

**Coffee Morning** Pupils from St. Catherine's College, along with Fr. Thomas, are hosting a Coffee Morning on **12<sup>th</sup> May** from 10am-12:30pm in the Synod Hall. All proceeds are in aid of Youth Pilgrimage to Fatima.

**St Patrick's Cathedral Pastoral Area: Corpus Christi Procession** As we continue to look forward to the World Meeting of Families, the parishes of Armagh, Keady and Derrynoose, Killcluney and Middletown and Tynan will gather in St Patrick's Cathedral for a special celebration of Mass on **Fri 1st June** at 7pm. After the Mass, there will be a Corpus Christi Procession & the First Communicants of this year from each of the four parishes are invited to lead the procession. People are encouraged to join with their families on the evening to give praise & thanks for the great gift of the Eucharist.

**Pioneer Association to gather in honour of the Sacred Heart** The Pioneer Association from the parishes of Armagh, Keady & Derrynoose, Killcluney & Tynan & Middletown will come together for Mass in St Malachy's Church on **Wed 6th June** at 7.30pm. All are encouraged to join on the evening, to pray for a greater spirit of temperance in our world & in our local communities. A special invitation is extended to all P7 Pupils from the Pastoral Area who have become young Probationers this year. They will have an opportunity to renew their commitment to the pledge they have made. Anyone due to receive silver, gold or 60 year pins, or wishing to join the pioneers, please ring: Stella 38891002 or Brian 37524853.

**Brahms' Requiem** Armagh City Choir present Brahms' Ein Deutsche Requiem in St Malachy's Church, on **Fri 11 May** at 7.30pm. Tickets available at the door on the evening. All are welcome.

**The Stop Gaps Choral Ensemble** from Mumbai, India will perform a programme of classical and spiritual pieces in St. Patrick's Cathedral **Wed 23rd May** at 7pm. Retiring collection will be taken up.

**Carmelite Pilgrimage to Lourdes** '160 years of emotions' - Armagh Group - 27th September, 5 nights full board. £660. For further info contact Gerry Gribbon 07980628696.

**Armagh Holy Spirit Prayer Group** meet at 8pm each Tuesday in the SVP Centre, Chapel Lane. All welcome.

**St Pio's Prayer Group** next gathering on **Thurs 10th May** in St. Malachy's Church at 7:30pm. St. Pio Relic available after Mass. All welcome.

**STAND UP FOR LIFE** the FINAL rally to show support for the 8th Amendment will take place on **12th May** in Merrion Square Dublin at 2pm. The 8th Amendment has saved thousands of lives. With a referendum taking place on 25th May to remove protection from unborn babies, please make every effort to attend the Stand Up For Life Rally & encourage others to do likewise. To organise a bus or book a place on a bus travelling from your area, visit [www.loveboth.ie](http://www.loveboth.ie) or telephone (087) 266 8702.

**Family Care Adoption Services** is presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children. For a free info pack please contact us at: 028 71 368592 or 028 90 691133 Monday to Friday: 9 – 5 p.m [www.familycaresociety.co.uk](http://www.familycaresociety.co.uk)

**Friends of Benburb** invite you to their Annual BBQ in the Courtyard, Servite Priory, Benburb **Sat 12th May** at 8pm. Music by Do Rightly. Tickets £10.

**Medjugorje Monthly Prayer Meeting** in Sacred Heart Convent on Tues. 8th May at 8.15pm.

**Donal Powell 25th Anniversary Memorial Quiz** will take place on **12th May** at 9pm in the Pearse Ogs Social Club. All Proceeds Raised go to Chest Heart & Stroke.

**Na Piarsaigh Óg Lotto: 5/9/13/17** Next weeks Jackpot £1000  
**Abbey Lotto: 16/19/20/28** Next weeks Jackpot £3650  
**Tullysaran Lotto:**  
**St Colmcilles GAC Lotto: 2/17/18/23** Next weeks Jackpot is £1200



**St Patrick's Cathedral Parish**  
**Archdiocese of Armagh**  
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**6th May 2018**

**6th Sunday of Easter**

**Reflection**

Partings are often painful and farewells are tinged with great sadness. I sometimes think of the great loneliness of the "American wake" of years gone by. Many of our people had to emigrate from every county in Ireland to the United States and other parts of the world, knowing that they might never return. In those days, they didn't have much means of communication, so the farewell party on the eve of departure was indeed equivalent to a wake.

Today's gospel is also a story of farewell and departure. It's taken from a section of St John's gospel known as "The Farewell Discourse". The setting is the Last Supper, the night before Jesus' execution. For a group of people who had become dependent on him as leader and friend, they must have felt lonely and bewildered. The uncertainty of a future without Jesus disturbed them deeply. In the course of bidding them farewell, Jesus says to his disciples, "Remain in my love.....This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you.....You are my friends if you do what I command you.....You did not choose me, no, I chose you.....I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last".

Widowed at an early age and left with a young family, Brigid made a decision. She would devote her life to her children. To provide for them and rear them was a full-time task. Often the going was hard and lonely but she never regretted the decision she had made. She found a deep personal fulfilment in giving of herself. Her giving was a giving in love.

To be a loving giver is to be truly human. We are made in the image and likeness of God, the giver of all. His Son Jesus freely gave himself in life and in death for each of us. He paid our debt, he loved us first. He doesn't say: "keep my commandments and I will love you". He says: "I love you and I will show you a perfect way". Every action we make, every word we say, must be rooted in Christ's love, which is so generous, it is willing to die. Jesus invites us to follow his example and today's gospel puts the challenge plainly before us.

With every blessing  
Rev Peter McAnenly, Adm.

#### **Prayer to Mary, the Mother of God**

Gentle Mary, we pray for hearts of courage that we may always accept the will of God.  
Attentive Mary, we pray for hearts of wisdom that we may always hear the word of God and respond to it in our lives.

Loving Mary, we pray for hearts of love that we may always act in a spirit of charity and service.  
Mother Mary, we pray for hearts to be true disciples that we may always be led to live in God's ways.  
Amen.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Jack O'Hagan, Patrick Kelly, Arthur Mallon, Joan Kearney, Pat Campbell & Tommy Dadders.  
**MONTHS MIND:** Eileen Kane (8th), Anthony McKeown (8th) & Bridget McCartan (11th)

**Weekly Collection: £6485.72 & €85.00**  
**Education of Priests Collection: £4286.19 & €88.00**

**The Priests Dues Collection is being taken up today.**

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.**

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

**Silence in our Churches** We ask people to be respectful when visiting our Churches and keep noise levels to a minimum in these Sacred spaces.

**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:**  
Sun: 3pm & 6pm; Fri: 11pm; Please contact Nora 37525265

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

**Parish Envelopes** If you have not received envelopes for 2018 and wish to do so, please contact the Parish Office

**Gift Aid & Standing Order Forms** available online and in the Parish Office.

**World Meeting of Families Diocesan Celebration** will take place in St. Patrick's Cathedral on Tuesday 21st August. More details to follow.

**Armagh Parish Trip to Wexford** will take place from **Mon 4th - 7th June**. Booking in the Parish Office. Cost: £235 per person sharing. Deposit: £50 (non-refundable) must be paid at time of booking in the Parish Office. **LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE. Final payments due on Friday 18th May.**

**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.**

**Sunday 13th May is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord and also World Communications Day.**

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** We remember in prayer all those from our diocese who will travel on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes from Sat 12 May – Thurs 17 May. All who are travelling are asked to join for the 7.30pm Mass in St Malachy's Church on Wednesday evening. Tickets will be issued. If you cannot attend please contact Ann 07736415305.

**Parish Office** is closed on Monday 7th May and will reopen on Tuesday 8th May.

**One day pilgrimage to Lough Derg** A pilgrimage to Lough Derg will take place from Armagh Parish on **Sat 22 Sept**. Details to follow.

The **Cathedral Gift Shop** carries a large range of 1st Communion & Confirmation gifts, as well as religious gifts, candles, statues, books, cards and more! We encourage you to support the gift shop and the fantastic work of our shop team!

**'33 Days to Morning Glory'** by Fr. Michael Gaitley has been made available, free of charge, at the back of all our Churches. It is 33 days of spiritual reading & prayerful pondering, with the end goal being Marian Consecration - consecrating yourself/your family to Jesus, through our Blessed Mother. "The act of consecrating oneself to Jesus through Mary marks the beginning of a gloriously new day, a new dawn, a brand new morning in one's spiritual journey. It's a fresh start, and it changes everything." Please pick up a copy.

**Diocesan Meeting on Human Trafficking**  
A special meeting will take place, to explore ways of responding to the ongoing situation of human trafficking - meeting in Armagh Diocesan Pastoral Centre, The Magnet, Dundalk on **Thursday 24 May** at 7pm. All are welcome.

**We pray for all those sitting exams in the coming weeks.**

#### **EXAMINATIONS PRAYER**

Dear Lord, help me to approach my exams with a clear head and a calm mind. Give me your strength and your peace, and let me do justice to all that I have learned. Thank you Lord for all my gifts and talents. Amen.

#### **CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, TULLYSARAN**

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

**Mass** Novena Mass on Monday at 7:30pm. **Months Mind Mass** on Friday evening for Bridget McCartan.

**Children's Liturgy Group** continues at 10am Mass on Sunday morning for P1-P4 pupils.

**Community Centre** Monday Indoor bowls 8-10pm; Tuesday Corebox. 7-8pm, Spin Class 8.15-9pm; Wednesday parent toddler group 10.30-12pm, Pilates 7-8pm; Thursday music 7-8.30pm; Friday CPR/defib training 7-9.30pm

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

**Grange Ladies & Underage** would like to thank everyone for their continued support in their Spring Clothes Collection. **Cake Sale & Raffle** tickets on sale now & can be purchased from any of the ladies teams. Draw will take place on **Fri 8th June** after the Blessing of The Graves

**Remembering all our First Communicants** We remember in prayer the many young people in our Parish who are celebrating their 1st Holy Communion. May these weeks be a time of joy and blessing for our young people & their families.

**Legion of Mary Home Visits** Members of the Legion of Mary will visit homes in the coming weeks in different areas of Armagh. They will be distributing Novena Prayer Cards and also promoting a Novena to the Sacred Heart in June.

**Legion of Mary** will lead a Rosary at Our Lady's Statue in Dalton Estate on Monday evenings at 8.10pm throughout the month of May starting Monday 7th May.

**Lough Derg 2018:** Season opens for One Day Retreats on Sat 5th May. Advance booking is essential. Tel +353 (0) 71 9861518 or email [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org) Three Day Pilgrimage Season begins on Friday 1st June.

**World Meeting of Families 2018** 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](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie).

#### **Jessie Jane to join for "Family Celebration"**

Jessie Jane McParland from Clady, Co Armagh is to join for the evening of celebration for families in St Patrick's Cathedral on **Thurs 10th May** at 7.30pm. The young girl shot to fame as a finalist in Britain's Got Talent in 2015 and after missing out narrowly on a place in the finals, JJ was brought back as a favourite by public vote. She holds many martial arts titles & since Britain's Got Talent, Jessie Jane has gone on to do numerous projects globally.

All families are encouraged to join for this special evening, as we gather to pray for all families. As part of the celebration, prayers will be offered for families in need & family members who are doing exams at this time of year.

All families are asked to bring a small picture of their family (post card size) & place it in the Sacred Space in the sanctuary of the Cathedral on the evening. These pictures will be pieced together to make a "Parish Family Collage" which will hang in the Cathedral in the coming months. All of the families will be remembered in prayer as we continue to look forward to the World Meeting of Families.

Families will be given a ticket and a draw will be made for two families to attend the World Meeting of Families in August of this year. The music on the evening will be led by Malachi Cush and as part of the evening, Colleen Gribben, a young teacher in St Catherine's College and coordinator of the Michaela Camp in Armagh will reflect on "the gift of family". A special Rosary will also be given to all present and families are encouraged to make a special effort to join for what promises to be a special evening and a special invitation is extended to all young people.

#### **Confirmation Dates**

**Saturday 19 May @ 2pm**  
St Malachy's PS  
St Patrick's PS  
Saints & Scholars PS

**Sunday 20 May @ 2pm**  
Christian Brothers PS  
Mt St Catherine's PS  
Our Lady's PS  
Armstrong PS

#### **First Communion**

**CBS - Sat 5th May @ 10am** (Irish); 11:30am (English)  
Our Lady's PS - **Sun 6th May @ 10am**  
Saints & Scholars PS - **Sat 12th May @ 11am**  
St. Malachy's PS - **Sun 13th May @ 10am**  
St. Patrick's PS—**Sun 13th May @ 11am**