St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral NEWSLETTER

31st December 2017

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Happy New Year and every Blessing for 2018



OFFICIAL FAMILY PRAYER FOR WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

God, our Father,

We are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son, One family, in the Spirit of your love. Bless us with the joy of love. Make us patient and kind, gentle and generous, welcoming to those in need. Help us to live your forgiveness and peace. Protect all families with your loving care, Especially those for whom we now pray:

> [We pause and remember family members and others by name].

Increase our faith, Strengthen our hope, Keep us safe in your love, Make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share. This we ask, through Christ our Lord, Amen

Mary, mother and guide, pray for us. Saint Joseph, father and protector, pray for us. Saints Joachim and Anne, pray for us. Saints Louis and Zélie Martin, pray for us.

Christmas Dues Envelopes are available at the back of the Church. *Thank you for your generosity*.

Thank You 23rd /24th December

1st Collection €935 2nd Collection (*Share*) €750

New Year's Day 1st January 2018

Mass at 10.30 a.m.



Saturday 6th January 2018 The Epiphany of the Lord Holy Day

Mass Times: 8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m. + 12.45 p.m.

World Meeting of Families 2018

Dublin, Ireland, has been chosen by Pope Francis to host the next World Meeting of Families from 21-26 August 2018, guided by the theme "The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World". Held every three years, this major international event brings together families from across the world to celebrate, pray and reflect upon the central importance of marriage and the family as the cornerstone of our lives, of society and of the Church. Whilst WMOF2018 will include exhibitions. cultural events and musical performances, events around the city, gestures of solidarity, it has at its heart the following key moments:

Firstly, **a National Opening** of World Meeting of Families will take place simultaneously in the twenty-six dioceses on the island of Ireland on 21 August;

Secondly, from 22 to 24 August, **a three-day Congress** will entail a joyful and reflective programme of workshops, talks and discussions centred on the theme: "The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World". The Congress will also offer an engaging programme for young people to include faith and fun activities for children;

Thirdly, a **Festival of Families** which will be held on Saturday 25 August 2018. This will involve a cultural concert within a prayerful and joyful atmosphere, during which personal stories of faith will be shared by families, each representing the five continents; and, Fourthly, Holy Mass for WMOF2018. **A solemn Eucharistic Celebration** on Sunday 26 August will involve thousands of pilgrims from Ireland and around the world.

for more information—www.worldmeeting2018.ie