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

Phone: 074 - 9121021

Parish Email: office@steunanscathedral.ie

SUNDAY COLLECTION ~ 3rd March - €6,199 **PARISH EXPENDITURE** ~ €6,234.34

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

Fr. Terence O' Connell will conduct a **DAY RETREAT IN HONOUR OF SAINT CHARBEL** on **Thursday 14th March** from 10 am - 3 pm in the Carmelite Retreat Centre Termonbacca, Derry. A First Class Relic and Blessed Oil of St. Charbel also available on the day. For bookings, telephone 04871262512 for info.

LIGHT THE FIRE – The Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal invites you to join them in Slane, Co. Meath on St. Patrick's Day. At 5 pm we will have Vespers on the Hill of Slane and a Rosary procession to the Church. At 6 pm we will have Mass in St. Patrick's Church followed by Eucharistic Adoration. Please phone 0419830441 or visit: www.franciscansisterscfr.com/st-anthony

There will be a **CURSILLO LENTEN & FRIENDSHIP RETREAT** in Ards Friary for **Cursillo Members only** from **Friday 22nd** (7 pm) - **Sunday 24th March** (after lunch). The liturgies will be led by Fr. Laurence Kettle, Spiritual Director. To enquire or to book a place, please phone Pat on 087-9374001. **Reminder: No Cursillo Ultreya in March.**

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA CAMINO 2024 ~ Join Focus Ireland 'In the Footsteps of St James' on a fully guided walk from Sarria to Santiago de Compostela along the Camino de Frances and help support families in our community's experiencing homelessness. Departing: 27th May to 3rd June ex-Dublin. Please contact Monica on 087 954 7007 or email events@focusireland.ie for details and bookings.

SIGNED MASS CARDS are available from the Sacristy and Parish Office (Monday to Friday) for various occasions - Easter, Sympathy, Mass for Your Intentions, Birthday, Get Well, Thinking of You, Wedding Day, Silver/Golden Wedding Anniversary, Retirement, Exams, First Anniversary (RIP) and Anniversary of a death. The recommended Mass offering in the Diocese is $\in 10$ and the card is $\in 1$. Please phone the Parish office on 9121021 to place your order for cards.



ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL LETTERKENNY NEWSLETTER

Sunday 10th March 2024
Fourth Sunday of Lent

The Mass - The Liturgy of the Word: The Homily

The reading of the Gospel is followed by the Homily. While there ought to always be a homily at the Mass of Sundays and major feast days, a brief homily is encouraged at every Mass. Practice in this regard varies. While the homily provokes different reactions in the faithful and we experience it in the variety of capacities and qualities a homilist brings to his task, the faithful recognise that the faith must be explained and applied to the context of their day and concrete lives. The purpose of the homily is to expound on the gospel of the day. It is not primarily a catechetical tool to teach the faith in a systematic way, theme by theme – although that was often the purpose of the sermon in years past; rather, the purpose of the homily is to help the listener gain a deeper insight into the basic lesson of the gospel passage just read, and of the other scriptures.

During the liturgical seasons, the homily will usually reflect the nature of that season and the themes set out in the readings arranged for the season. On feast days, the homily will reflect on a particular mystery of the Lord's life or the life of the saints, particularly when Our Lady is honoured. The purpose of the homily at a funeral Mass is to remind us of the central mystery of our redemption, of God's justice and mercy, and the hope of the resurrection by which even the body that is laid down in death will rise to new life. This will usually be done in a manner that seeks out the signs of God's blessing in the life of the deceased, the hope they carried within them of eternal life by virtue of their faith and the consolations the resurrection brings to the bereaved.

Homilies at 'ritual Masses' and Masses for special occasions — weddings, baptisms, the anointing of the sick, ordinations, First Communions, etc., - will direct the reflection of the scriptures towards the particular purpose of the gathering. At times it is necessary to address wider issues in the Church or in society. The homily should not be overly long, and should strive for brevity and effectiveness of speech. It should take account of its audience, and of the circumstances of time and place. It should be the fruit of prayer and preparation. Above all, perhaps, it calls upon the mercy and the patience of the hearer!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ Happy Mother's Day from all in Trócaire. In the Machinga district of Malawi. Malita is a strong and resilient woman, despite the challenges she faces. She works tirelessly in her community to improve the life of all its members. Like all mothers, she prays for the best for her children. She wants them to have an education and opportunities for a better life. Trócaire and its local partners are working with women like Malita to build a more just world. To learn more, go to: https://trocaire.org/our-work/working-in-ireland/parishes/

An **EXHIBITION** of the 'Eucharistic Miracles of the World' designed and created by **Blessed Carlo Acutis** will take place in St. Patrick's Church and Hall, Drumkeen (F93 FW64) on the 13th, 14th and 15th March. Exhibition: 11 am - 8 pm (Friday 11 am - 5 pm); Mass and Talk: 10 am and 7 pm; Eucharistic Rosary: 11 am; Video throughout the day until 7 pm (Friday:5 pm); Holy Hour 3 pm - 4 pm; Eucharistic Stations of the Cross: 3 pm - 4 pm (Friday); Adoration: 11 am - 3 pm.

A **YOUNG AT HEART SOCIAL** will be held on **Tuesday 12th March** at 8 pm in the Day Centre, Oliver Plunkett Road.

MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP will commence on **Wednesday 13th March** from 6.20 pm - 7.30 pm in the Cathedral Conference Room. All welcome.

The Diocese of Raphoe are running a bus to the **EVANGELIUM CONFERENCE** in Maynooth on the **Saturday 16th March**. Evangelium is a Young Catholic (18-40) Apologetics Conference. The day will include a number of talks on marriage, the priesthood and St. Patrick amongst others. Included is all meals, and a social event afterwards. Details on the conference is available on their Instagram or Facebook. Please email Fr. Liam Boyle: glenswillyparish@gmail.com to book the bus. Any questions on the conference email: evangeliumireland@gmail.com

THANK YOU FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul spent a total of €307,496 assisting families in the Letterkenny area in 2023. Most of this (€227,310) was on food and other groceries. Other items include fuel (€40,505) and Education at primary, Secondary and Third Level (€30.766). Most of the items donated to our shops are sold to help fund this expenditure, but we are also able to channel many of these items directly to needy families. Much of the Society's expenditure occurs during the winter months and in particular during the weeks leading up to Christmas. Thankfully, this period is the time when the Society gets most assistance from members of the public. Thank you for helping us to help those in need. As always, anyone who needs help in any way from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the Letterkenny area will find that members of the Society are there in complete confidence. Contact the Society on 0749129503. Members of the SVP in Letterkenny would like to express their sincere thanks to everyone who supported the society and its work, either by cash assistance or donations of clothes, shoes and other items for sale in the Vincent's Shops. Thanks also to all the people who volunteer as collectors or as assistants in our Shops, also to those who run fund-raising events to help with the work of the SVP in Letterkenny. Your help and support is very much appreciated.

Sunday 10th March ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

Monday 11th March ~ St. Aengus, bishop and abbot

7 am Mass ~ Sheila and John Quigley and Deceased Family Members RIP 10 am Mass ~ Special Intention

Tuesday 12th March

7 am Mass ~ Special Intention

10 am Mass ~ Eugene O'Neill RIP

5.30 pm ~ First Confession - Scoil Cholmcille

7 pm Mass ~ Charles Joseph Mongan RIP (First Anniversary)

Wednesday 13th March

7 am Mass ~ Special Intention

10 am Mass ~ Jim and Kathleen Duffy and Anne Toner RIP

5.30 pm ~ First Confession - Gaelscoil Adhamhnáin

7 pm Mass ~ Maura and Laurence Maguire RIP

Confessions: After 7 pm Mass

Thursday 14th March

7 am Mass ~ Special Intention

10 am Mass ~ Éileen Conaghan RIP

7 pm Mass ~ Frances and James Kelly RIP

7 pm ~ Cathedral Youth Group meet in the Pastoral Centre

Friday 15th March

7 am Mass ~ Living Benefactors of the Cathedral and all Names in the Golden Book 10 am Mass ~ Pasqueline Blake RIP

Nuptial ~ 1 pm

7 pm Mass ~ Willie Cannon (Month's Mind Mass) Raymond Blake, Joseph D. Gallagher, James McGettigan, Michael McGettigan, Hugh Doran and Katarzyna Stupinska-Kedior RIP

Saturday 16th March

10 am Mass ~ John McGill RIP

Confessions ~ 12 noon - 1 pm and 7 pm

Nuptial ~ 1 pm

Baptisms ~ 4 pm

Vigil Mass ~ 6 pm

Sunday 17th March ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent (St. Patrick's Day)

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