

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 ~ 22nd December - €7,694

PARISH EXPENDITURE ~ €1,240

DONATIONS TO THE CATHEDRAL: 1 x €50, 1 x €20, 1 x €10 and 2 x €5

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

The Jubilee Year Prayer

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, awaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

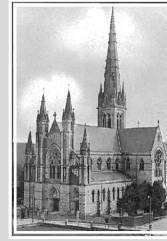
May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

(Official prayer from Pope Francis for the Jubilee year 2025, "Pilgrims of hope")



ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL LETTERKENNY NEWSLETTER

Sunday 29th December 2024

*The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph*



THE JUBILEE; A TIME OF HOPE

Every twenty-five years, the Popes call a Jubilee Year for the whole Church. It calls our attention with greater emphasis on the mystery of our salvation: that God looked upon humanity which had wandered away in sin, took upon himself our human condition and was born of a Virgin who is most beautiful from the first moment of her being. Pope Francis has given to this Jubilee Year the theme of hope. We may look about us and find good reasons why he may have felt that hope is something we need and of which we need reminding, for often there are many reasons for despairing. We hear of wars, oppression, destruction and injustice, the terrible drama of so many families who live in places where there is danger or lack of opportunity. Many of them live among us now as brothers and sisters in the one faith and they seek but one thing: to build a future for themselves and for their children. It is a noble aspiration that is instinct to every human person. When we encourage one another in noble things, we build the future for ourselves as well as for others. Then there is the challenge of our own young; challenges of a society that we feel we have no influence over, challenges of attaining to those basic aspirations of the human heart: to build a family, to provide, to shelter, to make a home, a place of safety and the cradle of community.

There are, of course, the perennial challenges of ill-health, misfortune, and the sufferings we too often endure from the hearts and actions of others, often those from whom we should be able to expect more. But challenges will never be lacking. It is the human condition in this fallen world. The Jubilee of Hope turns our attention to the Christian virtue of hope. This virtue looks soberly at the world with great realism but places before itself not only the desire for what is good, but an acknowledgment that goodness comes to us from the word of truth born in our flesh, the Son of the Eternal Father. Moreover, the desire for this goodness must be an interior conviction that makes us ready to sacrifice for it, indeed even to suffer for it. This deep and robust interior conviction, or rather this confident acknowledgement that the good is not of our making but is the eternal truth of God himself, gives to the Christian a

resilience that is prepared to encounter every circumstance of life knowing that it is not the last word. Indeed, when we look upon the Child in the manger, we realise, for all that lay before him for our salvation, he has already won the only victory that matters – the victory over sin and death. Whatever other defeats we must face, the only victory that matters has already been achieved, and God will bring order to chaos, life where death subsists, and hope to carry us to his final word spoken in truth and love. The poet Brendan Kennelly once expressed something of this in his poem, Begin:

Though we live in a world that dreams of ending
that always seems about to give in
something that will not acknowledge conclusion
insists that we forever begin.

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

ST. PIUS X ADORATION CHAPEL will REMAIN OPEN on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

ST. PIUS X ADORATION CHAPEL

Would you consider doing **ONE HOUR OF ADORATION** in the St. Pius X Adoration Chapel, (situated on the grounds of Loreto Secondary School) which has round the clock Adoration from 1 pm on a Sunday until 8 pm on a Friday? **Can you give one hour of your week to spend in quiet prayer and listen to the Lord?** Please phone: 086-0870446.

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY will take place on Saturday 4th January at 1 pm at the Market Square, Letterkenny. Everyone welcome.

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.

WHAT IS GOD'S DREAM FOR YOUR LIFE RETREAT. This retreat will take place on **Wednesday 22nd January** from 10 am - 3.30 pm in Ards Friary, Creeslough. Additional date 19th February. This day will be welcoming of everyone, wherever they find themselves on life's journey. It will be particularly useful for individuals and teams who want to take time away from the busyness of life and discover or rediscover a sense of direction and purpose in their lives. Cost €65. Facilitated by Jim Deeds. For enquiries and bookings, please contact Ards on 074 9138909 or email: info@ardsfriary.ie

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
Monday 30th December	
8am Mass ~ Mary O'Malley, Thomas Murphy and Bridie Murphy RIP 10 am Mass ~ Fionn McLaughlin RIP (Month's Mind Mass)	
Tuesday 31st December ~ St. Sylvester	
8 am Mass ~ Priest's Intentions 10 am Mass ~ Mary Carron RIP Midnight Mass ~ 12 midnight	
Wednesday 1st January 2025 ~ Mary, the Holy Mother of God	
10 am Mass only ~ Al and Ethna McKenna RIP Mass ~ 12 Midnight	
Thursday 2nd January ~ Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen	
8 am Mass ~ Baby Gerard McCool RIP 10 am Mass ~ Maureen Dillon RIP 7 pm Mass ~ Rosemary O'Donnell RIP (Month's Mind Mass) 8 pm ~ Charismatic Prayer Group in the Conference Room	
Friday 3rd January ~ The Holy Name of Jesus	
8 am Mass ~ Michael and Teresa McArdle RIP 10 am Mass ~ Eileen Conaghan RIP 7 pm Mass ~ Aaron Roulston, Michael McArdle, Teresa McArdle and Tom Gallagher RIP	
Saturday 4th January	
10 am Mass ~ Priest's Intention Confessions ~ 12 noon - 1pm and 7pm Vigil Mass ~ 6 pm	
Sunday 5th January ~ Second Sunday of Christmas	
Masses: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon and 6 pm Baptisms: 2.30 pm	
GRAVEYARD SERVICES	
Conwal Graveyard: Sunday 6th July at 4 pm Aughaninshin Graveyard: Monday 7th July at 7 pm Old Leck Graveyard: Sunday 13th July at 3 pm New Leck Graveyard: Sunday 13th July at 4 pm	

