


**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

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** ~ 24th December - €7,325

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** ~ 31st December - €6,252

**PARISH EXPENDITURE** ~ €5,904.53

**DONATIONS:** €105

**DONATIONS TOWARDS FLOWERS:** €100

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).

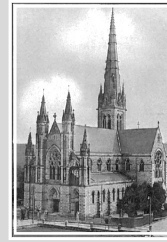
**BAPTISM PREPARATION** ~ We have uploaded a number of videos under 'Featured Videos' for Parents, in Preparation for their child's Baptism on our website: www.steunanscathedral.ie

**LARA (Letterkenny Active Retirement Association)** - Returns on Thursday 11th January from 2 pm - 4 pm in the Regional Centre, Port Road. Agenda: A.G.M, payment of fees - year planning etc. Old and New members welcome.

**ANAM CARA DONEGAL**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Thursday 11th January at 7.15pm in the Raddison Blu Hotel, Letterkenny. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. For more info call 01 4045378.

**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

**LETTERKENNY AND DISTRICT PIPE BAND** are holding their annual **Burns Night Variety Concert and supper** in Conwal Parish Hall on January 27th starting at 7.30 pm. Acts include Amy Meehan, Tara Howley', Letterkenny Ukulele Orchestra, Donegal Youth Orchestra. Supper of mince stew with traditional neaps and tatties and haggis will be served at the interval. Tickets are €15 and available from any member or call 0877698650. Money raised from this event will be used to purchase equipment necessary for the running of the band throughout the year. It is a family show and children accompanied by adults are free.



## ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL LETTERKENNY NEWSLETTER

**Sunday 7th January**  
**The Baptism of the Lord**

### **BLESSING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL 2023 - 2026**

At 12 noon Mass today the new members of the Parish Pastoral Council will be blessed. We take the opportunity to thank those that served on the previous Council until the pandemic disrupted the rhythm of meetings and parish activity. The renewal of the Parish Council reflects the call issued by Bishop McGuckian for parishioners throughout the diocese to take up the challenge of 'co-responsibility' for the life of their parish and of the wider Church. It is part of the Pastoral Plan *Ar Aghaidh le Chéile*. It is rooted in the calling of baptism, by which we are all brothers and sisters of Christ who make up his body, the Church. While the priest makes the apostolic ministry present in each local community, and is therefore a "fellow-worker" with the Bishop, each member of the faithful must have an awareness of their responsibility for passing on the faith and building up the community of faith.

Over a year ago, an invitation was issued for parishioners to attend an initial meeting on Parish Pastoral Councils. Over a hundred people from the various parishes of the local deaneries attended. After a series of three meetings, those who were interested to continue on a journey of formation were invited to attend a further series of monthly meetings. It is from this process that the new members of the Pastoral Council have emerged. Today they are being both presented and blessed. The role of the Pastoral Council is to assist the priest to encourage and direct the pastoral activity of the parish for the good of souls. It is to be a body that is rooted in prayer and the Scripture, nourished by the Church's teaching, by the sacraments and the parish community. From this prayerful and reflective group, we trust that many good things will come about for the good of the parish, making it a place of witness, welcome and spiritual wellbeing, to the praise and honour of God.

The members of the Pastoral Council are, along with the three priests: Ciaran Maguire [Chair], Anne Mulligan [Secretary], Niamh Kelly, John Richard, Mary T. Sweeney, Hugh McCauley, Elizabeth McCauley, Siobhan Foy, Carmel Maguire, Adrienne McGlinchey, Richie Bagasala, Mhel Bagasala, Mary Maguire and Siobhan Hannigan.

**MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR SR. BENEDETTA, SISTERS OF MERCIFUL JESUS**

Sr. Benedetta, whom many of you will know, will shortly depart Letterkenny for a new mission in Canada. We are very sorry to see her go. She has been with us for five years and was the founding Superior of the community of sisters who have taken up religious life in what was Loreto Convent, in order to begin and run the Divine Mercy Centre, operating out of the same building.

To establish a new convent and a new apostolate is no easy task, and yet Sr. Benedetta, along with Sr. Beata and Sr. Teresa, set everything on solid foundations. Subsequently, both Sr. Beata and Sr. Teresa have moved to new missions, to be replaced by Sr. Patrycja, Sr. Marie Therese and Sr. Monica.

Those who have become familiar with their work know the great faith of these women and how they have deepened people’s understanding of God’s mercy – the Divine Mercy. This has been true for our own parishioners, and for the large number of people who have come on retreat to the Divine Mercy Centre over these past five years from all over the country.

We cannot forget the “Little Rays of Merciful Jesus” – the children who attend the Sisters each week to grow deeper in their love of God. It is a joy to behold. It is a blessing to have religious Sisters in our parish.

We wish Sr. Benedetta every blessing on her new mission and we thank her very sincerely for her life and work amongst us.

**There will be a MASS OF THANKSGIVING in the Cathedral on Monday 8th January at 7 pm, with refreshments afterwards in the Conference Room. All are welcome.**

**HALF DAY RETREAT IN THE DIVINE MERCY CENTRE ~ SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY ~ ‘WHAT IS FAITH?’**

In this afternoon retreat we want to look closer at the great gift of God's Mercy, which is the gift of faith. Faith is a theological virtue, which means it is pure gift! We receive it at Baptism and are called to cooperate with it throughout our lives. The retreat starts at 2 pm and continues until 5.30 pm. It will consist of talks, a time of prayer and reflection and sharing our experience of faith (also around a cuppa). **Please note: it is necessary to book for all our retreats.** To do so, or for more information please contact the Divine Mercy Centre at: 0749169934 or [dvmletterkenny@gmail.com](mailto:dvmletterkenny@gmail.com).

**BOXES OF CHURCH ENVELOPES FOR 2024**

If you attend the Cathedral on a regular basis and would like to receive a **Box of Cathedral Envelopes (boxes are available from the back of the Cathedral or from the Parochial House)**. If you would like to set up a Standing Order, please contact the Parish Office on 9121021. Thank you for your continued generosity to the Parish.

**Sunday 7th January ~ The Baptism of the Lord**

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

**Monday 8th January**

8 am Mass ~ John Hanrahan RIP

10 am Mass ~ Priest’s Intention

**Tuesday 9th January**

8 am Mass ~ Special Intention

10 am Mass ~ Geraldine Crossan RIP

6 pm ~ Holy Face Devotions

7 pm Mass ~ Paddy Murray RIP (Month’s Mind Mass)

**Wednesday 10th January**

8 am Mass ~ Tony Leavy RIP

10 am Mass ~ Molly and Paddy Naughton RIP

7pm Mass ~ Liam Blake RIP

Confessions: After 7 pm Mass

**Thursday 11th January**

8 am Mass ~ Charles and Bridie Sweeney RIP

10 am Mass ~ Eileen and Michael Browne RIP

7 pm Mass ~ Grace Wilkie RIP (First Anniversary)

7 pm ~ Cathedral Youth Group meet in the Pastoral Centre

**Friday 12th January**

8 am Mass ~ Mass of Thanksgiving

10 am Mass ~ Priest’s Intention

7 pm Mass ~ Helen McDaid (Month’s Mind Mass), Paddy Harley, Annie Greene, Aaron Roulston, Geraldine Crossan, John Geary, Patricia Margey, Tom Gallagher, Doreen Houston, Margaret Callaghan, Joseph Callaghan, Annie Callaghan, Patrick McCloskey, Sophia McCloskey, Deceased Members of the McCloskey Family, Peter Lynch, Niamh Dunne, John Dunne, Stephen McDaid, Robert Quigley, Martin McGuigan, Hughie McGuigan, Janette Kelly, Pat Nicholls, Nan Boyle, Paul Gallagher, Frank Browne and Joseph McGranaghan RIP

**Saturday 13th January ~ St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

10 am Mass ~ Paddy McGrath RIP (Month’s Mind Mass)

Confessions ~ 12 noon - 1 pm and 7 pm

Baptisms: 4 pm

Vigil Mass ~ 6 pm

**Sunday 14th January ~ Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

Baptisms: 2.30 pm