

**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** ~ 16th February - €6,093

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

**PARISH EXPENDITURE** ~ €8,260.32

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

**DONEGAL ETB'S 2025 FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING FAIR**

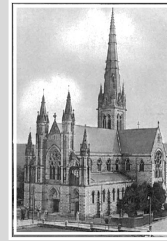
in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny on **Tuesday 4th March**, from 7 pm - 9 pm and **Wednesday 5th March** from 10 am to 2 pm. The Fair is free and open to everyone who would like information on the wide range of full-time, part-time, evening and online education and training opportunities offered by Donegal ETB's FET Service. Tutors and advisers will be available to talk through the ETB's comprehensive range of opportunities.

If you have a **CHILD ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM** an **INFORMATION EVENING** for Parents will take place on **Thursday 6th March** at 7.30 pm in the Mount Errigal Hotel. For enquiries, please phone: 04771556. All are welcome.

Calling **ALL ADORERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** ~ The **National Eucharistic Adoration Pilgrimage to Knock** will take place on **Sunday 6th April**. For further information or to book a seat, please phone: 086-3074435 or visit: www.eucharisticadoration.ie

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENRICHMENT WEEKEND** ~ Restore, Renew, Rekindle ~ **Friday 28th - 30th March** in Knock, Co. Mayo. The weekend experience provides a broader and deeper understanding of the sacrament of marriage. Sacramentally married couples are invited to participate. Faithful to the Roman Catholic Church's teaching, we understand marriage as a covenant between one man and one woman. While faith is an important aspect of the experience, the focus of the weekend is on the realities and challenges of married life. Please visit: www.marriageencounter.ie

**The Donegal N.E. Group PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE** will take place on the **24th September** from (Knock to Mostar) for seven nights. For more information and bookings, please phone Michael on 087-2922499.



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

**Sunday 23rd February 2025**

*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**THE MASS – THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST – THE OFFERTORY** [continued]

Having bowed low before the altar and the offerings for the sacrifice of the Mass the priest may then proceed to the incensation of the offertory. This is a powerful visual representation of the nature of the sacrifice that rises up to God “like an evening oblation”. The use of incense was a natural symbol from the earliest times of the faith, as it had been used in the Temple and is referenced frequently in the Old Testament [cf. Psalm 141:2, Exodus 30:1, 1 Chronicles 28:18], particularly Leviticus 16:12-13 referencing the offering of incense in the Holy of Holies of the Temple on the Day of Atonement – a reference taken up by the author of the Letter to the Hebrews [9:3-4]. The vision of the heavenly liturgy in the Book of Revelations likewise describes how the prayers of God's people went up before God from burning censers [Revelations 5:8]. While incensing the gifts, the priest may say the antiphon “May this incense, blessed by You, ascend to You O Lord, and may your mercy descend upon us”. First the bread and chalice are incensed, then the altar cross, and then the altar. Thereafter, the celebrant may be incensed [and should be when the Bishop celebrates], followed by the other clergy and then the entire congregation. It is not merely a gesture of respect or blessing: it signifies the offering up of their prayers in the sight of God.

After the incensation, when it takes place, the priest then proceeds to the lavabo or the washing of his hands, saying quietly the words: “Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin”. While this gesture – like many of the gestures of the Mass – may have begun life for a practical reason, namely to wash hands before handling the bread and the chalice, it nevertheless captures so much of the spiritual tradition received from the Scriptures [the Old Testament]. The Jewish rituals involved much washing of hands – one has only to think of the six stone water jars at Cana meant for the “ablutions” following the wedding feast, and Jesus was challenged about why his disciples did not wash as the rituals set down; he replied with a stinging criticism that contrasts mere ritualism with the reality the ritual should signify [cf. Matthew 15:1-20]. The prayer of the lavabo is derived from Psalm 26:6-7, and it directs the priest as it does every participant that our hearts must be ready for what our hands will perform and hold. The Eucharist is the sacrifice and the food that sustains those washed in baptism in their union with Jesus, who alone is holy and whose sacrifice alone is acceptable before the Father.

**INVITATION TO PARENTS OF CHILDREN PREPARING FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

~ There will be an evening faith programme for the Parents of Children making their First Holy Communion running on **Tuesdays, (commencing 25th February) and continuing throughout Lent at 7 pm in the Pastoral Centre.** This programme is catered specifically for parents who wish to have opportunities to discuss and grow in their understanding of Holy Communion and the Mass. Please contact the Parish Office on 074921021 if interested.

The **SISTERS OF MERCIFUL JESUS** invite you to an **AFTERNOON RETREAT** on **Saturday 1st March.** The theme will be: The Chaplet to Divine Mercy - "Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy...". The retreat starts at 2 pm. and continues until 5.30 pm. It will consist of talks, a time of prayer and sharing our experience of faith also a chat during tea time. **Please note: it is necessary to book for the retreat.** To do so, or for more information please contact the Divine Mercy Centre at: 0749169934 or email: [dvmlatterkenny@gmail.com](mailto:dvmlatterkenny@gmail.com).

A **CURSILLO ULTREYA** will be held in the **Church of the Irish Martyrs** tonight, **Sunday 23rd February** at 7.30 pm.

As we prepare for the Lenten season, the **Holy Face Prayer Group** warmly invites all to join in the **HOLY FACE NOVENA**, beginning today, **Sunday 23rd February**, and leading up to the Feast of the Holy Face on Shrove Tuesday. This devotion, requested by our Lord in reparation for the sins committed against His Holy Face during the Passion, is a powerful means of grace and healing. Please visit: <https://holysface.org.uk/holy-face-devotion/holy-face-novena/>

**LETTERKENNY MEMORIES** will take place on **Monday 24th February** at 8 pm in the Station House Hotel. All are welcome. Light refreshments served.

A **YOUNG AT HEART SOCIAL** will be held on **Tuesday 25th February** at 8 pm in the Day Centre, Oliver Plunkett Road. All are welcome.

The Alzheimer's Society of Ireland are running a **SUPPORT GROUP FOR FAMILY CARERS OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA** on the last Wednesday of the month (**26th February**) from 12 noon - 1.30 pm at the Pastoral Centre, Letterkenny (F92 HP66). Please phone: 087-6294065/087-3802957.

**FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY** will take place on **Saturday 1st March** at 1 pm at the Market Square, Letterkenny. Everyone welcome.

Did it ever cross your mind that **GOD MIGHT BE CALLING YOU TO THE POOR CLARE WAY OF LIFE?** If so, you are welcome to our Monastic Experience on **Saturday 1st March** from 2 pm to 4 pm at the Poor Clare Monastery, Carlow. Please email: [poorclaresvoc@gmail.com](mailto:poorclaresvoc@gmail.com) for further information.

'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord . . . to give you a future and a **HOPE**' (Jeremiah 29:11) **Our world needs hope and healing ~ could God be calling you to be a man of hope?** Consider your call on a **PRIESTHOOD RETREAT** (7th - 9th March) at Drumalis, Larne. For further information please contact Fr. Rory Brady. Email: [vocations@raphoediocese.ie](mailto:vocations@raphoediocese.ie) or phone: 0749737015

**Sunday 23rd February ~ Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

**Monday 24th February**

8 am Mass ~ Bernadette McMurray RIP  
10 am Mass ~ Charlie, Johnny and Willie Sweeney RIP

**Tuesday 25th February**

8 am Mass ~ Elizabeth Geoghegan RIP  
10 am Mass ~ Sheila O'Boyle RIP      11 am ~ Holy Face Devotions  
Legion of Mary Meeting ~ After 10 am Mass in the Pastoral Centre  
7 pm Mass ~ Special Intention

**Wednesday 26th February**

8 am Mass ~ Sheila Quigley RIP and Deceased Family Members RIP  
10 am Mass ~ Barney Coyle RIP      7 pm Mass ~ Noel Hegarty RIP  
Confessions ~ 7.30 pm      Youth 2000 Prayer Group ~ 8 pm  
8 pm ~ Medjugorje Prayer Group in the Pastoral Centre

**Thursday 27th February ~ St. Gregory of Narek**

8 am Mass ~ Sean Logue RIP      10 am Mass ~ James Ford RIP  
7 pm Mass ~ James Crossan RIP (Month's Mind Mass), John Bradley RIP and Ellen Bradley RIP  
8 pm ~ Charismatic Prayer Group

**Friday 28th February**

8 am Mass ~ John and Mary Maloney RIP  
10 am Mass ~ Patsy James RIP & Deceased Members of the James Family RIP  
7 pm Mass ~ Josie McCormack, Brid Hannigan, Seamus Hannigan, Sheila Quigley, Deceased Members of the Quigley Family, Ritchie Doherty, Kieran McGrath, Brendan McCarthy, Mary Burke (nee McLoone), Frank Tracey, Josie Tracey, Ciaran Tracey, Jim McMonagle, Evelyn Hegarty, Hannah McElwaine and Mary Molloy RIP

**Saturday 1st March ~ St. David**

10 am Mass ~ Special Intention  
Confessions ~ 12 noon - 1 pm and 7 pm      Baptisms ~ 4 pm  
Vigil Mass ~ 6 pm

**Sunday 2nd March ~ Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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