

Parish of Bangor, Member of Ards Pastoral Community

2nd Sunday of Advent - 10 December 2017

World Meeting of Families on 21-26 August 2018, Dublin

Icon of the Holy Family - World Meeting of Families 2018

What does this icon show?

In considering what would be featured in an icon fitting for the World Meeting of Families, thoughts immediately focused on the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and on passages in the Gospels in which we see Jesus' deep compassion and concern for marriage and for those living with the burdens of family life.

We were drawn to an image of the Holy Family at table, sharing a meal and sharing their faith, as suggested by the Gospel of Luke chapter 2. An obvious Gospel text reflecting God's concern for marriage is the Wedding at Cana in the second chapter of the Gospel of John. And finally, the other Gospel that came to mind was the Raising of Jairus' daughter as found in chapter 5 of Mark's Gospel. There we see Jesus' response to a family with a sick child and how he respected that family's privacy amid emotional turmoil when it came to the moment of healing.

Thus, with these three narratives, the design of this icon takes the form of a triptych which looks, from the outside, somewhat like a house with front doors. On these outside doors, we are presented with the Archangels Michael (*left*) and Gabriel (*right*). On the base is the inscription "AMORIS LAETITIA", 'The Joy of Love', the title of Pope Francis' post-Synodal exhortation on love in the family, the source of our reflections during the World Meeting of Families 2018. (*more next week*)

Consider becoming a volunteer – Get involved be part of the experience!!

Why not consider volunteering for WMOF2018, either as an individual or as part of a group? No previous volunteering experience is necessary and we have roles for everyone, from logistics to liturgical, from translations to transport, among others.

We need a diverse mix of people with various skills and experiences to ensure the success of WMOF2018 – and we need thousands of you! Whatever your reasons or your focus, we know that your abilities and experience can help us and we would welcome your support in helping us create a successful, historic and joyous event.

Apply to volunteer at www.worldmeeting2018.ie/Volunteer

More information will be posted on our parish website www.bangorparish.com under World Meeting of Families.

Sunday Mass Times this week:

Bangor: Vigil 6.30 pm,
10.30 am, 12.30 pm.
Donaghadee: Sun 9.30 am.
Ballyholme: 11 am.

Hollywood: Vigil 6.30 pm;
10 am and 12 noon.

Newtownards: Vigil 6.30 pm; 11.30 am.

Comber: 10.00 am.

Weekday Mass Times:

Bangor: Mon - Thurs 9.30 am.
Friday as announced.

Ballyholme: Mon and Friday 9am.

Confessions: Sat 5.30 pm.

Baptisms: 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2pm.
Contact the Parish Office during office hours to register.
4 week's notice must be given.

Children's Liturgy:

Every Sunday at the 10.30am Mass in St Comgall's
Bangor for primary school children.

Your prayers are requested for:

Recently Deceased:

Michael Curran, Josephine Thompson

Anniversaries:

Thariath Thachil, Mary Turley,
Bridie Close, Terry Fox, Jim French,
Patrick Thompson, Vera O'Neill,
Patricia Lee, Paddy McKenna,
Michael Horan, Mamie Dougherty,
Charles and Ena Quinn, May O'Neill,
Brid Coyle, Louise McLaughlin.

The second collection this weekend is for the Parish Refurbishment Fund.

Perpetual Adoration

St Comgall's Church

Monday 10.30am-9.30pm.

SVP Ballyholme and Donaghadee

will be selling Christmas Cards after Mass from this Sunday.

SVP Week 3-10 December

Annual Appeal Today

A special collection will be taken up today. Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of the church which will add 25% to your donation. Our toy and gift appeal has started in conjunction with the Salvation Army, new toys and gifts can be left at UPS and First Trust Bank in Main St, Gordons Chemists and Thomas' shop. Many thanks to all those who helped to make the pensioners' Christmas Dinner such a success.

St Columbanus' College PTA

Christmas Fair, everyone welcome! Range of craft stalls, gift ideas, decorations and baked goods. Thurs 14 Dec, 6pm-9pm adults £2 children £1.

Liam Lawton Concert -

O Holy Night

Saintfield & Carrickmannon Parish, Mon 18 December in Aid of Marie Cure and the NI Hospice. For tickets contact: 07788435797 or 07919332.

Trocaire Global Gifts

Give a gift this Christmas and help transform lives. This year you can choose from 10 gifts that help families work their way out of poverty and end the daily struggle for essentials like water and food. From Chicks £5, school lunches £20, Goats £40, Beehives £55, land for a family home £125, Farming Kit for a family £170. The full range of gifts are on the notice board and are available to buy from the Parish Office. *When you buy a Trocaire gift you're not just giving, you're joining the fight for justice.*

Bangor Parish

7 Day Trip to Brittany and Normandy
From June 25th to July 1st joining the one day St Columbanus International Meeting **in St Coulomb June 30th.**

The cost is 895 euro pp sharing, all breakfasts and dinners included, 3 nights Lisieux, 3 nights St Malo. Day trips include; Places associated with St Therese, Mont St Michel, Dinard and more. (Courier: Kieran Troy who has led Bangor groups in the recent past). As there is great demand for hotel space in Brittany in this period prompt booking would be highly recommended.

Details on the parish website, church notice board and from the Parish Office.

The Priory Singers

Carols by Candlelight

St Bernadette's Church, Rosetta Road, Fri 15 Dec at 8 pm. Director of Music Robert Thompson, Organist - Phillip Elliott. Admission Free. Retiring Collection for St Bernadette's Church Restoration Fund

The Elmwood Chamber Orchestra

under the direction of Fr Gerard Magee (Chaplain, QUB) will give a concert of music by Albinoni, Grieg, Respighi and Dvorak on Sat 16 Dec in the Great Hall (Lanyon Building), Queens University Belfast. The concert will begin at 3pm. Proceeds in aid of the CLIC Sargent Cancer Foundation. Entrance: £10; £5 (Students/OAPs), at the door.

The Emerald Ball at Titanic, Belfast

will take place on St Patrick's Day, 17th March 2018. The evening will commence with drinks at 7pm, followed by a superb four course dinner at 8pm. There will be a high-end luxury ballot and dancing to a live band. Dress is formal and monies raised will support the Down & Connor Lourdes Pilgrimage for the Sick. Tickets £60 pp are available from the pilgrimage secretary, Sinead 9064 6040 or the Drumbo Parish office 9081 2238. The Emerald Ball would be the perfect Christmas gift and promises to be a highlight of the social calendar so be sure to reserve your tickets early.

Ards CCE Christmas CD

Now available from Thomas' shop 'Home for Christmas' priced at £10 will make the perfect Christmas gift. All Ards CCE classes start back on Sat 20 January for all traditional instruments, beginners welcome. More info Ards CCE facebook.

Dates for your Diary

Penitential Services for Christmas will be held at 7.30pm in:

Newtownards: Thurs 14 December;
Ballygalget: Sun 17 December;
Portaferry: Wed 20 December;
Bangor: Thurs 21 December.

Mass times for Christmas Eve:

St Comgall's Bangor 9pm and 11pm;
Most Holy Redeemer 9pm.

Mass times for Christmas Day:

St Comgall's Donaghadee 9.30am;
St Comgall's Bangor 9am and 11am;
Most Holy Redeemer 11am.

The Sacrament of Confirmation

will be celebrated in this parish on Tuesday 17 April 2018 at 5pm.

An Evening of Festive Favourites

at Drumalis: Fri 22 Dec at 7pm.

The evening will include seasonal favourites, old and new, performed by Voices Chamber Choir under the direction of Loreto McAuley. Festive reception with entertainment commencing at 7.30pm. A two-course supper will be served during the interval. Cost £25 pp and adm is by pre-paid ticket only. For further info contact Drumalis during office hours (Mon-Fri 9-5pm) Tel Nos 028 2827 2196/028 2827 6455.

Living Youth – World Meeting of Families - Volunteering

Living Youth is leading a Youth Group from the Diocese of Down & Connor to Dublin this coming summer to volunteer at the World Meeting of Families Congress and to attend the Papal Mass. The trip will be from 22-26 August 2018 and will be for those aged 16-25, cost will be £100 per person. We expect places to fill quickly so to register your interest please email Living Youth @ info@livingyouthni.org with your name, contact number, parish and dob or contact us directly on 9023 2432.

Most Holy Redeemer

Offertory Procession - 11am Mass

4 Feb - SVP Conference Members
11 Feb - Karen, Hannah & Sophie Campbell
18 Feb - Paul & Ellen Monaghan
25 Feb - Kathleen & Ciaran May
4 Mar - Sheila & Seamus Leonard
11 Mar - Anne & Eugene McLarnon
18 Mar - SVP Conference Members
25 Mar - Karen, Hannah & Sophie Campbell.