



Charity No: XN46141

ST. MALACHY'S PARISH BULLETIN

24 ALFRED STREET, BELFAST, BT28EN

Tel: 028 9032 1713

E-mail: stmalachys@downandconnor.org

Website: <https://www.saintmalachysparish.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/saintmalachysparishbelfast>

27thDecember 2020

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

We want Saint Malachy's to be a Living Community of Faith, centred on the Person of Jesus Christ where all people are accepted, made welcome, and called to New Life

Office Opening Hours

The Parish Office is open daily **Monday-Friday 10am – 2pm with Covid-19 restrictions**

Parish Secretary: Mrs Sue Devlin

Parish Team

Fr. Michael McGinnity P.P.
Fr. Wlodzimierz Dziduch SChr. (Priest in residence)

Weekday Public Masses

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/
Friday 1pm

Saturday Evening Mass

6pm

Sunday Mass

10.30am

Webcam Masses

All Masses will be streamed by Church Services TV

<https://www.churchservices.tv/stmalachysbelfast>

COLLECTIONS

Weekly Collection: £ TBA
Monthly Collection: £ TBA

(Will be advised in New Year)
Thank you for your generous contribution and support.

A Little Quote

"The Family that prays together, stays together."

(Anon.)

Jesus said" I have come that you may have life and have it to the full"

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Anthony McCormick.**

ANNIVERSARIES

John Brady
Johnny McCusker
Teddy McClusker
Jimmy McDermott
Kevin McGolderick
Josephine Devine

Sean & Maura Boyle & Baby Maurita
Rita Roberts
Bridie & Liam Martin
Josephine Devine

This week the Lamps burn for:

Bridget Theresa & Davy Campbell
Patricia Walker & Family
The Foley Family
The Glynn & Casey Families
The Killen & O'Loan Families
Chen & Eber End
John & Maisie Stuart & Family
Terence rock (Jnr.)
The Wednesday Girls

Danny O'Prey
Isobel Foley
Sophia Crawford
Frank Crawford
Khail & Azar
Benny McKeating
Frankie Morgan
Eithne Rock
Kate Dornan

"The child Jesus grew to maturity and was filled with wisdom and God's favour was with him."

(Luke 2:40)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Parish Centre (right-hand side of the Church) will be the location for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Saturday 17:15 to 17:50 pm) for the foreseeable future.



KINDLING HOPE IN TIMES OF FEAR AND ANXIETY – MESSAGE FROM BISHOP NOEL TREANOR (Some extracts)



'If COVID-19 has disrupted life worldwide, its impact has increased anxiety levels for many. In different ways, people feel fearful and anxious like the disciples in the storm-tossed boat with the wind blowing hard against them (Mk 6.48)'

'As we enter this Advent in lockdown, fear is in the air. There is the fear of becoming infected with COVID-19, or of infecting others. We are fearful for family and loved ones, for those who work in our Health Service, Hospitals and Care Homes. Such fear is genuine...'

'Throughout history, in the face of momentous crises and moral failures, even and alas on the part of Christians, our faith communities have seen the light of hope in the lives of prophetic figures and martyrs. They have witnessed to hope through endurance, resilience inspired by their faith in Christ, the Son of God. In every generation such beacons of integrity and hope remind us that *'God places his eye'* in our hearts (Sir 17.8).'

'...The circle of the Advent wreath, evocative of the eternal, and bearing green foliage in anticipation of new life, invites us into a process of re-discovering the ever-rejuvenating dynamic of Christian faith. The dynamic of the new life of faith in Christ is presented to us in the Scriptures, celebrated in the Eucharist and the sacraments and lived out in our care and respect for others and creation.'

'This God-given hope unleashed in history in the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is a delicate blossom of surprising power...'

To see Bishop Noel Treanor's complete pastoral message, please go to our website at:

<https://www.saintmalachysparish.com>

ADVENT



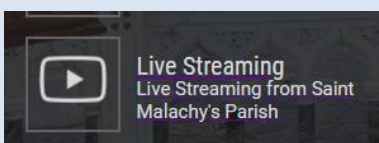
Each Friday evening during Advent, beginning on Friday 27th November, there will be an Advent prayer service streamed from the Church at 7pm.

To participate, please go to one of the following links.

<https://www.churchservices.tv/stmalachysbelfast> or via our web page at

<https://www.saintmalachysparish.com>

Please see website for the Advent prayer service for your convenience in the Advent section of the page.



RARE DISEASE PARTNERSHIP



Living with a Rare Disease?



For Support, Information, Advice & Signposting
Email: info@nirpd.org.uk
Call: 0770 447 6929 or 0770 447 6930

#StrongerTogether

Do you have a Rare Disease?

Contact the Northern Ireland Rare Disease Partnership for Support, Information, Advice and Signposting. See details on posting.

They work together to ensure no-one in Northern Ireland is disadvantaged because of the rarity of their condition.

Arrangements for Christmas Masses

Each year many hundreds of people from within the parish and beyond come to our church to celebrate Christmas. However, this year, due to the pandemic, our church simply cannot accommodate large numbers if we are to ensure the safety and health of everyone attending and at the same time fulfil Public Health Agency Guidance and NI Executive legislation.

With this in mind, difficult decisions have had to be made about how to celebrate Christmas safely. In recent weeks I have consulted the Parish Council, our Covid-19 team, guidance from the Northern Bishops, other priests, and in recent days, medical consultants at the RVH and Mater Hospital who are on the front-line caring for covid-19 patients. I have also carried out a risk assessment, as required by the diocese for Christmas Masses. Account has also been taken of the increasing rate of infection and the continued loss of life each day; both of which are set to rise significantly in the coming weeks.

Taking all of these considerations into account, it is clear that we cannot hold public Masses in our church this Christmas. I have made this decision with a heavy heart, given that I and so many people love to celebrate Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses in our church. This is a huge sacrifice we are making this year, but it is for the good of all our loved ones, our parishioners and all who serve our community in the NHS.

However, thanks to the gift of on-line technology, we will still be able to stream our Christmas Masses live from the church as follows: -

Thursday 24th December (Christmas Eve) – 8pm

Friday 25th December (Christmas Day) – 10.30am

The link is – www.churchservices.tv/stmalachysbelfast

Our weekend Mass Times are as follows:-

Saturday 26th December (Vigil Mass) – 6pm

Sunday 27th December (The Feast of the Holy Family) – 10.30am

To help reduce the rate of infection it is important to keep in mind –

- The obligation to attend Mass at Christmas this year is suspended
- All Masses at Christmas and throughout the Christmas season will be recorded and available online.
- Parishioners are encouraged to attend one public Mass during the Christmas season up to the feast of the Epiphany, (current Health Regulations permitting)

Christmas Message

This has been an incredibly difficult year for families and our parish community. The disruption to our lives has been immense. All of us have faced new challenges and changes to how we live and work. As a result, we have acquired a new appreciation for much of what we used to take for granted, not least our health, our family and the great outdoors!

The children in our parish have had to get used to new ways of learning and interacting in school. As the school term ends, I wish to pay tribute to the children, their parents and the teachers in St. Malachy's Primary School. They have risen to every challenge to ensure that school life has continued uninterrupted.

Throughout the pandemic, I have been very aware of the many efforts our parishioners have made to support families, the outreach towards our young people by the staff of St. John Vianney YC and St. Malachy's YC., the initiatives within our community to care for the elderly and anyone in need, the time and energy invested by our Parish Pastoral Council, our Covid Team and the stewards in keeping people safe while in the church. I wish to thank everyone involved for their thoughtfulness and kindness while serving the needs of others. Your words and actions are signs of God's nearness to us all at this critical time.

Despite all the challenges we face at home and in the community, the message of Christmas shines through and touches the minds and hearts of all believers – A Saviour is born for us. He is Christ the Lord, Emmanuel – God is with us. By sharing God's love through what we say and do, may we face the future with renewed faith, hope and love in our hearts.

Happy Christmas and every best wish for the New Year. Fr. Michael McGinnity P.P

ST.VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL



Please support SVP Christmas appeal on the 13th of December 2020. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 restrictions we are unable to receive collections at the Church door but you can still donate directly to St. Malachy's conference at <https://svp.ie> or call 02890 750161. We also have the blue SVP donation envelopes available in the church when things re-open.

The funds raised will be spent in this community, helping those who need it the most with food, heating and education throughout the winter and beyond. We rely entirely on the support of you the generous parishioners of St. Malachy's. We would like to sincerely thank you for your continued support for SVP St. Malachy's.

THE PERMANENT DIACONATE



The Diocese is preparing to start work with a third group of students for the Permanent Diaconate. The programme will commence in September 2021. For more information about the ministry of Deacons, please speak to your parish priest or visit the Diocesan website: - www.dowandconnor.org/living-church/diaconate

The Appeal Barometer – Total



£522,356.24

Offering Support

If you would like to donate to the church in these difficult days, please use our donation button on our website:

www.saintmalachysparish.com

If you would like information regarding the burial of ashes in Saint Malachy's Crypt please leave your name and address with the parish office and we will post you out an information pack



BETHANY SUPPORT GROUP

Support for anyone suffering due to bereavement.

If you would like to talk to a member of the Bethany Support Group please telephone: 07954 350848

USEFUL INFORMATION

WEDDINGS

By appointment – 3 months is required

FUNERALS

By arrangement

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE – contact details

Chaplain to the Polish Community in Greater Belfast

Tel: **07587 101 979**

Email: schr.belfast@gmail.com

www.belfastparafia.co.uk

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Saint Malachy's Primary School

Eliza Street, Belfast, BT7 2BJ

Tel: **028 9032 7460**

Principle: Mr Dermot Flynn (Snr.)

Nursery Unit: **028 9023 5968**

PRE-SCHOOL

Saint Malachy's Pre-school Playgroup

River Terrace, Belfast, BT7 2EN

Tel: **028 9543 0203**

YOUTH CENTRES

St. John Vianney Youth Centre

Tel: **028 9024 7118**

Youth Leader: Stephen Mullholland

St. Malachy's Youth Centre

Tel: **028 9027 8615**

Youth Leader: Eddie Burns

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Tel: **028 9035 1561**

*Donations
are greatly
Appreciated!*