

What are you planning for Lent? Armagh Parish Holy Spirit Prayer Group are running Life in the Spirit Seminars at 8pm each Tues until **4th April** in the SVP Centre. In the Seminar you can take steps which will allow Jesus Christ to establish, restore or deepen a relationship with you. We welcome you to join us.

Cantabelles This new and exciting vocal ensemble combine will present a selection of uplifting liturgical pieces including St Patrick's Breastplate, How great Thou art, Hail glorious St Patrick, Ag Criost and Siol and many more. The evening which will reflect the life and mission of St Patrick will be presented in the beautiful transept of St Patrick's Cathedral on **Fri 10th March** at 8pm. Tickets are available from Armagh Parish Office (028 37522813) or alternatively online through the Market Place Theatre, Armagh.

Armagh Parish Pastoral Council
COFFEE and FAITH Lenten Programme
Saint Vincent de Paul Centre, Chapel Lane -- 11.00am to 12.30am

8th March -- Lent: A time to Repent -- Sr Bernadette
 15th March -- Lent: A time to Fast -- Fr Peter Kerr
 22ND March -- Lent: A time to Reflect -- Sr Kathleen
 29th March -- Lent: A time to Renew -- Sr Nora
 5TH April -- Lent: A time to Give -- Rev M Mc Elmeel
 Come along during the Lenten season and join in a relaxed environment, to reflect on the different themes. Booking for programme at Armagh Parish Office.

Cumann Seanchais Ard Mhacha: Lecture on 'The Irish Franciscan observants and the dissolution of the monasteries' by Prof. John Mc Cafferty, UCD, in Ó Fiaich Library, Armagh on **Wed 8th March** (8pm). All welcome.

Westenders Group are hosting a FREE health event on **Wed 22nd March** in Cathedral Road Centre 1.30-4.30pm includes refreshments, a local pharmacist & physical activity taster sessions. Register with Tracey Powell @ 3756 4495. **The Action Cancer Big Bus** will also be available on the day from 9.30am - 3.30pm. They will be providing 23 breast screening appointments (40 - 49 yrs & 70+ yrs); 13 health checks (for anyone aged 16yrs +). If anyone is interested please book an appointment asap with Action Cancer Tel: 9080 3344 and quote ref: **QBE-1070**.

St. Pio's Prayer Group will be gathering on **Thurs 9th March** in St. Malachy's Church at 7:30pm. Relic available after Mass.

St. Pio of Pietrelcina One Day Retreat with Cardinal Sean Brady **Sun 9th April** 10am-5pm in the Ryandale (Moy) £25 inc. coffee & lunch. Relic available on the day. Limited places. Book with Nuala 37548382

Pilgrimage To Medjugorje with Spiritual Advisor Fr Paul Montague, Adm Holy Redeemer Dundalk. May 30th. 7 nights. €669. Contact James Mc Crave 00353872202173

Catholic Grandparents Association 1st Annual Retreat/Conference. Theme - Helping our Children and Grandchildren to know, love and serve God in these highly secularised times. **26th & 27th April.** Dominican Retreat Centre, Tallaght Village. Day only and overnight attendance options available. Inspiring talks, lively discussion. Speakers including Fr. Benny McHale. Contact Connie at 9824877 or catholicgrandparents@gmail.com

Coffee Morning in Aid of Marys Meals in Servite Priory, Benburb. Sat 11th March from 10:00a.m - 1:00p.m. All welcome.

Pilgrimage to New York A special pilgrimage to New York from Knock **8th-14th May**. For more information please contact Joe Walsh Tours on 0035312410800 or email bronwyn.clinton@joewalstours.ie

Permanent Diaconate: Do you feel called to serve as a Permanent Deacon in the Archdiocese of Armagh? Contact Fr Brian White at 0035342 9322244 or speak with your local priest.



Na Piarasigh Óga Lotto: 6/10/17/18 No winner. Next weeks Jackpot £2200
Abbey Lotto: 1/8/21/27 No winner. Next weeks Jackpot £2550
Tullysaran Lotto: 2/8/11/18 No winner. Next weeks Jackpot £1000
St Colmcilles GAC Lotto: 9/11/16/21 No winner. Next weeks Jackpot is £1700



St Patrick's Cathedral Parish
Archdiocese of Armagh
www.armaghparish.net Office Tel. 37522813

Email: armaghparish@btconnect.com
 St Malachy's T 3751 0516
 Cathedral T 3752 2638
 SVP Help Line T 07733482604

5th March 2017

1st Sunday of Lent

Last Wednesday in the annual ceremony of the ashes, we began our journey of renewal. "Turn away from sin and believe in the Gospel" was the phrase used when our foreheads were marked with the ashes and everything the sign of the Cross implies. Whatever penance or self discipline we take on for Lent shouldn't be for six weeks, but it should lead us to a new way of thinking, living and behaving. Lent is a time for conversion. The old home grown recipe for healthy living might be as good a place to start as any: "Leave the bed sleepy, leave the tavern thirsty, leave the table hungry".

For some people, Lent can seem long and wearisome and soon they run out of steam and abandon any resolve to do better. Maybe this year, we could take up a different task each week that would enable us to fulfil the threefold requirements of the season: prayer, fasting, almsgiving. These three strands of Lenten observance are as ancient as Christianity itself. There is no substitute for them. As an early writer put it: "Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. If we don't have all three together, we have nothing".

Our first stop on our Lenten journey is the "wilderness". We all need to remove ourselves from our hectic lives to BE STILL, to STOP, to BREATHE. It's a bit like a stock take. What's here? What's here that shouldn't be here? What's missing? And so we journey today with Jesus into the "wilderness". We shouldn't be afraid of this. It's a "Spirit led" wilderness and God is in control. Lent calls us to transform our lives and our relationships with those we love and cherish; our relationship with the planet; with the global community; our relationship with God.

Lent has begun and we won't automatically wake up on Easter morning transformed. But we are building, transforming; working in solidarity with our sisters and brothers who thirst for justice in so many parts of our world.

Have a good Lent!
 P McAnenly Adm

Lenten Prayer Lord, I know how much you love me. It's hard for me to feel it sometimes, but I know your love is always with me. Help me to use your love as a way to persevere in my Lenten intentions. I am weak, but I know with your help, I can use these small sacrifices in my life to draw closer to you. Amen

Dates of First Penance 2017

We continue to pray for all Primary Four Pupils who are preparing to celebrate their First Penance.

St Patrick's Primary School	Thursday 23 March @ 6pm
St Malachy's Primary School	Wednesday 15 March @ 6pm
Mt St Catherine's Primary School	Wednesday 8 March @ 7pm
CBS Primary School	Thursday 9 March @ 6pm
Tullysaran Primary School	Tuesday 21 March @ 7pm
Saints & Scholars Primary School	Tuesday 7 March @ 6pm

RECENTLY DECEASED: Daniel Schiller, Paddy Donnelly, Cardinal Connell, Pat Lenagh, Sean Moore & Daniel Patrick McGlinchey
MONTHS MIND: Gerry Kelly (5th), James Smith (5th), Margaret Lennon (11th) & Gerald Fitzpatrick (11th)

Weekly collection amounted to €6113.26 & €170.07.

Priests Dues will be taken up at all Masses this weekend.

Lenten Masses continue each day in St Malachy's Church at 7am & 7:30pm and in St Patrick's Cathedral at 10am.

Gift Aid Thanks to all who avail of the Gift Aid Scheme. Gift Aid forms can be accessed on the parish website or by contacting the Parish Office.

Parish Safeguarding The contact persons for the Parish are Aileen & Maura, they can be contacted @ armaghparishsafeguarding@gmail.com or 07895 460797.

Sacristy Any visitors to the sacristy of any church in the Parish **must** sign the visitors book.

All requests for prayers and Masses to be arranged through the Parish Office. The list of intentions is sent to the churches on a Friday morning, containing all intentions from the Saturday night vigil Mass until the following Saturday morning. **Only Anniversaries and Month's Minds left in the Parish Office by 12 noon on 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. The course is on the first Monday & third Wednesday of every month. All Baptisms **must be booked through the Parish Office.**

Adorers required for Adoration Chapel in St. Malachy's: Thursday's at 4pm and Sunday's at 1pm. Contact Nora 02837 525265

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

Missionary of Charity House One hour of prayer, scripture & song before the Blessed Sacrament **every Wed** from 8-9pm

RISE Youth Group All 1st - 5th years welcome to a new youth group every second Saturday in the Gatelodge starting **11th March.**

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.

Fun, Faith & Friendship! 7.30pm - 8.45pm
Contact Aoibhin McNeill in the Parish Office

First Saturday's Devotion In celebration of the 100 years since the appearance of Our Lady in Fatima, on the first Saturday of each month, Confessions will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral at 9.15am, followed by Mass at 10am & recitation of the Rosary immediately after in Our Lady's Chapel. Please come along and join in this act of devotion in this special Jubilee Year.

Armagh Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock will take place on **Sunday 28th May**. Further details to follow.

Armagh Widows next meeting on **Wed 11th March** at the Community Centre, Cathedral Rd. 7pm-9pm. New members welcome.

Visiting Choir to St Patrick's Cathedral: On Sunday 12th March, there will be a visiting Choir from Santa Barbara, California that will sing at the 11am Mass .

Ceremony of Light On Thurs evening, we had the annual Ceremony of Light for all 178 young people in our parish preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. During the ceremony, parents were reminded of the important role that they play in handing on faith to their children. Many P7 pupils made the pledge/commitment to abstain from alcohol until they are at least 18 years of age and to abstain from drugs for the rest of their lives. We pray God will give our young people the courage & strength to be faithful to the promises they have made. Let's encourage our young as they continue to grow in faith, by our words each day and by the example of our lives!

Do This In Memory programme continues on **Sat 18th March @ 7pm** in the Cathedral.

Cathedral Gift Shop is now stocking gifts and tokens for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. A number of Fatima items have now been made available as we celebrate this Jubilee Year. Opening hours: **Monday - Saturday: 10.30am - 4.00pm. Sunday: 12 noon - 5.30pm.**

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, TULLYSARAN

ALL Baptisms & Weddings in Tullysaran must be booked in advance at Parish Office - Novena Mass Monday evening at 7:30pm.

Tullysaran Community Centre Mon 8-10pm Indoor bowls; Tues 4-5pm Irish Dancing; Tues 7-8pm Corebox; Tues 8.15-9pm Spin (fully booked); Wed 10.30am-12 Parent & Toddler Group; Wed 7-8pm Pilates; Thurs 6.30-7.30pm Total Body Workout; Thurs 7.30-8.30pm Music classes

Mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Tullysaran each Wednesday at 10am during Lent
Tullysaran Comhaltas St. Patrick's Traditional Music Session in Mary Anns **Fri 10th @ 9pm**. All musicians, singers, storytellers welcome. Supper followed by raffle. All welcome.

CHURCH OF ST. COLMCILLE, KNOCKACONEY

Bookings All Weddings & Baptisms **must** be booked in advance through the Parish Office 37522813.

The Irish Augustinians are hosting a Vocation Weekend from **Fri March 31 - Sunday April 2**. Open to any interested male over the age of 18. For more information please contact Fr Colm on 086 88 45 747 or augustinianvocations@hotmail.com

Pioneer Lenten Challenge! Many people abstain from alcohol & take the Short-Term Pledge for the duration of Lent. Make your Lenten pledge by visiting www.pioneerassociation.ie and joining online or by contacting your local Pioneer centre representative. Take this opportunity to help someone you know/love with an alcohol or drug problem by offering up your Lenten sacrifice as a prayer for their freedom and well-being. Go for it and make a difference to someone's life!

Armagh Parish Trip June 2017 Booking Open! Following on from the success of the Parish Trip to Ballina last year, another Parish Trip will take place from **Mon 5th - Thurs 8th June**. Those who travel will be based for the three nights in the 4* Hotel Westport in Co Mayo. During the few days, the trip will include visits to Achill, Clifden, Kylemore Abbey and other places of interest. Further details about the trip and booking at Armagh Parish Office.

St. Patrick's Festival

The March Bells Listen as the Churches in Armagh come together to symbolically celebrate our island's patron saint by ringing their bells for a short time at 17:17 for the 17 days of the festival.
Fri 3- Sun 19 March

St Patrick & The Book of Armagh This talk by Roddy Hegarty will explore what the Book of Armagh tells us about St Patrick. Light refreshments afterwards. Cardinal O'Fiaich Library **Fri 3 March 7pm**. Tickets £6. Pre Booking essential through The Market Place Theatre

An Evening with Patrick - Armagh Cathedrals Partnership invite you to An Evening of music, story, poetry and prayer. Guest speaker, Archdeacon Gordon Linney, will invite those present to reflect on "Patrick and Ireland today. Light refreshments afterwards. The Navan Centre & Fort: **Wed 15 March**, 8pm. Free but booking essential through The Market Place Theatre.

St. Patrick Lecture: St Patrick the Exile Archbishop Richard Clarke & Archbishop Eamon Martin speak about what St. Patrick means to them in a modern world **Thurs 16th March** Market Place Theatre 1pm. Pre-booking essential.

St. Patrick's Torchlit Peace Walk from St. Patrick's COI Cathedral with Archbishop Richard Clarke at 9pm **Thurs 16th March** to St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral to be welcomed by Archbishop Eamon Martin. This symbolic expression of the unity of the Churches is a reflection of St. Patrick's own journey uniting the Irish people with Christianity. Light refreshments will be served after in the Synod Hall.

