

FROM THE PARISH

Parish Office: will reopen on Friday 2nd January 2026 at 9am. Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Altar Society: Wish to thank everyone who donated to their appeal.

The St. Pio Hour: Will be held on Friday next, 2nd January, the First Friday. The Rosary will be said at 6.30pm, which will be followed by Holy Mass and Benediction at 7.00pm. All are welcome!

Parish Office: All Anniversary Masses are to be booked through the parish office Monday—Friday 9am to 5pm **071 9162670**.

First Friday Calls: If anyone would like to receive a house call on the First Friday of each month, please kindly contact the Parish Office on **071 9162670**.

Sunday Collection: Income 21st December - €4,868
Parish Expenditure - €9,437 (Oil €2,484)

You can also scan the QR Code to make a donation.

Thank you for your on going contributions, we deeply appreciate your continued Financial support.

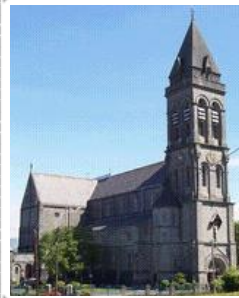
Tap & Go System at the back of the Cathedral for donations.



FROM THE DIOCESE

Pastoral Message from Bishop Kevin Bishop Kevin has issued a pastoral message with an update for parishioners on the amalgamation of our two dioceses of Achonry and Elphin. While much good work has been done throughout 2025, there is still a good deal that needs to be done from both a practical and pastoral point of view. The work in which we are engaged is God's work and the only way we can achieve what He wants is by listening to His Word in our hearts and by asking for the guidance of His Spirit. You can pick up a copy of the pastoral message at the back of the church or read online at www.elphindiocese.ie

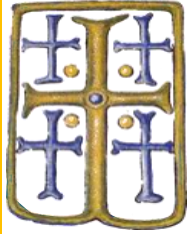
Rediscover the Bible – www.rediscoverthebible.ie Rediscover the Bible in 2026 – **Venue:** Summerhill College, Sligo. Every Tuesday evening beginning 3rd February and ending on 24th March – 7:30pm to 9:30pm. Led by Deacon Frank McGuinness. Cost: €100. Price includes a free Bible and resource kit. This is an opportunity for anyone who would like to get more comfortable reading, understanding, and praying the Bible. The course will help you navigate and understand the big picture of salvation, and get familiar with the Bible's major themes, people, and covenants. Booking essential. Places limited. Please contact Frank on 087 9880690 or at frankmcguinness@hotmail.com or visit www.rediscoverthebible.ie to book your place. Let the Word of God transform your life!



**CATHEDRAL OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,**

SLIGO

**NEWSLETTER
Sunday 28th December 2025**



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH



CATHEDRAL MASS TIMES

Monday—Thursday 10.30am

Friday & Saturday 10.30am & 7.00pm

Saturday Vigil Mass at 7pm

Sunday at 8.30am, 10.30am, 12 Noon & 7pm

No Confessions Saturday 3rd January

Tap and Go System now operational at the back of the Cathedral.

Please take both the newsletter and missalette home. Thank you.

TODAY - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Pope St John Paul II
General Audience, 29th January 1997

The Gospels offer very sparse information about the years the Holy Family spent in Nazareth. St Matthew tells of the decision taken by Joseph, after the return from Egypt, to make Nazareth the Holy Family's permanent home (cf. Mt 2:22-23), but then gives no further information except that Joseph was a carpenter (Mt 13:55). For his part, St Luke twice mentions the Holy Family's return to Nazareth (cf. Lk 2:39, 51) and gives two brief references to the years of Jesus' childhood, before and after the episode of the pilgrimage to Jerusalem: "The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him" (Lk 2:40), and "Jesus increased in wisdom, age and grace before God and men" (Lk 2:52).

In relating these brief remarks about Jesus' life, Luke is probably referring to Mary's memories of a period of profound intimacy with her Son. The union between Jesus and the one who was "full of grace" goes far beyond what normally exists between mother and child, because it is rooted in a particular supernatural condition and reinforced by the special conformity of both to the divine will. Thus we can conclude that the atmosphere of tranquility and peace in the house of Nazareth and their constant seeking to fulfill God's plan gave an extraordinary and unique depth to the union of mother and son.

Mary's awareness that she was carrying out a task entrusted to her by God gave a higher meaning to her daily life. The simple, humble chores of everyday life took on special value in her eyes, since she performed them as a service to Christ's mission.

Mary's example enlightens and encourages the experience of so many women who carry out their daily tasks exclusively in the home. It is a question of a humble, hidden, repetitive effort, and is often not sufficiently appreciated. Nonetheless, the long years Mary spent in the house of Nazareth reveal the enormous potential of genuine love and thus of salvation. In fact, the simplicity of the lives of so many housewives, seen as a mission of service and love, is of extraordinary value in the Lord's eyes. Picture on the Front Page: this icon of the Holy Family was created for the 2018 **World Meeting of Families** in Dublin. The icon was written by the Redemptoristine Contemplative Community in Drumcondra.

5th Day in the Octave of Christmas, Monday 29th December

St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr (Memorial)

10.30am Mass: Pee & Evelyn Foley (Anniversary)

6th Day in the Octave of Christmas, Tuesday 30th December

10.30am Mass: Margaret Kennedy (Anniversary)

7th Day in the Octave of Christmas, Wednesday 31st December

St. Sylvester, Pope (Memorial)

10.30am Mass: Mae & Charlie Mulligan (Anniversary)

Thursday 1st January 2026

Mary, The Holy Mother of God (Solemnity)
World Day of Peace, Octave of Christmas

10.30am Mass

Before Epiphany, Friday 2nd January

Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church (Memorial)

10.30am Mass: Brendan Conway (First Anniversary)

7.00pm Mass: Maurice Flanagan (Birthday Remembrance)

Before Epiphany, Saturday 3rd January

The Holy Name of Jesus (Optional Memorial)
St. Munchin (Mainchin), Bishop (Optional Memorial)

10.30am Mass

7.00pm Mass

This week's Newsletter is sponsored
in memory of Christy & Kathleen
Queenan.

Sunday Readings for 4th January 2026

1st Reading: Eccles (Sir) 24:1-2, 8-12; 2nd Reading: Eph 1:3-6, 15-18;
Gospel: Jn 1:1-18.

REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are kindly asked for the repose of the soul of:

Frank Caliendo

MAY GOD GRANT HIM ETERNAL REST IN HIS HEAVENLY KINGDOM, AND COMFORT AND
CONSOLE HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

Parish Office Hours

Monday to Thursday: 9:30am-5pm & Friday: 9:30am-4pm 071 9162670
Email: info@sligocathedral.ie

If you would like to donate to the Cathedral Parish please make cheques payable
to the following A.I.B. bank account:
Elphin Diocese Cathedral No.1 Parish account.
THANK YOU for your support of our Parish and Cathedral.