Parish Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 9.30am - 4.30pm/Friday 9.30am - 1pm **Phone:** 074 - 9121021

Parish Email: office@steunanscathedral.ie

Live **Web Streaming** from the Cathedral ~ churchservices.tv/letterkenny

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** ~ 10th December - €5.886 **HOLYDAY COLLECTION** ~ 8th December - €2.819

**PARISH EXPENDITURE** ~ €4,210.81 **DONATIONS**: €250

Thank you for your gift to God and His Church We deeply appreciate your continued Spiritual and Financial support.

To **BOOK A BAPTISM** please phone the Parochial House on 9121021. Please remember: Godparents: (1 male and 1 female over the age of 16).

**BAPTISM PREPARATION** ~ We have uploaded a number of videos under 'Featured Videos' for Parents, in Preparation for their child's Baptism on our website: www.steunanscathedral.ie.

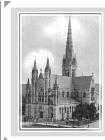
GIVE THE GIFT OF LOUGH DERG THIS CHRISTMAS: The online Lough Derg Christmas Shop is now open at: www.loughderg.live/shop Mass Bouquets, Christmas Cards, the limited edition Lough Derg Christmas Candle, and a large range of Nativity Sets and other gifts. The Christmas shop provides much needed financial support to support the mission and ministry of Lough Derg outside the Pilgrimage Season. Thank you for your support.

COURSE IN FERTILITY AWARENESS & NFP: The NFPTAI (Natural Family Planning Teachers Association of Ireland) are running a Teacher Training Course in Fertility Awareness 2024 leading to a certificate to teach the Sympto-Thermal Double-Check Method of Natural Family Planning starting in January 2024. For further details please phone Sinead: 086-0528282 visit www.naturalfamilyplanningireland.ie/info@naturalfamilyplanningireland.ie

**RAINBOWS.** Letterkenny - applications are now open for a new Rainbows programme beginning February 2024. Rainbows is a free nine week programme for children (7-13 years) who have experienced a bereavement or parental separation. To receive an application form please contact the Pastoral Centre on 0749121853 or email: pastoralcentre@raphoediocese.ie. Please visit: www.rainbowsireland.ie

RAPHOE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA 2024 will take place from the 18th - 25th July accompanied by a Spiritual Director. Early booking offer - €100 off it booked by Friday 22nd December. For further details, please phone Mena on 0749121748/086-1655513 or Eileen on 083-1175135.

The Donegal N.E. Group PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE 2024 will take place on the 25th September for seven nights. Flight from Knock to Mostar. Vouchers are available. Please phone Michael on 087-2922499 for details.



# ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL LETTERKENNY NEWSLETTER

**Sunday 17th December 2023** Third Sunday of Advent

#### **CHRISTMAS CONFESSION TIMES**

**Sunday 17th December:** 3 pm - 5.30 pm **Tuesday 19th December:** 10.30 am - 12 noon and 7.30 pm Wednesday 20th December: 10.30 am - 12 noon and 7.30 pm Thursday 21st December: 10.30 am - 12 noon and 7.30 pm Friday 22nd December: 10.30 am - 12 noon and 7.30 pm **Saturday 23rd December:** 10.30 am - 5 pm and 7 pm (If there is a Funeral Mass at 11 am on any of the above dates Confessions will be from 12 noon to 1 pm).

#### **CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE**

We warmly invite you to our Cathedral Carol Service at 7.30 pm this evening, Sunday 17th December. We thank all Choirs, Soloists, Musicians and Schools for giving of their time and talents. Thank you to Fr. Carney for co-ordinating our Carol Service.

#### A PRAYER AT THE CRIB

Lord we ask you bless this Crib and all who look upon it. You came to us as a helpless child to share our vulnerabilities, our joys and sorrows, and to teach us your way of love.

As we look upon this Crib, space of tenderness, may it open our hearts and our homes to become Bethlehem spaces, open to receive the Light and Love of God and share it with others.

May this Crib which was a home for an anxious couple in search of shelter, and for a new-born child fragile and vulnerable, remind us to open our hearts and homes; to listen for the whisper of God; to listen for the voices of the anxious and the vulnerable in our families and communities this Christmas.

Gracious God, bless us with an extravagance of patience, insight, hope and love, as we await the birth of our Saviour. Pour down your blessings on all our families and homes and on the broken parts of your world.

May we know the peace that the angels announced to the shepherds and may the joy of God's coming among us in Jesus, fill our hearts. Amen.

#### **CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**Sunday 24th December (Christmas Eve)**: 6 pm (Family Mass) and 12 midnight

Monday 25th December (Christmas Day): 8 am, 10 am and 12 noon Tuesday 26th - Thursday 28th December: 10 am only Friday 29th December: 10 am and 7 pm

# BOXES OF CHURCH ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR COLLECTION

If you delivered the boxes of envelopes for us in previous years, we would appreciate your help once again this year. If you attend the Cathedral on a regular basis and would like to receive a Box of Cathedral Envelopes for 2024 OR perhaps you would like to set up a Standing Order, please contact the Parish Office on 9121021 in the coming week. Thank you for your continued generosity to the Parish.

The Cathedral **PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS** are **ON SALE** in Veritas, Main Street; Macs Deli, High Road; Clarke's Newsagents, Lower Main Street; County Dry Cleaners, Lower Main Street; Certa Oil (formally Jones Oil), Port Road; Kernans Shop, Lower Main Street; Kernans Shop, Oldtown; Kernans Shop, Tullygay; Tinney's Oil, Bonagee; The Bookmark, Letterkenny Shopping Centre and from the Sacristy and Parochial House. (€5 per pack of 5). **The Recipient's intentions are included in all Masses in the Cathedral from the 25th December until the 1st January.** Any profit, after printing costs, will be donated to the local St. Vincent de Paul Society.

**LETTERKENNY MEMORIES** will be held in the Station House Hotel on Tuesday 19th December at 8 pm. Everyone welcome. Prizes on the night.

The **LETTERKENNY CAROL TRAIL** will be held on **Friday 22nd December** starting in Trinity Presbyterian Church, Main Street at 7.30 pm. We will be visiting each of the Churches in the locality. Mince Pies and Tea/Coffee will be served in Conwal Parish Hall following the Trail. All are welcome to come along and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas 'Goodwill to All'.

On Saturday 23rd December, the RAPHOE DIOCESE WILL HOLD A FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY in ALDI, Neil T. Blaney Road to raise funds for new youth initiatives in the Diocese. This will be a full day of singing by people of all ages. If you are nearby, please pop in. Your support would be appreciated.

For the next few weeks, in **ST EUNAN'S CHURCH, RAPHOE** there will be a substantial display of Cribs. Fifty cribs will be on display and these cribs are from many different places in the world. The **'EXHIBITION OF CRIBS'** will be a lovely place to visit and adults and children will enjoy these creations from the different countries and cultures. The 'Exhibition of cribs' will be present until after the 6th January and St. Eunan's Church, Raphoe is open daily from 9 am until 6 pm.

#### Sunday 17th December ~ Third Sunday of Advent

Masses: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon and 6 pm
Confessions: 3 pm - 5.30 pm
Carol Service: 7.30 pm

#### Monday 18th December ~ St. Flannan, bishop

8 am Mass ~ Michael and Susan O'Boyle RIP 10 am Mass ~ Mick. Grace. John and Celine McBride RIP

# **Tuesday 19th December**

8 am Mass ~ Celia Tinney RIP & Deceased Members of the Gallagher Family RIP

10 am Mass ~ Brendan Doherty RIP

6 pm ~ Holy Face Devotions

7 pm Mass ~ Dominic O'Donnell RIP (First Anniversary)

Confessions ~ 10.30 am - 12 noon and 7.30 pm

#### Wednesday 20th December ~ St. Fachanan, bishop

8 am Mass ~ Brigid Lagan RIP
7pm Mass ~ Rosaleen Sheridan Long RIP
Confessions ~ 10.30 am - 12 noon & 7.30 pm

### Thursday 21st December ~ St. Peter Canisius

8 am Mass ~ Jimmy Sweeney RIP
10 am Mass ~ Frank Maguire Snr. & Frank Maguire Jnr. RIP
7 pm Mass ~ Deirdre Gallagher RIP (Month's Mind Mass)
7 pm ~ Cathedral Youth Group meet in the Pastoral Centre

Confessions: 10.30 am - 12 noon and 7.30 pm

## Friday 22nd December

**8 am Mass** ~ Deceased Members of the Keane and Ginnelly Families RIP and Breege Ryan RIP

10 am Mass ~ Special Intention Confessions: 10.30 am - 12 noon and 7.30 pm 7 pm Mass ~ Owen McMonagle, Patsy Shields, Elizabeth Bradley, Brid O'Rourke, Willie Sweeny, Albert Sweeney, Thomas Sweeney, Hugh Duffy, Susanna Doherty and Horace Friel Jnr. RIP

# Saturday 23rd December ~ St. John of Kanty, priest

10 am Mass ~ William and Elizabeth Coyle RIP 6 pm ~ Vigil Mass Confessions ~ 10.30 am to 5 pm and 7 pm

#### Sunday 24th December ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

Masses: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon Christmas Eve Family Mass: 6 pm Midnight Mass: 12 midnight