



Galway Cathedral Newsletter

23 June 2024

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

CATHEDRAL NEWS

Last Sunday's Offertory Collection amounted to €3,302.32: we are very grateful for your continued support.

Summer Concerts — The Cathedral's annual summer concert series begins on Thursday 4 July, and continues each Thursday at 8:00pm until 8 August. Highlights of this year's series include Rheinberger's wonderful organ concerto in G minor, Stanford's *Six Biblical Songs*, and a face-off between organ and harmonium! Full details on the website, at <https://recitals.galwaycathedral.ie>.

Peter's Pence Collection — The annual Peter's Pence collection, which goes to Rome in support of the pope's charities, will be taken at all Sunday masses next weekend.

Celebrations this Week — Solemnities of the Nativity of St John the Baptist (24 June), and Ss Peter & Paul (29 June); memorial of St Irenaeus, bishop & martyr (28 June); optional memorial of St Cyril of Alexandria, bishop & doctor of the Church (27 June).

Cathedral Bookshop

Bibles • Books on spirituality • Missals
Cards • Gifts • Medals • Devotional items



Charitable Donation Scheme — If you are an Irish taxpayer and have contributed more than €250 to the Cathedral within a calendar year, you can enhance the value of your donation — at no additional cost to yourself — by filling a CHY4 form (available from the Cathedral office or from the Revenue website) and returning it to the office. This allows us to avail of Revenue's Charitable Donation Scheme and reclaim a portion of the tax paid on the donation. Please contact the office for more details.

An **INDUCTION LOOP SYSTEM** for those using hearing aids is now available throughout the Cathedral — please set your hearing aid to the "T" position.



Cathedral Cleaning Team

The team of dedicated volunteers who clean the Cathedral every Thursday morning could use some new members. If you can give some time between 9:30am and 11:00am on a Thursday, please come along and grab a brush!

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sun	9:00	Bridie Heaney	Fri	11:00	Joe Downing
	10:30	Peter Enda McDonagh		6:00	Golden Book of Remembrance
	12:30	Loretta Davey; Grace Davey	Sat	11:00	Brendan McGuire; Pauline & Cathy Crann
	6:00	Mattie Mahon		6:00	Martin, Mary, Thomas & Mary Lydon; Julia & Sarah Thornton
Mon	11:00	Annie & Thomas Conroy	Sun	9:00	Eileen & Joe McDonagh
Tue	6:00	Magdalena Wilinska		10:30	Hugh, Ellie & Tom Rooney
Wed	11:00	Mary Burke		12:30	Denis Kelly
	6:00	Patrick Mullan		6:00	Patrick Hannon
Thur	11:00	Patrick Small			
	6:00	Tom Jackson			

Galway Cathedral

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Clergy

Mgr Peter Rabbitte

Fr John Gerard Acton

Mass on Sunday

Saturday 6:00pm; Sunday 9:00am (Gaeilge) 10:30am (choir), 12:30pm, 6:00pm

Mass on Holy Days

Vigil mass at 6:00pm; mass on the day at 11:00am, 6:00pm

Mass on Weekdays

11:00am, 6:00pm

Marriage & Baptism

For details & requirements see www.galwaycathedral.ie/liturgy

Cathedral Bookshop

091-531433 • Monday–Saturday, 9:30am – 5:15pm; Sunday after each morning mass

Bethany Bereavement Support

Contact the group at 085-2258827

Legion of Mary

Contact: 087-2423068

Child Protection

Diocesan Pastoral Centre
091- 575051

Music at today's 10:30am Mass

Mass for three voices (Byrd)

O sacrum convivium (Farrant)
O sacred banquet, in which Christ is received, the memory of his passion renewed, the mind filled with grace and a promise of future glory given to us.

My eyes for beauty pine (Howells)
My eyes for beauty pine, my soul for God's grace, no other care nor hope is mine, to heaven I turn my face. One splendour thence is shed from all the stars above: 'tis named when God's name is said, 'tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love. And every gentle heart that burns with true desire, is lit from eyes that mirror part of that celestial fire.

Organ postlude: Prelude in E flat, BWV 552 (Bach)

Weekly music listings on the website:
www.galwaycathedral.ie/music/listings

A letter from Pope Francis to children, on the recent World Children's Day (25–26 May 2024)

Dear Children!

Your first World Day, which will be held in Rome on 25-26 May this year, is fast approaching. That is why I thought of sending you a message. I am happy that you will be able to read it and I thank all those responsible for passing it on to you.

I want to speak to each of you, dear children, because, as the Bible teaches us, and as Jesus showed so often, “you are precious” in God’s eyes (Is 43:4).

At the same time, I am addressing this message to all of you, because all children, everywhere, are a sign of every person’s desire to grow and flourish. You remind us that we are all children, brothers and sisters. We would not be alive unless others brought us into this world, nor could we grow without having others to love and from whom to receive love (cf. Fratelli Tutti, 95).

All of you, girls and boys, are a source of joy for your parents and your families, but also for our human family and for the Church, in which each of us is like a link in a great chain stretching from the past to the future and covering the whole earth. That is why I encourage you to pay attention to the stories of grown-ups: your moms and dads, your grandparents and great grandparents. And not to forget all those other children and young people who are already battling illness and hardship, in hospital or at home, and those who even now are being cruelly robbed of their childhood. I think of children who are victims of war and violence, those experiencing hunger and thirst, those living on the streets, those forced to be soldiers or to flee as refugees, separated from their parents, those prevented from going to school, and those who fall prey to criminal gangs, drugs or other forms of slavery and abuse. Let us listen to their voices. We need to hear those voices, for amid their sufferings they remind us of reality, with their tearful eyes and with that tenacious yearning for goodness that endures in the hearts of those who have truly seen the horror of evil.

Dear young friends, in order for us and our world to grow and flourish, it is not enough to be united with one another; we need, above all else, to be united with Jesus. From him we receive a great deal of courage. He is always close to us, his Spirit goes before us and accompanies us on all the world’s pathways. Jesus told us: “Behold, I make all things new” (Rev 21:5); this is the theme I have chosen for your first World Day. These words invite us to become as clever as children in grasping the new realities stirred up by the Spirit, both within us and around us. With Jesus, we can dream of the renewal of our human family and work for a more fraternal society that cares for our common home. This starts with little things, like saying hello to others, asking permission, begging pardon, and saying thank you. Our world will change if we all begin with these little things, without being ashamed to take small steps, one at a time. The fact that we are small reminds us that we are also frail and need one another as members of one body (cf. Rom 12:5; 1 Cor 12:26).

That is not all. The fact is that we cannot be happy all by ourselves, because our joy increases to the extent that we share it. Joy is born of gratitude for the gifts we have received and which we share in turn and it grows in our relationships with others. When we keep the blessings we have received to ourselves, or throw tantrums to get this or that gift, we forget that the greatest gift that we possess is ourselves, one another: all of us, together, are “God’s gift.” Other gifts are nice, but only if they help us to be together. If we don’t use them for that purpose, we will always end up being unhappy; they will never be enough. Instead, when we are all together, everything is different! Think of your friends, and how great it is to spend time with them: at home, at school, in the parish and the playground, everywhere. Playing, singing, discovering new things, having fun, everyone being together and excluding no one. Friendship is wonderful and it grows only in this way: through sharing and forgiving, with patience, courage, creativity and imagination, without fear and without prejudice.

Now, I am going to share a special secret with you. If we really want to be happy, we need to pray, to pray a lot, to pray every day, because prayer connects us directly to God. Prayer fills our hearts with light and warmth; it helps us to do everything with confidence and peace of mind. Jesus constantly prayed to the Father. Do you know what Jesus called him? In his language, he simply called him “Abba”, which means “Daddy” (cf. Mk 14:36). Let’s do the same thing! We will always feel that Jesus is close to us. He himself promised us that, when he said, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them” (Mt 18:20).

Dear children, you may know that in May, many of us will be together in Rome, to be together with children from all over the world. To prepare well for this, I would ask all of you to pray the same prayer that Jesus taught us – the *Our Father*. Recite it every morning and every evening, in your families too, together with your parents, brothers, sisters and grandparents. But not just by saying the words! Think about those words that Jesus taught us. He is calling us and he wants us to join actively with him, on this World Children’s Day, to become builders of a new, more humane, just and peaceful world. Jesus, who offered himself on the Cross to gather all of us together in love, who conquered death and reconciled us with the Father, wants to continue his work in the Church through us. Think about this, especially those of you who are preparing to receive First Communion.

God has loved us from all eternity (cf. Jer 1:5). He looks upon us with the eyes of a loving father and a gentle mother. He never forgets us (cf. Is 49:15) and every day he accompanies us and renews us with his Spirit.

Together with the Most Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph, let us pray in these words:

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in the faces of children all over the world.

Come, Jesus, you who make all things new, who are the way that leads us to the Father, come and remain with us always.

Amen.

Francis

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 2 March 2024