



**Staff of the Pro-Cathedral** - Fr Kieran McDermott, Adm., Sr. Patricia Somers, RSC (Parish Sister)  
Fr Brendan Staunton, SJ, P.C., Monsignor Francis Walsh, P.C.

### Mass Times

**Monday to Friday:** 10.30 a.m. and 12.45 p.m.

**Saturday:** 10.30 a.m. and 6 p.m. (*Vigil Mass*)

**Sunday:** 9.30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

### Confessions

Monday to Saturday after the 10.30 a.m. Mass

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday to Friday after the 10.30 a.m. Mass to 12.30 p.m.

The **Icon of the Holy Family** (*which is here in the Cathedral for the weekend*) was specially commissioned by WMOF2018, written by iconographer Mihai Cucu, and assisted by the Redemptoristine Sisters of the Monastery of St Alphonsus, Iona Road, Dublin, as part of their ongoing prayer for families. The icon was unveiled and anointed on the 21st August 2017, during the launch of the one-year programme of preparation at the National Novena in Knock, Ireland. 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 and Gabriel, who carry with them the desire of God to protect. Their heads are bowed in adoration and service of God, the Holy One. 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.



When the doors of this icon are opened we see in the centre the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph seated at table, sharing a meal and sharing their faith. Their faith was celebrated in their home. It is in our home that the reality of God-with-us is communicated and passed on to future generations. Their gathering around the table is reminiscent of the Three Angels in the famous 15th century Icon of the Holy Trinity by Andrei Rublev. Christian Marriage is sometimes compared with the Holy Trinity, as a communion of the giving and receiving of love that is life-giving. Indeed, the family is called to be the "living icon" of the Most Holy Trinity. Similarly to the icon above, the Holy Family have a place at their table for us. They invite us to join them. They are no strangers to the trials of family life. They themselves have been refugees, fleeing the violence of Herod. They have known great anxiety. Hence the radishes and bitter herbs of the Passover meal represent the sorrows and trials of the people of Israel in their slavery also represent for us the trials and sacrifices of patience and love experienced in every family. The presence of the unleavened bread and cup of wine on their table call to mind the Eucharist for us. Flanking the Holy Family icon are those two Gospel narratives: the Raising of Jairus' Daughter and the Wedding Feast of Cana. 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. An icon is not like a photograph, nor is it a portrait. It is an image which invites us to prayer. It is our hope that it will invite people to prayer while we prepare our hearts for World Meeting of Families 2018.

The Icon will be travelling to each diocese in Ireland to encourage reflection and prayer as part of the journey of preparations to WMOF2018. The icon is accompanied by **petition boxes**, where families can write their intentions and prayer. Contemplative communities around Ireland will pray for the intentions collected during the coming year. The petitions will also be brought to World Meeting of Families 2018.

Pro-Cathedral Concert Series  
**J. S. Bach**  
**Mass in B Minor**

Sunday  
**19**  
 November 2017  
 8pm

St Mary's Pro-Cathedral

Dublin Bach Singers  
Marlborough Baroque Orchestra  
Thérèse Timoney, Leader

Aisling Kenny, Soprano  
Alison Browner, Alto  
Jacek Wislocki, Tenor  
Jeffrey Ledwidge, Bass

Conducted by Blánaid Murphy

Tickets €25 available at  
[www.eventbrite.ie](http://www.eventbrite.ie) & at the  
Parish Office 01-874 5441

### ✠ **Altar List of the Dead Envelopes**

are available at the back of the church.

All Masses on the First Friday of every month are offered for those whose names are entered on the Altar List of the Dead.

### **Thank You**

11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> November

1<sup>st</sup> Collection (*Priests'*) €1,445

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection (*Share*) €985

### **Rotunda Hospital** **Service of Remembrance**

here in the **Pro-Cathedral**

**on Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 3.00pm.**

*Any queries please contact the Hospital Chaplain on 01 8171700.*



**Prepare the way of the Lord!**

### **PRAYING ADVENT**

**WITH ISAIAH**

**Wednesdays 29<sup>th</sup> November**  
**6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**St Kevin's Oratory**

**11.15 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.**

**with Fr Kieran J. O'Mahony, OSA**