

One of the lovely things about Christmas is the bigger numbers at Christmas Mass. Amid the lights and razzmatazz, a surge of faith and duty and awe appears. It is a wonderful time of the year and an antidote to the cold nights and grey afternoons and shortish days. We're all prone to making friends feel appreciated and the appreciation rewarded. We realise we have a pretty wide circle of connection.

For some there has been changes in the family – a loved one has joined the faithful departed, or a child has moved away, or a relationship has wobbled. Somehow, from somewhere, strength has come. Thank God for the folks that wish us well and said they would pray for us and make us feel we are not alone.

I acknowledge the groups in our parish who are all supportive – the spiritual groups who catechise and pray; the assisting groups who feed and drive and visit and share and donate and listen and beautify; the choirs, altar servers, collectors, counters, readers, Eucharistic ministers, greeters, cleaners, flower ladies, administrators and multi-taskers – all in the tapestry that makes parish life so rich and joyful.

The true joy of Christmas is the love of Christ, shared with family and friends. May you encounter His peace, love and joy this festive season.

*From our Carmelite family to
yours – Merry Christmas and
every blessing for the New Year.*

Fr. Michael Spain



2018

1 January	Start of Parish Centre/Hall Consultation
14 February	Ash Wednesday
14 February	End of Parish Centre/Hall Consultation
21/22 February	A Biblical Walk Through the Mass (<i>5 week course</i>)
1 April	Easter Sunday
2/3 May	Follow Me – Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John (<i>8 week course</i>)
6 May	Parish First Holy Communion
20 May	Pentecost
9 & 16 June	School First Holy Communion
1 July	Confirmation
14 July	Parish Day
22-26 August	World Meeting of Families in Dublin <i>“The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World”</i>
7-9 September	Eucharistic Congress <i>“Adoremus”</i> in Liverpool
21 September	St Joseph’s Golf Day
7 October	Parish AGM
2 December	First Sunday of Advent

