



The Holy Family 28th December 2025



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MASS TIMES AT CLONARD Public Mass and Masses via Webcam

Sunday 7:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am and 12:30pm

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:30am and 6:15pm

Thursday (Novena) 7:00am, 9:30am, 6:15pm and 8:00pm

Saturday 9:30am and 12:00 noon. **Sunday Vigil Mass** 7:30pm



INVITATION TO CLOSE OF JUBILEE YEAR – SUNDAY 4TH JANUARY 2026

Bishop Alan McGuckian will celebrate the **Rite of the Closing of the Jubilee Year** with **Mass at 3.00pm in St Peter's Cathedral, Belfast** on **Sunday 4th January 2026**.

He would like to invite as many as possible, from across the Diocese, to join him for the Mass and some refreshments afterwards in **St Comgall's Centre**.

While the Jubilee Year of Hope will formally close, the task ahead will be to carry its Message of Hope with us into the New Year 2026.

In **Rome** the Jubilee Year will conclude with the closing of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican by **Pope Leo XIV** on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, January 6, 2026.

GIFTS AT CHRISTMAS

This year **Clonard's Christmas Crib Appeal** is in aid of **Foodstock**, a local charity working to tackle poverty and empower people in communities in Belfast.

All donations will be *greatly appreciated*.

At this time of the year we often receive gifts that we have no use for. If this is the case with you this year, perhaps you might consider leaving such gifts at the crib and we will ensure they will go to people who do need them.

As the final sunsets of 2025 fade, I find myself sitting in a rare moment of quiet, reflecting on a year that has been anything but quiet.

We entered this year as "*Pilgrims of Hope*" for the Great Jubilee, yet if I'm honest, there were many days where I felt more like a "*wanderer*" than a "*pilgrim*."

Like many of us, we have had our share of stumbles throughout this past year. There were moments when perhaps our patience wore thin, prayers felt like a chore, and choosing comfort over the needs of others was easier. But the beauty of our faith is that the end of a year isn't just the closing of a door; it's a **reconciliation**. We gather our broken pieces, our failed resolutions and the quiet victories and offer them back to the God who makes all things new.

Looking towards **2026**, my hope isn't for the unachievable perfection, but in God's perfect mercy. The transition between years reminds us that while time is linear, grace is a circle that will always bring us back to God's mercy.

As we step into the New Year, not with the pressure of trying to achieve perfection, but with the courage to be faithful and trust in God's mercy.

So let our first act of the New Year be to find a few minutes of intentional silence and reflect on simply "*being*" with and in the presence of God's perfect mercy.

Wishing you all a blessed, and promising New Year.



HOLY FAMILY

Today **Sunday, December 28**, we celebrate the feast of the **Holy Family**. Again, we invite you to come as family for this celebration where there will be a special blessing of families as we look to the coming year.

MONASTERY RECEPTION

The Monastery reception will be closed all day on **Thursday 1st January 2026**

MORNING MASSES

There is **NO 7.00am Mass until January 4**. Except Sunday December 28 and Thursday January 1.



The **Redemptorist Community** of Clonard would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all those who assisted in the preparation for, and celebration of, Advent and Christmas.

Your *help* is **greatly appreciated**.

We would also like to thank those of you who sent gifts to the community over Christmas. Again, your generosity is much appreciated.