

## **Minutes of Pastoral Team Meeting held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Youth Ministry:** JP11: 15 new students. Previous group were involved in a lot over Christmas: Tully concert, food parcels, 12 Readers and Eucharistic Ministers, clearing chairs following meeting in hall, Concern collection, Trocaire gifts – raised £1300-£1400, carol service, monthly meeting, Gortacharn Christmas cards, Christmas ceremonies, Pantomime, December children's Masses, promotion for Trocaire gifts, Christmas rotas, table quiz for Altar Servers. Christmas art competition – Clogher Don Oige. New rota for Altar Servers – all of last years group have have remained. Recruitment of new servers to begin soon. P7 – Prayers of the Faithful. P4 – Offertory. 25<sup>th</sup> January – JP11 students, re-presentation of awards at 11am Mass, all students and their families will be invited. Chair of the Pastoral Team will speak and Eamon and his leaders will present awards.

- **Parish Pilgrimage to France:** Leaflets available in Churches.
- **Advent: Guest speakers** were excellent and well appreciated by parishioners. All positive feedback. Worth repeating during the year.
- **Sunday Reflection:** Numbers went up over the weeks. Worth doing.
- **Christmas: 7pm:** Massive crowd – too many. Uncomfortable.

**Midnight:** Good crowd.

There was some feedback this year regarding too big a crowd on Christmas Eve and no Mass in St. Mary's on Christmas Day.

Christmas 2026: Proposal: Christmas Eve 5.30pm in Holy Cross for young families. Children's Mass committee to organize this. Joint children's choir, joint nativity play.

Christmas Eve 8.00pm in Holy Cross

Christmas Day: 9.00am in St. Mary's and 11.00am in Holy Cross

Singing at Christmas – Indian choir were streaming back to India – consider if joining us next year if no Christmas Eve Mass in St. Mary's.

**Penitential Service:** Amazing crowd. Excellent.

## **AGENDA**

- **St. Brigid's Day / Candlemas Day / St. Blaise:** All 3 to be celebrated in one weekend of 31<sup>st</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> February. Eucharistic Ministers will be blessing throats at both Masses. Blessing of throats also at Peregrine Mass on the Tuesday night. St. Brigid's Day: all 3 schools to be invited to make crosses. A class for making St. Brigid crosses will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm in Parish Centre
- **Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026:** 7am St. Mary's – 1 Reader, 3 Eucharistic Ministers. 10am Holy Cross – Reader as per rota, 2 extra Eucharistic Ministers. 7pm St. Mary's – 1 Reader, 3 Eucharistic Ministers.
- **Lent: 2025:** Catholicism videos last year – poor response. Stations of the Cross – very well attended last year. Themed nights, JP II students, choir. Wednesday evening in St. Mary's

Propose to show The Chosen again on Monday night at 7pm and use screens in Holy Cross. Need to promote better this year – show clips on social media and at Masses leading up. Allow people at home to join online at the same time as being shown in Church. On Good Friday – show the Passion. 'The Way of the Cross' booklets to be sourced and used for a daily prayer recorded for Facebook for the 40 days of Lent. St. Kevin's College media department to be invited to see if they could help us put all together.

**Date of next meeting: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026**