts to "put Christ back into Christmas" we can be overwhelmed by so much commercialism at this time of year. And so, let's be watchful and let's be awake and may our Advent prayer be "Come, Lord Jesus, come".

With every blessing
Rev P McAnenly Adm

Advent Day of Prayer & Reflection will take place in the St. Vincent de Paul Centre, Chapel Lane on **Tues 4th Dec** 10:30am-2:30pm. The day will be led by Sr. Mary Roe RSCJ and it will be an opportunity during this busy season to take time to reflect on what it is we are waiting for during the Advent season. Morning Coffee & a light lunch will be available as part of the day. Places are limited. Booking at the Parish Office.

The Priests in Concert

The Priests are returning to St. Patrick's Cathedral to present their hugely popular Christmas Concert, featuring much loved classics & seasonal songs on **Thurs 13th Dec @ 8pm**. Tickets are £25 each and are now available to purchase in Armagh Parish Office (Cathedral Gate Lodge) and in Dungannon Parish Office.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Catherine Morgan, Bernadette Thomas,
Nancy Vallely and Sheila McClelland.



Weekly Collection amounted to £ 6269.53 & €94.00

Anniversary Requests

All Anniversaries & Month's Minds should be left in the Parish Office **no later than 12noon on the Thursday of the week before the anniversary is due to be remembered, this includes Saturday Anniversaries.** You can leave anniversaries in as early as you wish, but anniversaries left in after this time are considered **late**, and therefore there is **no guarantee** that they will be read out at Mass. We request that you leave your anniversary in as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

Parish Safeguarding Reps are Aileen & Maura. Contact: 07895460797 or email at armaghparishsafeguarding@gmail.com

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: Tuesday at 9pm, Friday at 11pm, & Sunday at 11pm. Please contact Nora 37525265

Parish Carol Service in St Patrick's Cathedral on **Sun 16th Dec** at 5pm. All families are encouraged to attend. The 5.30pm Mass will be celebrated in St Malachy's Church.

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

Friday is the first Friday of the month. The sick and housebound will be visited in the coming days or as arranged with individual priests.

A Holy Hour and Benediction on Friday evening in St Malachy's Church from 8-9pm.
Confessions on Thursday at 12 noon.

Annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Collection Members of the St Vincent de Paul Society are speaking at all Masses in the parish this weekend. The annual Christmas Church door collection will be taken up at all Masses in the parish next weekend.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception 8th December—Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Times

St Malachy's : 7.30pm (Friday), 8am, 10am,
St Patrick's Cathedral: 11am
Tullysaran: 10am
Knockaconey: 7.30pm (Friday)

Pre-Christmas Coffee Morning for Parish Volunteers: Church collectors, counters, flower arrangers, members of PPC, Finance Committee, Baptism Team, Shop Staff, Ministers of Word and Eucharist, Choirs, Soloists and anyone who is involved in ministry within our Parish - The Synod Hall on Monday 10 December at 10.30am.

Folk Mass in St. Malachy's Church at 12noon on **Sunday 9th December.**

Christmas at Cathedral Gift Shop A large selection of Parish Christmas Cards, cribs, ornaments & beautiful gifts are now on sale in the Cathedral Gift Shop. Call in to the view the range and purchase some gifts this Christmas!

Do this in Memory the next Do this in Memory celebration will take place in St Patrick's Cathedral on **Sat 15 Dec** for all P4 Pupils and their parents.

JOB VACANCY

St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Armagh wishes to recruit a part-time Parish Groundsman—20 hours per week. A job description and job application is available from the Parish Offices, Cathedral Gate Lodge, 41a Cathedral Road, Armagh, BT61 7QX. Telephone 028 3752 2813. Closing date for applications is **Friday 14th December 2018** at 12.00noon.

An Advent Prayer

God our Father, we ask you to bless us as we gather today.

We ask you to renew each one of us by the coming feast of the birth of your Son.

You show us the splendour of your glory in Jesus' coming among us.

Give to us true faith and love to celebrate the great mystery of God made man.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

AMEN

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, TULLYSARAN

Mass Novena Mass on Monday at 7:30pm.

Children's Liturgy Group The Children's Liturgy Group continues at 10am Mass every Sunday in the Community Centre, where the Liturgy of Word is suitably adapted to suit children. All primary school children are welcome. All leaders have been vetted.

Community Centre Monday: Indoor Bowls 8-10pm; Tuesday: Bootcamp 7-8pm; Spin Class 8.15-9pm; Wednesday: Parent Toddler Group 10.30am-12, Pilates 7-8pm; Thursday: Music- Fiddle 7-8pm- Tin whistle beginner 7-7.30pm advanced 7.30-8pm. Friday Walk the Extra Mile exercise class for all ages & abilities @ 10.30am Santa Sunday 9th December 2-5pm.

Fundraiser for #TeamEmily on **Sat 29th Dec.** 20mile Christmas Cycle @12noon, £10. 5KM Run @2pm. Refreshments/Raffle in Community Centre after. More info see facebook.com/TullysaranTimes
Our Lady's Primary School, Tullysaran are hosting an Open Night on **Thurs 6th Dec** 7-8pm for parents/guardians with children who are due to start Reception or P1 Class in September 2019, we would like to invite you and your child along to view our School.

CHURCH OF ST. COLMCILLE, KNOCKACONEY

St Colmcille's GFC Club have the pleasure of inviting the Senior Citizen's in the local community to celebrate Christmas in the club rooms on **Sat 15th Dec** at 4pm. A four course Christmas Dinner will be served.

Parish Pastoral Council publish new Children's Prayer Book! A lovely new Prayer Book "Children Pray with Me" has been produced by Armagh Parish Pastoral Council and it contains a variety of traditional prayers and prayers that we are familiar with as well as many new ones. This has been a special year for the Church in Ireland as we have hosted the World Meeting of Families and the PPC hopes that the new Prayer Book will be one of the many legacies of this memorable year. It's hoped that children and families will use the Prayer Book regularly. Copies are now on sale in Armagh Cathedral Gift Shop. The Prayer Book costs £2.50 and it would be a lovely gift for children this Christmas.

Evening of Christmas Music & Song with the seminarians of Redemptoris Mater House, Dundalk in St Malachy's Church on **Thurs 6 Dec** at 7.30pm. All welcome. There will be NO 7.30pm Mass in St. Malachy's Church, the Mass will be celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral that evening.

Armagh Cathedrals Partnership Advent Celebration An evening of Advent Meditation in music, prose, poetry & prayer will take place in The Market Place Theatre on **Tues 11 Dec** at 8pm with guest speaker Mr Francis Campbell, former British Ambassador to the Holy See. A Guest Choir & Traditional Group will be present on the evening. Admission: free, but booking is essential. To book tel. Market Place Theatre on 028 37521821

Admission to Candidacy for The Permanent Diaconate A special Evening Prayer will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh on **Wednesday 5 December** at 7.30pm. During Evening Prayer, four men from the Archdiocese of Armagh will be admitted to Candidacy for Ordination as Deacons. The men are George Kingsnorth, Eunan McCreesh, Pat Devlin and Pat Butterly. We remember the four men at this time and we pray that God may continue to guide and direct them as they continue to prepare for Ordination as Deacons. All are welcome to join on the evening.

St Joseph's Young Priests Society - ***please note change of date for next meeting*** Branch meeting on **Mon 10 Dec.** in St Vincent de Paul Centre, Chapel Lane immediately following 7.30 pm Mass in St Malachy's Church. All welcome.

Advent Calendar Archbishop Eamon Martin has launched the 2018 online Advent Calendar, which will go live on www.catholicbishops.ie on 2nd December. The 2018 Advent calendar will provide a special focus on family. There will be family prayers and suggestions for acts of kindness or charity that all of us are encouraged to undertake during the month of December. The Advent Calendar will also share tips on how families can care for our common home by having a more sustainable Christmas.

Matt Talbot Night You are invited to join us to pray for those affected by alcohol / drugs or other addictions and to prevent our families becoming involved. Join us for a Matt Talbot night in the Pastoral Centre, The Magnet, Dundalk Monday **Dec. 3rd** 7.30pm- 9pm. Includes testimony, prayers for healing with Jesus in Blessed Sacrament, Relic of Venerable Matt Talbot, music & refreshments. (Information on local Support Services). For information contact Deacon John 086-8611531

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.