

O Blessed Mary and Blessed Joseph, allow me to journey with you to Bethlehem. I am a lowly pilgrim making my way to the centre of history, the centre of the universe: the Birth of Christ the Lord.

With unspeakable awe and expectant wonder I long to behold the promised Messiah. Time will stand still, forever divided by the entry of the Creator into His creation. What joy to my eyes to see His adorable face. What joy to me ears to hear His soft cries. My heart is overcome with delight to see the splendour of God now truly alive in human flesh.

For by God's infinite humility and kindness we now know Emmanuel - God with us. This dear infant at rest in a feeding trough will become the food for mankind, redeeming the world and nourish each soul that receives Him.

Both shepherd and lamb recognise Him as one of their own. For this Child will lead many into the green pastures of deathless Paradise by becoming the slain Shepherd, the sacrificial Lamb of God.

By the light of a great star above, I see His precious eyes begin to open. He who is Light from Light now sees with eyes of flesh that star's gentle lumen.

My heart is prostrate before Him and I have but one sorrow: I am poor, bereft of fitting treasures for this newborn King. And so I lay before Him the gift of my life, though even that be His own gift to me.

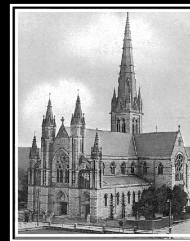
O sweet Christ, Author of Life, accept my heart as gift born of gift. O Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom. Amen.

#### PRAYER FOR BENEFACTORS

O God, we ask you to look kindly on all those who have supported the Cathedral over the years. We commend to you especially those who are sick, bereaved, depressed or worried at this time and those who have asked our prayers for particular intentions. Lord hear our prayer. Amen.

#### An Irish Christmas Blessing . . .

May you never **forget** what is worth remembering or **remember** what is best forgotten.



## ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL LETTERKENNY NEWSLETTER

**Sunday 18th December and  
Sunday 25th December 2016**

### ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE

We extend a warm welcome to all Parishioners and visitors to Letterkenny, to come to our **Carol Service this evening**, Sunday 18th December at **8 pm** and join in the singing of your favourite carols.

#### CONFESSIONS

**Sunday 18th December** from 1 pm to 6 pm

(Polish Confessions: 3.30 pm - 4.15 pm)

**Monday 19th December** ~ 8 pm

**Tuesday 20th December** from 10.30 am to 12 noon and 8 pm

**Wednesday 21st December** from 10.30 am to 12 noon and 8 pm

**Thursday 22nd December** from 10.30 am to 12 noon and 8 pm

**Friday 23rd December** from 10.30 am to 6 pm and 8 pm

**Saturday 24th December** from 10.30 am - 1 pm

#### MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS

**Christmas Eve** ~ normal 10 am Mass,

7.30 pm (Family Mass) and 12 Midnight

**Christmas Day** ~ 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon and 4.30 pm (Polish)

Please note there will be **No 6.30 pm Mass** on Christmas Day



*We wish all Parishioners, families and friends a very Happy Christmas. We remember and pray for parents, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters and grandchildren who cannot be home for Christmas. We pray in a special way for all Missionaries and Members of the Defence Forces from our Town and County who are helping and protecting others this Christmas. We pray for all who have gone to their eternal reward, remembering especially all who have died in our Parish throughout the year. May they rest in peace.*

**PRIEST ON DUTY THIS WEEK: Fr. Eamonn McLaughlin**

**Sunday 18th December**

**Masses** ~ 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon, 4.30 pm (Polish) and 6.30 pm  
**Baptisms** - 1.30 pm  
**St. Pius X Adoration Chapel** is open at 1 pm  
**Polish Prayer Group** in the Cathedral ~ 4.30 pm - 7 pm  
**Cathedral Carol Service** - 8 pm  
**AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 11 am and 8.30 pm  
**Al-Anon Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

**Confessions**  
1 pm  
to  
6 pm

**Monday 19th December**

**8 am Mass** ~ Michael and Susan O'Boyle  
**10 am Mass** ~ Jimmy Sweeney  
**7.30 pm Mass** ~ John Carr  
**St Pius X Adoration Chapel is open**  
**Confessions** ~ 8 pm  
**Grow Mental Health Meetings** in the Pastoral Centre - 7.30 pm  
**AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

**Morning Prayer** (9.40 am)  
(Monday to Saturday)  
**Evening Prayer** (7.10 pm)  
(Monday to Friday)

**Tuesday 20th December ~ St. Fachanan**

**8 am Mass** ~ Ellen Gallagher  
**10 am Mass** ~ ®  
**7.30 pm Mass** ~ Owen McMonagle  
**St. Pius X Adoration Chapel is open**  
**Confessions** ~ 10.30 am to 12 noon and 8 pm  
**Legion of Mary Meeting** in the Conference Room after 10 am Mass  
**Legion of Mary Meeting** in the Parochial House at 7 pm  
**Baptism Preparation** in the Parochial House on Tuesday 20th December ~ **8 pm**  
**Divine Mercy Holy Hour** in the Cathedral – 8 pm  
**Gamblers' Anonymous Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm  
**Al-Anon Meeting and AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

**Wednesday 21st December ~ St. Peter Canisius**

**8 am Mass** ~ Patrick and Mamie Boyce  
**10 am Mass** ~ Charlie Collins  
**7.30 pm Mass** ~ Patsy Shiels  
**St. Pius X Adoration Chapel is open**  
**Confessions** ~ 10.30 am to 12 noon and 8 pm  
**Mother's Prayer Group Meeting** - Conference Room - 7 pm  
**Cathedral Choir Practice** in the Conference Room - 8 pm  
**Narcotics Anonymous** in the Pastoral Centre ~ 8.30 pm

**PLEASE CHECK IF MEETINGS ARE ON  
THIS WEEK BEFORE ATTENDING**

**Thursday 29th December ~ St. Thomas Becket**

**8 am Mass** ~ Nellie McGranaghan  
**10 am Mass** ~ Nellie McGranaghan  
**1.30 pm** ~ Nuptial  
**7.30 pm Mass** ~ Lisa Shiels (**First Anniversary**)  
**St. Pius X Adoration Chapel is open**  
**AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 5.30 pm  
**Charismatic Prayer Meeting** in the Conference Room - 8 pm

**Friday 30th December**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

**8 am Mass** ~ Kathleen McGinty  
**10 am Mass** ~ Mary Carr  
**7.30 pm Mass** ~ Aaron Roulston, Fr. Michéal Martin, Nair Vilas Boas, Tony McGlynn, Horace Friel Jnr., Betty McDaid, Brendan McDaid and Rosha Callan  
**St. Pius X Adoration Chapel is open**  
**Al-Anon Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 10 am  
**AA Meeting for Women** in the Conference Room - 1 pm  
**AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 5.30 pm

**Saturday 31st December ~ St. Sylvester**

**10 am Mass** ~ Vincent Neely (**First Anniversary**)  
**7.30 pm** ~ Vigil Mass  
**Baptisms** ~ 2.30 pm  
**Confessions:** 12 noon - 1 pm and after 7.30 pm Mass  
**AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 11 am  
**Narcotics Anonymous** in the Pastoral Centre - 5.30 pm

**Morning  
Prayer**  
9.40 am

**The Parish Office will be CLOSED from Friday 23rd December  
until Tuesday 3rd January**

**CATHEDRAL CLEANING** will take place on Wednesday 21st December at 4 pm.  
**Volunteers - Men and Women are always welcome** to come and help with the hoovering and dusting of seats etc. Sincere thanks to Brian and Frances who coordinates the Cathedral Cleaning throughout the year.

*"Christ comes among us at Christmas: it is the perfect time for a personal encounter with the Lord". Pope Francis.*

**PRIEST ON DUTY THIS WEEK: Fr. Eamonn Kelly**

**Sunday 25th December ~ Christmas Day**

**Masses** ~ 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon and 4.30 pm (Polish)

Please note ~ **NO 6.30 pm this Evening**

**St. Pius X Adoration Chapel** is open at 7 pm

**Polish Prayer Group** in the Cathedral ~ 4.30 pm - 7 pm

**AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 11 am and 8.30 pm

**Al-Anon Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

**Monday 26th December ~ St. Stephen**

**NO 8 am Mass**

**10 am Mass** ~ Special Intention

**7.30 pm Mass** ~ ®

**St Pius X Adoration Chapel** is open

**Confessions** ~ 8 pm

**Grow Mental Health Meetings** in the Pastoral Centre - 7.30 pm

**AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

**Divine  
Mercy  
Chaplet  
3 pm  
Daily**

**Tuesday 27th November ~ St. John, Apostle and Evangelist**

**NO 8 am Mass**

**10 am Mass** ~ ®

**12.30 pm** ~ Nuptial

**7.30 pm Mass** ~ Geraldine Griffin

**St. Pius X Adoration Chapel** is open

**Legion of Mary Meeting** in the Conference Room after 10 am Mass

**Legion of Mary Meeting** in the Parochial House at 7 pm

**Baptism Preparation** in the Parochial House on Tuesday 10th January ~ 8 pm

**Divine Mercy Prayer Group** in the Crib Room - 8 pm

**Gamblers' Anonymous Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

**Al-Anon Meeting and AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 8.30 pm

**Morning Prayer** (9.40 am)  
(Monday to Saturday)  
**Evening Prayer** (7.10 pm)  
(Monday to Friday)

**Wednesday 28th December ~ The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

**8 am Mass** ~ Patrick Gallagher

**10 am Mass** ~ James Dean Alcorn

**7.30 pm Mass** ~ Paddy Doherty

**St. Pius X Adoration Chapel** is open

**Mother's Prayer Group Meeting** - Conference Room - 7 pm

**Cathedral Choir Practice** in the Conference Room - 8 pm

**Narcotics Anonymous** in the Pastoral Centre ~ 8.30 pm

**Thursday 22nd December**

**8 am Mass** ~ Eileen and Brian Dalton

**10 am Mass** ~ Ursula McGlynn

**7.30 pm Mass** ~ Hugh Duffy

**St. Pius X Adoration Chapel** is open

**Confessions** ~ 10.30 am to 12 noon and 8 pm

**AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 5.30 pm

**Charismatic Prayer Meeting** in the Conference Room - 8 pm

**Friday 23rd December ~ St. John of Kanty**

**8 am Mass** ~ Ellen Gallagher

**10 am Mass** ~ Bridget Lagan

**7.30 pm Mass** ~ Molly Campbell (First Anniversary), Elizabeth Bradley, Peter Bradley, Al McKenna, James McNulty, John McNulty, Sarah McNulty, Willie Sweeney, Albert Sweeney, Susan McGlynn, Peter McGlynn, Willie Wiseman, Frank Drein, Elizabeth Drein, Robert (Bobby) Curran, Evanna Woods and James Patrick Murphy

**St. Pius X Adoration Chapel** is open

**Confessions** ~ 1 pm to 6 pm and 8 pm

**Al-Anon Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 10 am

**AA Meeting for Women** in the Conference Room - 1 pm

**AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 5.30 pm

**Saturday 24th December ~ Christmas Eve**

**10 am Mass** ~ ®

**7.30 pm** ~ Family Mass

**Confessions:** 10.30 am - 1 pm

**AA Meeting** in the Pastoral Centre - 11 am

**Narcotics Anonymous** in the Pastoral Centre - 5.30 pm

**Baptisms** ~ 2.30 pm

**12 Midnight** ~ Midnight Mass

**Morning  
Prayer  
9.40 am**

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday to Friday (9.30 am - 4.30 pm)



**Phone:** 074 - 9121021

**Email:** steunanscathedral@eircom.net

**Website:** www.steunanscathedral.ie

**Parish Pastoral Council Email:** conwalandleckpc@gmail.com

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION** ~ 11th December - €6,077

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION** ~ 8th December - €2,360

**PARISH EXPENDITURE:** €23,491.34

Thank you for your gift to God and His Church

## RECENT BAPTISMS ~ We welcome into God's Community

Leah Maire Shiels ~ Patrick Martin McDonagh - Young

Boxes of **SUNDAY/HOLYDAY ENVELOPES** for 2017 are available from the Parochial House. If anyone would like to receive a box, please contact the Parochial House on 9121021. Alternatively boxes are available from the back of the Cathedral. Simply fill in the little card inside the box and return it with your first envelope. *Thank you for your continued financial support to the upkeep of the Cathedral and the day to day running of the Parish.*

The **Donegal Chamber Orchestra's CHRISTMAS CONCERT** takes place today, Sunday 18th December at 3 pm in Conwal Parish Church. Music from Vivaldi to Anderson as part of 'Sundays in Conwal' Concert Series. Admission €10/€5. Tickets at the door. Everyone welcome.

The **Staff and Pupils from Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Illistrin** warmly invites everyone to their **CAROL SERVICE** on Monday 19th December at 6 pm in St. Eunan's Cathedral.

The **Staff and Pupils from Scoil Cholmcille** warmly invites everyone to their **CAROL SERVICE** on Wednesday 21st December at 1 pm in St. Eunan's Cathedral.

**We Care Food Bank** will be **OPEN ADDITIONAL HOURS** on Thursday 22nd December and Friday 23rd December from 11 am until 2 pm each day. We Care Food Bank would like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors and all who donated throughout the year. This kind gesture has greatly benefited our local community. We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and we hope to continue the good work in 2017.

If you would like to have a **DECEASED PERSON PRAYED FOR ON A FRIDAY EVENING** (Shared Mass), please inform a Priest/Sacristan in the Sacristy or phone the Parochial House at least a week or two in advance of the date you are looking for. Anniversary Masses **can be booked as normal** for all other available Mass Times excluding Saturday Evening and Sundays. Saturday morning Mass is reserved for a Month's Mind Mass or First Anniversary Mass.

Anyone wishing to book a **BAPTISM** are asked to give a fortnight's notice. Baptisms take place at 5 pm on a Saturday and 1.30 pm on a Sunday. Please bring your child's Birth Certificate when booking the Baptism.

**St. Vincent de Paul** ~ Parish of Conwal and Leck ~ 9129503

**St. Vincent de Paul** ~ Parish of Aughaninshin ~ 9122366

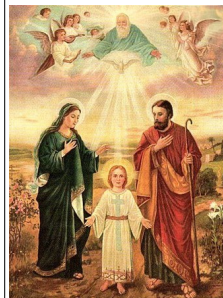
**CLG Naomh Adhamháin, Leitir Ceanainn** ~ We would like to thank all our volunteers in 2016 for giving their time so generously to the club. Thanks also to all our sponsors for their most generous support. We would like to pass on our condolences to all our members that lost loved ones during the year. We would like to wish everyone in Letterkenny a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year. Nollaig shóna agus bliain úr faoi mhaise dó gach duine go léir.

The **Board of Directors and Staff** of Cara House Family Resource Centre **WISH** all their friends and benefactors a very Happy Christmas and New Year. Thanks to all who volunteered their time so willingly in 2016 and to all who fundraised.

**LOOKING FOR A CAREER IN THE CARE SECTOR?** Family Carers Ireland are providing the QQI Level 5 Healthcare Award in 2017 in or around your area based on demand. One day topic specific workshops also available. For more information please contact the training unit on 0579322920.

**MARY'S MEALS** will hold a **WALK** in Glenveagh on St. Stephen's Day, Monday 26th December. Meeting point will be the main Car Park at 11.45 am - walk begins at 12 noon. Refreshments in the Administration Centre afterwards. Everyone welcome. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## CHRISTMAS CRIB PRAYER



Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love; to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalised find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen.

**World Meeting of Families will take place in Dublin  
from the 22nd - 26th August 2018**