

# Parishes of Newry & Saval

Sunday 21st December 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Advent liturgy is seen by many as the most beautiful of the whole year and it is choreographed very expertly. The first figure we meet is Isaiah pointing to the birth, but it is a birth in a distant future. Though he is pointing from a distance of 800 years, his speech is impassioned: "Oh that you would tear open the heavens and come down!" He wants the ultimate to be realised here and now.

"Tear open the heavens and come down." Down from where? Down, I suppose, from abstraction and theory and endless explanation. Some abstraction is unavoidable, and it has its uses, but much of it is like a balloon with no content but hot air. Hot air rises, and so abstraction seems superior and elevated. It's amazing how much abstraction there is in ordinary discourse. We used to divide nouns into abstract and concrete: abstract nouns such as 'truth', 'virtue', 'beauty', and concrete nouns such as 'chair', 'tree', 'stone'.... But in fact the so-called concrete nouns are just as abstract as the abstract ones! The word 'tree', for example, is made to stand for all the trees that ever existed on this planet, though no two are exactly alike in every detail. The word 'tree' is not experience; you couldn't sit under it, it is only a word. "Oh that he would tear open the heavens and come down!" — down out of language, out of abstraction, out of hot air.

But Isaiah also said very practical things like: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord!" That meant something practical: it meant repair the roads! Jerusalem is surrounded by desert, and desert roads get covered in sand very easily. If some great personage was expected, the first thing to do was to clear the roads, to clear the sand off the roads. What is sand? It's the trillion little things, all the stuff that fills and clogs our life.

Never before has there been an age when human beings were so clogged with information or so assaulted by language on every side - morning, noon and night. Today we have wonderful roads for driving on, but the roads that are clogged are the spiritual ones. Isaiah couldn't have imagined it, but his words nevertheless can direct our attention to it.

The second great figure who appears in the Advent liturgy is John the Baptist. He is much nearer to the event than was Isaiah. He was only six months older than Jesus, and was even his cousin.

He has powerful things to say, and a very abrasive way of saying them. He is rough, he is one hundred per cent tough guy, he is the original Iron John. Though he is very near in time to Jesus, in other ways he is still very distant.

At the end of Advent, appears the third great figure pointing to the birth of Christ. It is Mary his mother. The waiting is at last focused precisely; it could not be more precisely located than this. God's 'new deed', the Child, is to be born in her.

Years ago I lived in Cork, and I remember waiting once for a long-delayed bus. The queue got longer as we waited, and it was possible to see all the different kinds of waiting: all were exhibited there. Several people waited in a fidgety, restless manner, repeatedly looking up the road for the long-awaited bus, checking their watches, and rolling their eyes in exasperation. When was it going to come? It was easy to imagine the uncomplimentary things they were thinking about the bus company.

Then there were others whose waiting was quite different. These had gone into themselves and closed the door. I particularly remember one man who seemed totally stoical and was just leaning against the lamppost in what looked like despair. That too is a manner of waiting.

But there, among them, was a young woman who was heavily pregnant. She was waiting too of course for the bus, but there was a deeper kind of waiting in her. In contrast to the rest of us, she had an extraordinary calm. She was glowing. She was waiting for the bus, yes, but her deeper waiting was paradoxical, and this was probably the key to her remarkable calmness: she was waiting for something that was there already. It struck me that this is exactly what meditation is: waiting for something that is already here, but needing to become visible. We are not waiting impatiently, nor stoically; we are waiting for something that is closer to us than we are to ourselves. That kind of waiting puts us in the right place for that remarkable calm and the glowing sense of presence that that young woman had.

In Christ, God has torn open the heavens and come down. "God is born in us," said Meister Eckhart. It is hard to resist the upward pull of abstraction. Meditation is a downward pull: it is incarnation. The Word became flesh in order to live among us; what if we are not here when he comes, but in the clouds!

Fr Donagh O'Shea, O.P.,  
[www.goodnews.ie](http://www.goodnews.ie)

## Mass Times

**The Cathedral of SS. Patrick & Colman, Hill Street**  
**Weekend Mass Times**  
Saturday (vigil Mass) 6.00pm  
Sunday: 9.00am, 12noon & 5.30pm  
**Weekday Mass Times**  
Monday – Saturday 10.30am

[www.newrycathedralparish.org](http://www.newrycathedralparish.org)

NOURISHED BY WORD AND SACRAMENT WE SEEK TO BECOME CHRIST FOR EACH OTHER.

**St. Brigid's Church, Rooney's Meadow**  
**Weekend Mass Times**  
Saturday Evening (vigil Mass) 7.30pm  
Friday: 7.30pm

**St. Colman's Shinn**  
Saturday: 6.00pm

**St. Mary's Church, Chapel Street**  
Tuesday: 7.30pm  
Sunday: 10.30am

**St. Joseph's Sheeptown**  
Wednesday: 7.30pm  
Sunday: 10.30am

**St. Catherine's Church, Dominican Priory, Dominic Street**  
Mon-Sat: 7.30am & 11.00am & 7.30pm  
Sunday Masses – VIGIL [SAT] 7.30pm  
8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am & 12.30

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## INTRODUCTORY RITES

*Congregation stands***Entrance Hymn or  
Entrance Antiphon****Cf. Is 45:8**

**All:** Drop down dew from above, you heavens,  
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;  
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

## GREETING

**Priest:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen****Priest:** The Lord be with you.**All:** **And with your spirit.**

## PENITENTIAL ACT

**Priest:** Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

**Priest:** Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of peace:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

**Priest:** Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen**

## THE COLLECT

**Priest:** Let us pray.*Pause for silent prayer*

**Priest:** Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,  
your grace into our hearts, that we,  
to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son  
was made known by the message of an Angel,  
may by his Passion and Cross  
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Congregation Sits*

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah **7:10-14**

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:  
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too?  
The Lord himself, therefore,

will give you a sign.  
It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23:1-6. R cf. vv.7. 10

**(R)** **Let the Lord enter!**  
**He is the king of glory.**

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. **(R)**
2. Who shall climb the mountains of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. **(R)**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R)**

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans **1:1-7**

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.***Congregation stands*

## ACCLAMATION

**Mk 1:23**

**All:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.**All:** **And with your spirit.**

**Priest:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**All:** **Glory to you, O Lord.****1:18-24**

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy

Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Congregation sits*

## HOMILY

*Congregation stand*

## THE CREED

**All:** I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

*(bow your head up to the words 'and became man')*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

*Congregation sits*

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Procession

*The gifts of bread and wine which will become the Lord's body and blood are brought to the altar.*

*The celebrant raises the host on the paten saying:*

**Priest:** Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

**All:** Blessed be God for ever.

*The celebrant pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:*

**Priest:** By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

*The celebrant then raises the chalice above the altar and says:*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

**All:** Blessed be God for ever.

*Bowing, the celebrant says quietly:*

**Priest:** With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God.

*Then the celebrant washes his hands, saying quietly:*

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**All:** May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

**Priest:** May the Holy Spirit, O Lord, sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar, just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen

*Congregation stands*

## EUCARISTIC PRAYER II

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And with your spirit.

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.  
**All:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All:** **It is right and just.**

### PREFACE (Advent II)

**Priest:** It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For all the oracles of the prophets foretold him, the Virgin Mother longed for him with love beyond all telling, John the Baptist sang of his coming and proclaimed his presence when he came.

It is by his gift that already we rejoice at the mystery of his Nativity, so that he may find us watchful in prayer and exultant in his praise.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

### ACCLAMATION

**All:** **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.**  
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**  
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Congregation kneels*

**Priest:** You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body and **+** Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY  
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,  
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,  
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL  
COVENANT, WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR  
YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS  
OF SINS.

DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

**Priest:** The mystery of faith.

**All:** **We proclaim your Death, O Lord,**  
**and profess your Resurrection**  
**until you come again.**

**Priest:** Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Leo our Pope and **N** our Bishop and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face. Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her spouse, with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

**Priest:** Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

**All:** **Amen.**

*Congregation stands*

### THE COMMUNION RITE

**Priest:** At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**All:** **Our Father, who art in heaven,**  
**hallowed be thy name;**  
**thy kingdom come,**  
**thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**  
**Give us this day our daily bread,**  
**and forgive us our trespasses,**  
**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**  
**and lead us not into temptation,**  
**but deliver us from evil.**

**Priest:** Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: **For the kingdom, the power and the glory  
are yours now and for ever.**

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ,  
who said to your Apostles:  
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,  
look not on our sins,  
but on the faith of your Church,  
and graciously grant her peace and unity  
in accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
All: **And with your spirit.**

Priest: May this mingling of the Body and Blood of our Lord  
Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

All: **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, grant us peace.**

*Congregation kneels*

*The celebrant says quietly:*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,  
who, by the will of the Father  
and the work of the Holy Spirit,  
through your Death gave life to the world,  
free me by this, your most holy Body and Blood,  
from all my sins and from every evil;  
keep me always faithful to your commandments,  
and never let me be parted from you.

## INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

Priest: May the Body of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

Priest: May the Blood of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

## COMMUNION ANTIphon

Is 7:14

All: **Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;  
and his name will be called Emmanuel.**

*Purifying the chalice the celebrant says quietly:*

What has passed our lips as food, O Lord,  
may we possess in purity of heart,  
that what has been given to us in time  
may be our healing for eternity.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Congregation kneels*

Priest: Let us pray.

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption,  
we pray, almighty God, that,  
as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer,  
so we may press forward all the more eagerly  
to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your  
Son's Nativity. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: **Amen**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

Priest: The Lord be with you.  
All: **And with your spirit.**

Priest: May the almighty and merciful God,  
by whose grace you have placed your faith  
in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son  
and yearn for his coming again  
sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent  
and enrich you with his blessing.

All: **Amen**

Priest: As you run the race of this present life,  
may he make you firm in faith,  
joyful in hope and active in charity.

All: **Amen**

Priest: So that you, rejoicing now with devotion  
at our Redeemer's coming in the flesh,  
you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal  
life when he comes again in majesty.

All: **Amen**

Priest: And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

All: **Amen**

*Then the celebrant, with hands joined and facing the people, says:*

Priest: Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord  
All: **Thanks be to God.**

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### MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

In this wild, unpredictable experience that we call 'life', there is one thing we can always count on, one constant: Our creator chooses to be with us throughout it all. No matter what unpredictable events take place in our lives, God's Son, Jesus, promises to be there, guiding us and comforting us and challenging us, and helping to take the next step in God's plan for us.

In Joseph's case, the way that God guided him was through an angel appearing to him in a dream. That may happen to you, but probably not. The Good News is that God has many ways to appear to us, and to guide us on our life's journey. It might well be a well-timed phone call or a visit from a friend. It might be a verse of a hymn that we had not noticed before. It might be in some completely unexpected and surprising way. But when we have the eyes of faith, and when we trust in God, He will always be there for us, leading us on the way.

We are reminded of this promise in a very powerful way at the end of Matthew's Gospel. After Jesus has grown, and been baptised, and proclaimed the Kingdom of Heaven, and called His disciples, and been arrested and tortured and crucified after all of this, Jesus gathered His disciples together one more time, to send them out to make disciples of all nations, and to baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. But before He sent them out, He reminded them of the same promise. The last words spoken by Jesus in Matthew's Gospel would echo the words spoken by the angel to Joseph before Jesus was even born. Words which are not at the heart of the Good News recorded in the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus, our Emmanuel, who is our promise that God is with us, spoke these final words: 'And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.' God is with us always.

Canon Francis Brown

### MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

#### CHRISTMAS EVE:

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| St. Mary's Church      | 7.00pm  |
| St. Mary's Church      | 9.00pm – Syro Malabar Community                   |
| St. Brigid's Church    | 7.00pm - (St. Catherine's band play (from 6.20pm) |
| Cathedral              | 8.30pm – Carol Service from 7.30pm                |
| St. Colman's Shinn     | 7.00pm  |
| Cathedral              | 9.00am, 12 noon                                   |
| St. Mary's Church      | 10.30am   |
| St. Joseph's Sheeptown | 10.30am   |

#### CHRISTMAS DAY:

**PLEASE NOTE: NO 5.30PM MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY IN THE CATHEDRAL. NO EVENING MASSES IN ST. MARY'S, ST. BRIGID'S & ST. JOSEPH'S SHEEPTOWN DURING CHRISTMAS WEEK.**

Congratulations and thanks to St. Joseph's Convent P.S. for leading our Family Mass for the month of December.

**The next family Mass** will be on Sunday 11th January at 12noon in the Cathedral. This will be led by St. Patrick's P.S.

#### Confessions in the Cathedral

Monday 22nd, Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th December  
after 10.30am Mass until 11.30am

Carol Service on the Cathedral this Sunday evening,  
21st December, at 7.30pm.

Please come along and join in the Christmas spirit.

**The new altar servers of Newry Parish** will be having a practice on Friday 2nd January 2026 in the Cathedral from 6.00pm – 7.00pm. Parents who wish their children to be an Altar Server are encouraged to bring their children to this practice.

**Answer a few questions to help restore Newry Cathedral.**  
Essential restoration is needed to safeguard our Cathedral's structure, roof and unique interior mosaic. While the parish is applying for National Lottery Funding, the strength of our application depends on the support and voices of our people. Please take a moment to complete our short survey and help preserve this treasured place for generations to come.  
Complete the survey at the link below or scan the QR code with your phone.  
[Https://newrycathedralparish.org/cathedral200](https://newrycathedralparish.org/cathedral200)

#### RECENTLY DECEASED

Brian McQuaid, Crieve Court  
Patricia McEvoy, Annaclone

#### RECENTLY BAPTISED

Mollie Annmarie Mooney-Murphy, 12 Clanrye Avenue  
Mason McClorey, 3 Flagstaff Court  
Robert Patrick Michael Thompson, 15 Magennis Villas  
Nóra Mary Murphy, 33 Dublin Road  
Grace May Kubin, 48 Cherrywood Grove

#### SAVAL PARISH COLLECTIONS Sunday 14 December 2025

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Weekly                     | £ 433.00 |
| Loose Plate                | £ 136.25 |
| Direct Debits              | £ 126.59 |
|                            | £ 695.84 |
| <b>Priests' Collection</b> | £ 55.00  |

Saval Parish is part of the Dromore Diocesan Trust. Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. NIC105046

**Rev. Deacon Anthony Moffett** will be ordained a priest on the 11th January 2026 in St. Colman's Church, Dromore at 3.00pm. He will celebrate his First Mass in the Cathedral at 10.30am on Monday 12th January. Please keep Deacon Anthony in your prayers.

#### THE PARISH OFFICE

will close on Tuesday 23rd December at 4.00pm and will re-open on Monday 5th January 2026. As usual, a priest of the parish will be available, but for emergencies only.

**Priest-on-call Tel: 028302 62586**

#### Survey on Worship in Newry Cathedral Parish

Canon Brown, the Priests of Newry Cathedral Parish & the Parish Pastoral Council would really like to hear your thoughts and your voice in the survey they have commissioned to help shape the future of worship for people in our parish. Please take a few moments to complete this survey. It can be accessed at: <https://newrycathedralparish.org/worshipsurvey>. The clergy of Newry Cathedral Parish genuinely want to hear your opinions so they can better understand and enrich worship for everyone. The survey will close on 31st December 2025.

**Enjoy an Upcoming Concert with Mike Denver** with special guests in Newry Cathedral on 15th March 2026 at 7pm. Tickets on sale in the Parish Office. Admission £35. An ideal Christmas present!

**Newry Cathedral Shop - located on The Mall**  
**open this Sunday 21st December from 10.00am until 2.00pm**

#### NEWRY PARISH COLLECTIONS Sunday 14 December 2025

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| <b>Weekly</b>        | £ 2072.80 |
| <b>Loose Plate</b>   | £ 2130.83 |
| <b>Direct Debits</b> | £ 1723.04 |
|                      | £ 5926.67 |

**Priests' Collection** £ 284.00

To make ends meet each week we need another £2200.00 each week.

Newry Parish is part of the Dromore Diocesan Trust. Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. NIC105046

## NEWRY PARISH ANNIVERSARIES FOR OUR DECEASED RELATIVES

### Cathedral Anniversaries

|                       |                   |  |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--|
| Saturday 20 December  | 6.00pm            | Lou Morgan, Main Avenue, Derrybeg   Sean (Jnr), Aidan, Rosena & Sean (Snr) Kennedy, O'Neill Avenue   Seamus McCrink, Upper Ballyholland   Bridget O'Hare, Upper Ballyholland   Philip & Kathleen Donaghy, Bessbrook & deceased family members   Brendan McFee, Ballyholland Park & deceased members of the McFee Family, High Street   Stephen & Philip Craven, Barcroft Pk   Mena, Patsy & Martin McEvoy, The Manse & Gavin McGivern, Greenfield Pk |
| Sunday 21 December    | 9.00am<br>12 noon | Elizabeth & James McCreesh, Damolly Village   Gerard Michael Bradley, Cherrywood Grove   Alex & Cecilia McKinley, Water Street   Deceased members of the Traynor Family, Corry Square   Patrick & Kathleen McShane, Greenwood Drive & deceased members of the Fox family, Galway   Dympna Kenny, Willow Grove, Kenneth J. Kenny, Balmoral Avenue & Damien Kenny, Toll House Park   |
| Monday 22 December    | 5.30pm            | Rosaleen Ward, Meigh   |
| Tuesday 23 December   | 10.30am           | Frank & Una McLoughlin, Stream Street   Teresa & Charlie McCabe, Hennessy Park   |
| Wednesday 24 December | 10.30am           | Father Patrick Francis MacComiskey   Patrick Joseph Bannon, Armagh Road.   |
|                       | 10.30am           | Lauri Rafferty, North Street & deceased members of the Morgan family, Water Street   O'Hagan Family, Lisummon   William, Christina, Michael & Liam Nolan, Carrick-Ard   Pat McCoy, St. Colman's Park.  |
|                       | 8.30pm            | Harry Shields, Cloughreagh Park   Martina McDonald, Mourneview Park   Vincent Cranney, Greenan Road  |
| Thursday 25 December  | 9.00am            | Padraigín Byard, Forest Hills   Danute Kasputiene, Martynas Jocas, Krizentas Kasputis, Petras Klimasciustas  |
|                       | 12 noon           | Kathleen & John Smith, Plunkett Street   Catherine Casey, Plunkett Mews   Elizabeth & Oliver Casey, Mourneview Park, John & Brigid Casey, Mourneview Park & Francis & Mary Martin, Violet Hill Avenue   Eric & Joseph Casey & Martin Gosden   Laimis Plekaitis, Church Street   John Mallon, Hilltown Road   Vida Burninckiene, Lithuania.   |
| Friday 26 December    | 10.30am           | Deceased members of the McAllister Family, Erskine Place & deceased members of the Murphy family, Ballymoyer   Paddy McAteer, Slievegullion Rd & Mary Nicholls (née McAteer) St. Clare's Ave   |
| Saturday 27 December  | 10.30am<br>6.00pm | <b>NO 5.30PM MASS</b><br>Canon Cathal Jordan   Vincent McEvoy, Mountainview Drive<br>Vygantas, Matilda, Albina, Robertas & Karolis   |
| Sunday 28 December    | 12 noon           | <b>Sean Maguire, Ardmaine Gardens (M.M.)</b><br>Anna (Nan) Kane, (née McAteer), Castle Street   Harry Donnelly, Fairfield Heights   Jason O'Hanlon, Conway Park, Mullaghbawn   Gerard Morgan, Ardmaine Gardens   Paddy McElroy, Old Warrenpoint Road.  |
|                       | 5.30pm            | <b>Deborah Croskery (née Kelland) Woodgrove, Castlewellan (M.M.)</b><br>Derek, Eilish & Olga Jane Todd   Sean McQuaid, Damolly Road   Kathleen & Matthew McAteer, Carlingford Park   Patsy Crimmins, Ballinlare Gardens<br>Annie & Jimmy McLoughlin, Bridge Street   Geraldine Connolly & Bernie Trainor   |

### St. Mary's Anniversaries

|                       |         |   |
|-----------------------|---------|---|
| Sunday 21 December    | 10.30am | Freddie Kearns, Carnagh Park   Patricia McCann, Carlingford Park  |
| Wednesday 24 December | 7.00pm  | <b>Irene O'Loughlin, Carnagh Park (M.M.)</b> & Pat O'Loughlin, Carnagh Park   Bridget, Keith & Frank Murphy, O'Neill Avenue   Billy & Evelyn Fegan, Hennessy Park & Gerald Fegan, Donegal   Paschal Hughes, Warren Hill   Mary Ellen, Joe & Christy Hughes, Grinan & deceased members of the Cunningham Family, Merchant's Quay & the Bailey Family, Ayallague. |
| Thursday 25 December  | 10.30am | Matthew & Margaret McAteer, Ann Rice & Rosena Rodgers, O'Neill Avenue & Maura & Austin Slevin, Loughview Park & Sarah & John Payne, Violet Hill Avenue & Kate McDermott, Murphy Crescent   Dan & May McCann, O'Neill Avenue   Paddy & Bridie McCann, Drumgullion Avenue   |
| Sunday 28 December    | 10.30am | George & Bridget McGivern, High Street   May McGivern, Chapel Street   Jim McGovern, Greenwood Drive   Lynda Hughes, Ashgrove Road   Rita Devlin, Mary Rooney & Eilish Todd, (née Cunningham), O'Neill Avenue<br>Patricia Quinn, Barley Lane   Jimmy & Lily McManus, Billy's Road   Eilish Todd, Loanda Crescent  |

### St. Brigid's Anniversaries

|                       |        |  |
|-----------------------|--------|--|
| Saturday 20 December  | 7.30pm | Bridie McGrath, Orior Road   Margaret Rice, Ballinlare Gardens   Dominic Spencer, Killeavy Road & deceased members of the Spencer Family, St. Patrick's Avenue   Arthur McEvoy, Fourth Avenue   Bridie, James, Matthew & Eleanor McGivern, Carnagat Park   Michael & Alice McKeown & Michael Rooney, Catherine Street   Dec. members of Linnie, Kearney & Green families, Newry & Camlough |
| Wednesday 24 December | 7.00pm | Pauline Clarke, Armagh Road   Raymond & Angela McAllister, Cloughreagh   Sean & Rita Dillon, Armagh Road & Kathleen & Patrick Donnelly, Monaghan Row   Canon Cathal Jordan   Paddy McAteer, Slievegullion Road & Mary Nicholls (née McAteer), St. Clare's Avenue   Dessie McAleavy & deceased family members, Violet Hill Avenue   |
| Saturday 28 December  | 7.30pm | Peter & Philomena McCann, Derrybeg Drive & deceased members of the McCann & Morley family   Anna Rose Synott, Parkhead Crescent   John Ryan, Killeavy Road & Lucy Ryan, Main Avenue, Derrybeg   Rita Downey, Violet Hill Avenue   Kieran Lucas, Killeavy Road.   |

### Saval Anniversaries

|                      |         |                         |
|----------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Sunday 21 December   | 10.30am | Pat McEvoy              |
| Thursday 25 December | 10.30am | Kathleen & Joseph Magee |

### St. Catherine's Anniversaries

|                       |   |   |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Saturday 20 December  | 7.30pm  | Mary Teresa & Noel Mallon   John McAlinden, Catherine & Frank Moan & Catherine Blackadder   |
| Sunday 21 December    | 8.00am<br>11.00am<br>9.30am<br>11.00am<br>12.30pm | Kevin McCorry   Meena Magee   Michael McConville   Loughran & Hoey Families   Bridie Bannon Denis & Eileen Duggan & Deceased family members   |
|                       |   | Catherine & Thomas McLoughlin   Gene McEvitt  |
|                       |   | Denis & Eileen Duggan & deceased family members   |
|                       |   | Catherine & Thomas McLoughlin   Gene McEvitt  |
|                       |   | Teesie Dillon & deceased members of the Dillon Family   Danny, Teresa & Lorraine Bennett  |
| Monday 22 December    | 7.30am<br>11.00am                                 | Deceased members of the Quinn, O'Leary & Murphy Families  |
|                       | 7.30pm  | Deceased members of the Murphy Family   |
|                       |   | Marie McClorey   Arthur Scullion   Edward Rooney   Gerard Murphy   Gerald & Sean McGowan  |
|                       |   | John, Margaret, Gerald, Patsy, Teresa & Elizabeth Fitzpatrick   Charlie Larkin & deceased family  |
|                       |   | The McCumisky Family & Donal O'Neill   Edward Grimes & Family   Brendan McCormack   Mary Clare, Patrick & Joseph & Dympna Campbell   Mary Brigid McCone, Sarah McCullough   Fr. John Kearns |
| Tuesday 23 December   | 7.30am<br>11.00am                                 | Timothy McGann   Ken McCartan   Mena O'Hagan   Mary McGibbon  |
|                       | 7.30PM  | Mae Sally   Deceased members of the Mooney Family   Danie Mooney   Carol Fitzpatrick  |
|                       |   | Keenan Family   Tremer Family   Ward Family   Linda Larkin   Sean & Tony McVeigh  |
| Wednesday 24 December | 11.00am   | Liam McMahon   Sean & Shane Quinn   Jim McKeown   |
| Friday 26 December    | 11.00am   | Kerry Flemming   Pauline Clarke (née O'Hare)   Mary Mone   Bernadette, Richard & Lelia Hughes   |
| Saturday 29 December  | 11.00am   | James Coghlan & deceased family members   Eamon & Rita McArdle  |
| Sunday 29 December    | 8.00am  | Brigid Valley & deceased family members   Brigid & James Reynolds & deceased family member  |

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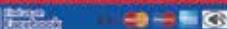
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