

**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** ~ 1st December - €6,027

**PARISH EXPENDITURE** ~ €7,127.60

**DONATIONS TO THE CATHEDRAL:** 1 x €50, 1 x €20, 3 x €10

(1 x €250 towards the Cathedral and Parochial House Heat and Light)

**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

### **ADORATION CHAPEL CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SCHEDULE**

The Adoration Chapel will be **CLOSED** from 4 pm (Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th December) and will **RE-OPEN** on Christmas Day at 6 pm. The Adoration Chapel will **REMAIN OPEN** on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

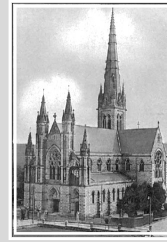
**WOULD YOU LIKE SOMEONE TO TALK TO OVER CHRISTMAS?** SeniorLine is Ireland's (HSE Funded) national telephone service for older people open every day of the year 10 am - 10 pm, Freephone 1800804591. You may feel isolated, alone, bereaved or far from family. SeniorLine's older volunteers are trained to listen, to support and refer to other helpful services if necessary. So don't be alone, and lift the phone. Phone SeniorLine 1800804591, No problem too big or too small.

### **CATHEDRAL ALTAR SOCIETY SCHEDULE**

27th December/3rd January ~ Frankie, Anne Omodara, Foia and Olitha  
10th/ 17th January ~ Ruth Bradley, Linda Boyce, Rose Boyce and Denise Gallagher

**SCOIL MUIRE GAN SMÁL, LETTERKENNY - ENROLMENT SEPTEMBER 2025** ~ Scoil Mhuire gan Smál is now enrolling for Junior Infants for September 2025. Closing date is Monday 13th January 2025. Please call at the school, phone 0749121171 or email: letterkennysmgs@gmail.com for an enrolment form.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who purchased Cathedral Christmas Cards in the various outlets in the run up to Christmas.



## **ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL LETTERKENNY NEWSLETTER**

**Sunday 22nd December 2024**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*



The Jubilee Year of 2025 will begin on Christmas Eve when Pope Francis opens the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica. On the following Sunday, he will open the Holy Door at his Cathedral Church of St. John in the Lateran – and all the Cathedrals of the world will join with him by solemnly marking the opening of the Jubilee Year. At St. Eunan's Cathedral, we will do so at the Mass of 12 noon on Sunday next, the Feast of the Holy Family.

The theme of the Jubilee Year is Hope. In his document announcing the Holy Year – Spes non Confundit ["Hope does not disappoint" (Rom 5:5)], Pope Francis sets out why the Christian virtue of hope is at the basis of all Christian life, and particularly needed in our own day. "Saint Paul is a realist", he writes, "He knows that life has its joys and sorrows, that love is tested amid trials, and that hope can falter in the face of suffering. Even so, he can write: "We boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope" (Rom 5:3-4).../...Yet in those very contexts, beyond the darkness we glimpse a light: we come to realize that evangelization is sustained by the power flowing from Christ's cross and resurrection. In this way, we learn to practise a virtue closely linked to hope, namely patience. This interplay of hope and patience makes us see clearly that the Christian life is a journey calling for moments of greater intensity to encourage and sustain hope as the constant companion that guides our steps towards the goal of our encounter with the Lord Jesus.

"In our journey towards the Jubilee, let us return to Scripture", the Pope continues, "and realize that it speaks to us in these words: "May we who have taken refuge in him be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us. We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered" (Heb 6:18-20). Those words are a forceful encouragement for us never to lose the hope we have been given, to hold fast to that hope and to find in God our refuge and our strength.

As we prepare to celebrate the beginnings of our salvation in the birth in time of the eternal Son of the Father, conscious of all that weighs down the world, our own nation and each soul, let us begin to consider the nature of Christian Hope as a most necessary antidote to all that can burden the soul and rob it of peace. Instead, as pilgrims of hope, let us be bearers of peace, and build a future for ourselves and all whom we encounter now and for eternal life.

### **ADVANCE NOTICE ~ CHRISTMAS CONFESSION TIMES**

**Saturday 21st December: 7 pm**

**Sunday 22nd December: 2.30 pm - 5 pm**

**Monday 23rd December: 10.30 am - 1 pm and 7 pm**

**(If there is a Funeral Mass at 11 am on Saturday or Monday,  
Confessions will be from 12 noon - 1 pm)**

### **A HAPPY AND PEACE-FILLED CHRISTMAS TO ALL**

We remember and pray for parents, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters and grandchildren who cannot be home for Christmas

We pray in a special way for all Missionaries and Members of the Defence Forces from our Town and County, who are helping and protecting others this Christmas.

We pray for the people of Ukraine, Gaza, Israel, Syria, Sudan and other places in our world that is torn apart with war, conflict and hunger.

We pray for all who have gone to their eternal reward, remembering especially all who have died in our Parish throughout the year. *May they rest in peace.*

**To each and everyone of our Parishioners, we wish you many blessings at Christmas and pray that you have a time of peace, enjoyment and rest.**

**ALL DAY CAROL SINGING ~** Today, Sunday 22nd December and Monday 23rd December the Raphoe Diocese will hold **CAROL SINGING** in ALDI, Neil T. Blaney Road to raise funds for our youth travelling to Rome for the Jubilee of Youth (28th July - 3rd August 2025). We will have **Face Painting on Monday, and a visit from Kevin the Carrot!** We take this opportunity to **THANK** the Manager and Staff of the Aldi Store, Neil T. Blaney Road, the Organisers of this event, the Collectors and especially the participants over the two days. This will be a full two days of singing by people of all ages. If you are nearby, please pop in. Your support would be appreciated.

**BOXES OF CHURCH ENVELOPES ~** For those who live outside the Cathedral area but use the Cathedral envelopes, your box of envelopes are available from the Sacristy. If you attend the Cathedral on a regular basis and would like to **receive a Box of Cathedral Envelopes for 2025**, 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: IE39BOFI90491556668632 - please ensure that your **FULL NAME** will appear on the Cathedral Bank Statement. *Thank you for your continued generosity to the Parish.*

### **Sunday 22nd December ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent**

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

**Baptisms ~ .30 pm**

### **Monday 23rd December**

**8am Mass ~ Jimmy Sweeney RIP**

**10 am Mass ~ Ursula McGlynn RIP**

**Confessions: 10.30 am - 1 pm**

### **Tuesday 24th December ~ Christmas Eve**

**8 am Mass ~ Brigid Lagan RIP**

**10 am Mass ~ Charles Shiels RIP (First Anniversary) and Frances Shiels RIP**

**6 pm Mass ~ Christmas Eve Family Mass**

**Midnight Mass ~ 12 midnight**

### **Wednesday 25th December**

### **The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

### **MASS TIMES: 8 am, 10 am and 12 noon**



### **Thursday 26th December ~ St. Stephen, First Martyr**

**10 am Mass only ~ Special Intention**

**8 pm ~ Charismatic Prayer Group in the Conference Room**

### **Friday 27th December ~ St. John, Apostle and Evangelist**

**NO 8 am Mass**

**10 am Mass ~ Geraldine Griffin RIP**

**7 pm Mass ~ Grace O'Neill, Gerry O'Donnell, Nair Nunes Vila Boas, Joan McGee, Eamonn McGee, Mary Carron, Vincent Carron, Vincent Neely, Horace Friel, Peter McGlynn and Susan McGlynn RIP**

### **Saturday 28th December ~ The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

**10 am Mass ~ John Burke RIP (Month's Mind Mass)**

**Confessions ~ 12 noon - 1pm and 7pm**

**Vigil Mass ~ 6 pm**

### **Sunday 29th December ~ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

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

**Baptisms: 2.30 pm**