

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 9.30am - 4.30pm/Friday 9.30am – 1pm

Phone: 074 - 9121021

Parish Email: office@steunanscathedral.ie

Website: www.steunanscathedral.ie  St. Eunan's Cathedral

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

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

MASS BOOKINGS IN THE CATHEDRAL ~ For every individual Mass Booking in the Cathedral, there is a recommended Mass Offering of €10 due. We do not take any Mass Offering for a Friday Evening 7 pm Mass.

COUPLES PLANNING TO GET MARRIED in the Cathedral must give at least 3 months notice to both the Parish and the Registrar (Tirchonail House, Kilmacrennan Road - 0749123771). Baptismal Certificates/Confirmation Certificates and Letters of Freedom are required before completing your Pre-Nuptial Enquiry Forms with a Priest. These Certificates should be dated within 6 months of your wedding date.

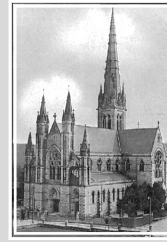
PRO LIFE are holding a **Church Gate Collection** in Donegal on the 6th & 7th January. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

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 or visit www.naturalfamilyplanningireland.ie / info@naturalfamilyplanningireland.ie

TRÓCAIRE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS: Are you a retired teacher or someone who has experience presenting to groups of school children? **Trócaire is looking for volunteers to support our School Talks Programme for Lent 2024 in the Donegal Area.** If you think you have the right skills and experience and will have a few free hours during Lent then we would love to hear from you! For more information call Casey Schell on 02890 808033 or email casey.schell@trocaire.org

RAPHOE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA 2024 will take place from the **18th - 25th July** accompanied by a Spiritual Director. For further details, please phone Mena on 0749121748/086-1655513 or Eileen on 083-1175135.

Would you be willing to provide companionship or make calls to an older person in your area for 1 hour per week? ALONE are seeking volunteers in this area. Full training and support provided. If interested, please sign up on <https://alone.ie/volunteers/> For more information, contact Helena on Helena.madden@alone.ie or on 086-0145829.



**ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL
LETTERKENNY
NEWSLETTER
Sunday 31st December 2023
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

A BLESSING FOR THE YEAR TO COME

The New Year is a 'liminal' moment, a moment of crossing, of change, of looking back and of facing forward. We can easily be caught in one or the other, continuously looking back and trapped by what we should learn to leave behind and, in Christian terms, entrust to God's mercy. Or we can be continuously running ahead, either in escape or unreflective haste. At times it is easy to be trapped by indecision, having neither the courage to look at our actions frankly and honestly, or to embrace the challenge that stands before us, to go into the unknown.

For us who walk the path of life with Christian faith, God's grace enters in. We understand – or are called to understand – that His grace must affect each of these stances, helping us to look at our actions from the perspective of truth that also accepts His healing mercy, and from the perspective of hope, trusting that God has come amongst us to lead the way, and has made us capable of discerning the voice of the Spirit who has been poured into our hearts.

And so, the New Year, like many other "liminal moments" – birthdays, anniversaries, births, marriages and deaths, and many other instances of moving on and looking back – beckons us who profess our faith in Jesus Christ to live from the perspective of both mercy and hope, to live from the point of view of grace. This necessarily is a viewpoint in which only God can survey the whole scene, where He looks on, willing us towards life and love by the working out of His providence in our lives.

As we continue to contemplate God-Among-Us, Emmanuel, Jesus the Saviour, may we encounter this New Year as another crossing of the threshold of hope, wrapped in His mercy and grace.

**To WELCOME IN THE NEW YEAR you are very welcome to join us for
MIDNIGHT MASS (12 midnight - Sunday) in St. Eunan's Cathedral.**

CONFIRMATION DATES FOR 2024

Saturday 27th January: 12 noon - Gaelscoil Adhamhnáin
Saturday 27th January: 3 pm - Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál
Saturday 10th February: 12 noon - Scoil Cholmcille
Saturday 10th February: 3 pm - Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Illistrin

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DATES FOR 2024

Saturday 27th April: 11 am - Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál
Saturday 11th May: 11 am - Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Illistrin
Saturday 18th May: Gaelscoil Adhamhnáin
Saturday 25th May: Scoil Cholmcille

GRAVEYARD SERVICES FOR 2024

Sunday 7th July ~ Conwal Graveyard ~ 4 pm
Monday 8th July ~ Aughaninshin Graveyard ~ 7 pm
Sunday 14th July ~ Old Leck Graveyard - 3 pm
Sunday 14th July ~ New Leck Graveyard - 4 pm

ASH WEDNESDAY: 14th February 2024

EASTER SUNDAY: 31st March 2024

BOXES OF CHURCH ENVELOPES ~ If you attend the Cathedral on a regular basis and would like to receive a **Box of Cathedral Envelopes for 2024**, please contact the Parish Office on 9121021 in early January. Boxes are currently available from the back of the Cathedral. If you take a box, please complete and return the little card inside. If you would like to set up a **Standing Order**, or wish to donate to the Parish, please use the following IBAN Number. When doing so, please ensure that your full name will appear on the Cathedral Bank statement. IBAN: IE39BOFI90491556668632. **Thank you for your continued generosity to the Parish.**

St. Pius X ADORATION CHAPEL is situated in the grounds of Loreto Secondary School and beside the Divine Mercy Centre. Would you consider giving one hour of your week to sit and pray in the presence of the Lord? We are always looking for more adorers to commit to a specific hour each week. Maybe now the time is right for you to commit! Please contact 0860870446 if interested.

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

DIVINE MERCY CENTRE, LETTERKENNY ~ Phone: 0749169934

Sunday 31st December ~ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Masses: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon and 6 pm
Baptisms: 2.30 pm
Midnight Mass

Monday 1st January 2024 ~ Mary, The Holy Mother of God

10 am Mass ~ Al and Ethna McKenna RIP

Tuesday 2nd January ~ Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8 am Mass ~ Special Intention
10 am Mass ~ Maureen Dillon RIP
6 pm ~ Holy Face Devotions
7 pm Mass ~ Special Intention

Wednesday 3rd January ~ The Holy Name of Jesus

8 am Mass ~ Michael and Teresa McArdle RIP
10 am Mass ~ Brid O'Rourke RIP
7pm Mass ~ Priest's Intention
Confessions ~ 7.30 pm

Thursday 4th January

8 am Mass ~ Special Intention
10 am Mass ~ Hannah, Patrick and Joe Glackin. RIP
7 pm Mass ~ Priest's Intention
8 pm ~ Charismatic Prayer Group in the Conference Room

Friday 5th January ~ St. Charles of St. Andrew, priest

8 am Mass ~ Brigid McDaid RIP
10 am Mass ~ Margaret Flood RIP (First Anniversary)
Vigil Mass ~ 7 pm

Saturday 6th January ~ The Epiphany of the Lord

Mass Times: 10 am and 12 noon
First Saturday Devotions ~ After 10 am Mass
Confessions ~ 7 pm
6 pm ~ Vigil Mass

Sunday 7th January ~ The Baptism of the Lord

Masses: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon and 6 pm
Baptism: 2.30 pm