

Vol. 47 No 49
Second Sunday of Advent, 6th December 2020

Please join us via the Webcam for:

We invite you to join us via webcam in St Eugene's Cathedral by watching our live streaming which can be viewed online at www.churchservices.tv, churchmedia.tv/camera/st-eugenes-cathedral or the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com.

[Second Sunday of Advent \(6th December\)](#)

Mass - 7.00 am, 9.30 am, 11.00 am, 12.30 pm and 7.00 pm

Please note: Local Radio Station Drive 105 will broadcast the 12.30 pm Sunday Mass live.

6.00 pm Benediction

7.00 pm Mass

[Monday \(7th December\)](#)

7.45 am Morning Prayer of the Church

8.00 am Mass

10.00 am Mass

12.00 noon The Angelus & Rosary

3.00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

7.30 pm Mass

8.00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary followed by Night Prayer

[Tuesday, 8th December - Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)

Our Lady is the Immaculate Conception. As she was chosen to be the Mother of God, Mary was conceived without original sin in the womb of her mother, Anne.

Masses via the webcam for the Holy Day are:

Monday: Vigil Masses 6.15 pm and 7.30 pm

Tuesday: 7.00 am, 9.30 am, 11.00 am, 12.30 pm and 7.30 pm

Wednesday, 9th December – Friday, 11th December)

7.45 am	Morning Prayer of the Church
8.00 am	Mass
10.00 am	Mass
12.00 noon	The Angelus & Rosary
3.00 pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet
7.30 pm	Mass
8.00 pm	Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary followed by Night Prayer

Saturday (12th December)

10.00 am	Mass
Vigil 6.15 pm	Mass
Vigil 7.30 pm	Mass

The restrictions by the Northern Ireland Assembly effective until Thursday, 10th December include that Churches must celebrate Mass without a congregation except for Funerals and Weddings (which are limited to 25 people). Churches can stay open for private prayer. From Friday, 11th December Masses will resume with a congregation present.

Face Coverings: We ask all adults and children aged 14 and over to please wear a face covering (unless they are exempt from wearing mandatory face coverings). Medical advice is that wearing face coverings is first and foremost about protecting others. Please continue to observe social distancing, to use the hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the Cathedral.

Season of Advent: 29th November to 24th December

St Eugene's Cathedral - Advent Programme 2020:

Morning Prayer of the Church will be prayed at 7.45 am on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Rosary and Night Prayer at 8.00 pm Monday to Friday.

On Tuesdays during Advent the Rosary will be prayed for all families.

On Wednesdays during Advent Fr Patrick will led a Gospel Encounter after Night Prayer.

Cathedral Hall Webcam Programme – Advent 2020:

Mondays during Advent: Live Music by Anne Marie Hickey and Trevor Burnside from 3.15 pm to 4.00 pm.

Wednesday, 9th and 16th December: St Mary's College pupils will read scripture, poetry and sing songs.

Thursdays during Advent: 'Preparing for Christmas in Strange Times' - this course continues on Thursday, 10th and 17th December at 8.00 pm.

Fridays during Advent: Mary Murphy will host a short series of reflections on, and reminisces of Christmas. The three reflections continue on Friday, 11th and 18th December at 11.00 am via webcam from the Cathedral Hall.

Prayer resources for Advent: A series of Prayer resources for Advent has been created by the Diocese, in conjunction with the Northern Pastoral Network and the Catechetical Centre, for family prayer at home during the season of Advent as we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. These resources contain lots of creative ideas and tips to help families and parishes during **Prayer resources for Advent** the Season of Advent.

A family prayer booklet has been compiled specifically with families in mind. The Gospel for each Sunday of Advent is accompanied by a family activity, prayers and a reflection. The booklet can be downloaded at this link: <https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/advent-prayer-service-for-use-at-home>

Family activities for Advent including prayers, how to create a Jesse Tree, an Advent Wreath and lots more are available to view on the Catechetical Centre website at: <https://catecheticalcentre.org/family-resources/preparing-our-hearts-for-christmas-advent-resources/>



Reflection on today's Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8

A voice cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord.

Today's Gospel presents us with John the Baptist, who cuts a powerful, unorthodox figure dressed in camel-skin and living on locusts and wild honey. Far from the seats of worldly power and influence, John preaches redemption and salvation in the wilderness; everywhere he goes he is followed by crowds eager and excited to hear his words.

Redemption and salvation: two powerful concepts. If we truly repent, we find our minds opening and our hearts becoming tender. We find ourselves turning fully towards God and in so doing, we find that we have recovered our soul's former beauty. We become the humans God intended us to be.

John seeks to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus, and to that end he urges his followers to change their ways: to repent, and by repenting to turn their faces back to God and salvation. His passionate mission is to open their minds and to soften their hearts so that they will be receptive to Jesus' mission of love and healing.

In this season of Advent we are preparing ourselves for Christ's coming. The message of Advent is change, the change which begins with the world within ourselves and results in a new way of being: a beautiful gospel of shared life. We may find ourselves in the wilderness at this present time, but there is hope and joy in that wilderness.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of

Roseanne Moore

May she rest in peace.



Anniversaries

Eilish Lafferty, Patsy Bradley, Paddy Carlin, Manus (Nassie) McCaul, Peggy Roddy, Pascal Keys. May they rest in peace.

Blessed of Carlos Acutis



Carlo Acutis was beatified in Assisi, Italy on Saturday, 10th October 2020. Carlo was an Italian Catholic teenager. He documented Eucharistic miracles around the world and catalogued them all onto a website that he created himself in the months before his death from leukaemia. Carlo was known for his cheerfulness, his care for others, his computer skills and his deep devotion to the Eucharist, saying it was his “highway to heaven”. There is a display in the Cathedral dedicated to Carlo and prayer

cards which you are welcome to take.

If you have family away from home this Christmas and would like them to receive a Christmas card from the parish, please put their names and full postal address in the box at the back of the Cathedral before 8th December.

The Matt Talbot Prayer Society – Praying for those suffering from Addiction: This Prayer Society has been created to pray for people who are suffering from any form of addiction, to pray for those recovering from addiction, and to pray for all those affected by addiction, especially family members. As we know addiction takes many forms from alcohol, drugs, gambling, pornography, to other less acknowledged addictions.

To join the Matt Talbot Prayer Society, you are invited to enrol the name of the person to be prayed for and the addiction we are praying that they will be freed from.

Those enrolled will be prayed for specifically every day by members of the Matt Talbot Prayer Society. Mass will be offered for those enrolled on the first Monday of every month here in St Eugene’s Cathedral at 7.30 pm. You will also receive an enrolment card to enable you to join in the prayer.



To enrol someone in the Matt Talbot Prayer Society please phone St Eugene's Cathedral at 028 71262894 or email steugenescathedral@btconnect.com or private message St Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page.

**The next Matt Talbot Mass will be celebrated here in
St Eugene's Cathedral at 7.30 pm tomorrow (Monday, 7th December)
via webcam.**

Christmas Mass Bouquets are now available from the Parish Office. Cost £2.00 each.

Readers for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (7th/8th December)

06.15 pm	Mary Feeney
07.30 pm	Kevin Finan
09.30 am	Claire O'Kane
11.00 am	Rosemary Finan
12.30 pm	Eilish Friel
07.30 pm	Barry McDaid



Readers for next weekend (12th/13th December)

06.15 pm	Roisin Rice-Cutter
07.30 pm	Angela McCallion
09.30 am	Kevin Finan
11.00 am	Kay McGinn
12.30 pm	Eilish Friel
7.00 pm	Marian Boyle

Fr Paul and Fr Patrick will celebrate Mass for P4 pupils on Wednesday at 10.00 am as they prepare to celebrate their First Holy Communion and Mass for P7 pupils on Thursday at 10.00 am as they prepare to celebrate their Confirmation during this academic year. It would be great if pupils could watch these Masses via the Cathedral webcam. To watch these Masses live in your classrooms all you need to do is click on the link <http://www.steugenescathedral.com/webcam.html>.

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks donations for: **Trócaire:** £50, £50, £50. **St Vincent de Paul:** £100, £50. **Cathedral Funds:** £5, £5, £200. **Flowers for St Thérèse:** £20.

There is a box at the back of the Cathedral for weekly parish envelopes and contributions for the upkeep of the Cathedral. **Please note cheques should be made payable to St Eugene's Cathedral.**

If you would like to make your weekly envelope contributions by Standing Order, please contact the Parish Office on 028 71262894/71365712 or by email steugenes@btconnect.com. Thank you for your understanding and your continued support to the parish.

St Vincent de Paul (St Eugene's Conference) acknowledge with thanks donations of £1,000 and £50.

St Eugene's Conference of St Vincent de Paul will take up their Annual Collection at all Masses next weekend (12th/13th December). During the past year the total dispensed by St Eugene's Conference was £33,994 as follows: financial assistance £17,000; heating £5,280; beds and household items £11,714. Your generosity throughout the year and to the Christmas Collection is very much appreciated. St Eugene's Conference of St Vincent de Paul sincerely thank you for your continuing support.

St Vincent de Paul - Christmas Appeal 2020: If you are looking for help St Vincent de Paul are here to help you in whatever way they can. Please ring St Vincent de Paul on 028 71265489 or online <https://svp.ie/get-help/request-help-online.aspx>.

Christmas time is the busiest time for the St Vincent de Paul giving out lots of toys and food parcels kindly donated by the public. However, this Christmas is going to be different with COVID-19 and government restrictions. The safety of the public and St Vincent De Paul members is paramount. Therefore, St Vincent de Paul are asking the public that instead of buying a physical toy or items of food that they buy a voucher or make a donation for the amount they were going to spend.

The Annual Church Collection will take place on Saturday, 11th and Sunday 12th December 2020. St Vincent de Paul also have a fundraising page for donations on their website; <https://www.svp.ie/get-involved/do-your-own-fundraising/current-fundraisers/fundraisers/derry-city-appeal.aspx>

Help protect babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot: Sadly, abortion is currently available in the UK, right up to birth, for babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot. All of these conditions can be corrected. A cross-party group of MPs from the three largest parties in the UK Parliament have come together to bring forward the Abortion (cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot) Bill. The Bill will change the law to clarify that cleft palate, cleft lip, and club foot are not grounds for abortion in the UK. Can you help with getting your MP to support the Bill? Visit www.standupandsmile.org.uk to email your MP asking them to support the Bill.

Children in Crossfire's Advent Appeal has begun. You can pick up an Advent box at the back of the Church or donate online: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/advent-appeal>. This year's appeal will raise funds to help provide hand washing and sanitation facilities to 700 schools in Tanzania, especially vital right now. It costs only £20 to provide a whole school with hand sanitiser and cleaning supplies.

ACCORD Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme - 2021 Course Dates: 12th/ 13th January, 9th/ 10th February and 9th/ 10th March. Booking now online at www.accordni.com.

Sisters from the St. Elisabeth Convent (Minsk, Belarus) are launching the very first Online Christmas Market, so that people from all over the world can purchase Christmas presents and souvenirs made with love and continuous prayer. Please, click here to participate: <https://catalog.obitel-minsk.com/christmas-market> . Every item purchased at the Online Market is a donation towards one of the Convent's ministries.

The Net is now available online, on www.derrydiocese.org. As always, it features a wide variety of news, interesting and inspiring interviews, articles and photos from parishes across the diocese. You are invited to read The Net, on the Diocesan Website, at your convenience.

The Messenger: Messenger Publications are offering a free online copy. Please visit: https://issuu.com/messengerpublications/docs/messenger_june_v11.3_low_res. If you have any difficulty accessing the link or if you have any further queries, please email c.henry@messenger.ie.

St Eugene's Cathedral is monitored by CCTV cameras and by two live streaming cameras. Live streaming can be viewed online at www.churchservices.tv or www.watchmcnmedia or the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com.

The Diocese of Derry Privacy Notice is displayed on the parish website and Cathedral notice board or you may obtain a copy from the Parish Office.

If you have any concerns with regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church please contact: Noel O'Donnell, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, 71362475, mobile 07596500793 or Celine McKenna, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, 71362475, mobile 07707311358 or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.