



Parish of St. Bernadette



Third Sunday of Lent 19th. March 2017. (A) Vol.14 No. 29

www.stbernadettesparish.org e-mail: info@stbernadettesparish.org

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Mass Times Sunday

10a.m. with the Adult Choir.

12p.m. Children's Liturgy for P2 - P5.

Weekdays

9.30a.m. except on Tuesday.

Tuesday

7.30p.m. (with Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help)

Saturday

6.00p.m. Vigil Mass with the Folk Choir every second Week.

Holy Days of Obligation

10a.m.

Other Mass times may vary and will be published in the Parish Bulletin and on the church notice boards, and Parish website.

Confessions Saturday

6.45p.m. after the Vigil Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday from 8a.m. to 7.15p.m.

Baptisms

On the first Sunday of each month. By appointment only four weeks in advance.

Notices for the Parish Bulletin should be sent by **e-mail only** to: info@stbernadettesparish.org

First Reading (Exodus 17:3-7) Moses had no easy task leading the Israelites through the desert. When there was no water to drink, they demanded that he do something about it. They resorted to the 'blame game', from which even God was not excluded. Moses even feared for his life before he struck the rock and water flowed from it. How self-reliant are we, how convinced are we of God's Providence when we meet difficult challenges? Is our first re-action to blame others?

Second Reading (Romans 5:1-2, 5-8) The Epistle to the Romans has influenced later Christian theology more than any other book in the New Testament. Scarcely an area of theological development has not been affected by its teaching. Famous commentaries on it were published by the great Reformers: Luther, Melancthon and Calvin, and 'Justification by Faith' became the basic doctrine of Protestantism. Faith is important but 'good works' are also important.

Gospel Reading (John 4:5-42) Samaria, where the Samaritans resided, was in the centre of the Holy Land. There are a number of competing versions of how they came to be there. According to one account they were transferred there, when the whole region was under the aegis of the Assyrian empire. The operation, it seems, was carried out on strategic grounds – the Samaritans were to act as a check on the Jews. Because of their association with the Assyrians, the Samaritans were distrusted and their presence resented by the Jews. Later with the decline of the Assyrian empire the Samaritans, as a powerless minority, were oppressed and discriminated against by the Jews. Hence the antipathy and enmity between the two peoples. © Intercom 2017



Reflection

Do you want to Fast this Lent? Here are **Pope Francis'** simple tips:
Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and trust in God.
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

The church is open for private prayer each weekday until **6p.m.** (Tuesday until after the evening Mass). Why not drop in for a few minutes of quiet reflection, away from the rush and strain of daily life? Just to say a silent prayer.

Our Faithful Departed



Anniversaries

Sarah Dowd, Mary Rose McGonagle, Liam O'Neill, Edward Patrick Jones, Brian Goldsmith, Mary McCartan, Brigid Watson, Barney O'Neill, Gerard Breslin, Samuel Lyttle, Moya Leyden, Agnes Merriman, James Cassidy, Joseph Murdock, George Hayes, Gerard McCafferty, Brian Gregory.

John Curley, Andrew Devlin, Henry O'Rawe, Bridget Trainor, Denis McCourt, John McParland, Tom Martin, Maura Gent, Jack McGowan, Eileen Stewart, Patrick Quinn, Vincent Lamph, Fr. John Byrne, George Walsh, Daniel McCartan, Gerald Greene, Malachi Devlin, Michael Bannon.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest.

Calendar of Feasts



Monday 20th. March - St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. About him Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a just man – an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his high trust of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary. **"I know by experience," says St. Teresa of Avila, "that the glorious St. Joseph assists us generally in all necessities. I never asked him for anything which he did not obtain for me."**

Reflections on the daily Mass readings during **Lent** are available at the back of the church. It only takes a few moments to read them each day and anything which helps to direct our minds to a spiritual preparation for Easter is more than worthwhile.



Parish Collections

Last week's collection amounted to **£2,032**. Sincere thanks for your generosity.

The annual collection to support **Needy Parishes** in the Diocese takes place this weekend. Parishes with smaller catholic populations need your help to provide pastoral care and other services for their Parishioners.

Team 6 will help with the collection this week.



Retirement Association

Thursday 23rd. March - Weekly Walk at **10.15a.m.**

Monday 27th. March - "Secret Scripture" in the **QFT** at **6.20p.m.** Based on the novel by Sebastian Barry.

Adm. £4. If you wish to make a booking please contact **Geraldine** Tel. **0784593 3371** as soon as possible.

Wednesday 29th. March - **Monthly Lunch** at **Hydebank College** at **1p.m.** To help finalise the catering order, please contact **Geraldine** Tel. **078459 33371** as soon as possible if you wish to attend.

Friday 31st. March or **Saturday 1st. April** - "The Matchmaker" at the **Lyric** at **7.45p.m.** by **John B. Keane**. The performances commence at **7.45p.m.** on **Friday** at a cost of **£22** or **Saturday** at **2.30p.m.** at a cost of **£15**. All those wishing to attend should contact **Anne** Tel. **9064 3031** *before 23rd March*.



Parish Centre News

For information & bookings: Tel. **9040 1169** or call in and speak to **Paul** on weekdays from **9a.m.** to **1p.m.**

Monday 20th.

10.15a.m. Drop in for tea/coffee & a chat after Mass.

10.30a.m. Mothers & Toddlers.

7.30p.m. - **8.30p.m.** Pilates Class.

7.30p.m. Wynchurch Art Group.

8p.m. Bowling Club.

8.30p.m. - **9.30p.m.** Pilates Class.

Tuesday 21st.

7p.m. Zumba Class.

8p.m. - **9.15p.m.** **New Yoga Class.**

Wednesday 22nd.

10.30a.m. Mothers & Toddlers.

2p.m. Speech & Drama.

5p.m. Children's Soccer.

5.30p.m. Irish Dancing Class.

7p.m. - **8p.m.** Active Yoga Class.

8p.m. Taekwondo.

8.15p.m. - **9.15p.m.** Relaxing Yoga Class.

Thursday 23rd.

7p.m. Adult Painting Class.

Friday 24th.

9.30a.m. - **10.30a.m.** Pilates Class.

No Youth Club tonight!

Saturday 25th.

10a.m. - **2p.m.** Taekwondo.

1p.m. - **4p.m.** Junior Badminton

After School Club

Rosetta 2-4 Club weekdays for **P1 - P7** children. For more information please contact **Sinead** Tel. **07816 779910**.

Ministers of the Eucharist



Group Leader for **March** - **Maura Presley**.

Ministers of the Word



Sunday 26th. March - **Group 8**

John Conaghan, Eamon Foster,

Gerry Mooney.

500 Club



Week 26: Congratulations to the lucky winners in the **Weekly Draw:** **Eileen McKeown & Michael Canning.**

Each winner receives **£50**.

The **Trócaire Lenten Campaign** is under way. Do you have a **Trócaire Box**? If not, please take a box home with you, fill it, and return it at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Where does your money go? Last year, **2.4** million people directly benefited from our overseas programmes largely funded by you.



Church Cleaning



We are indebted to our volunteers who help clean the church each week. **More helpers are needed!** If you can spare an hour once every six weeks and join one of our cleaning teams, please leave your name and contact details in the Sacristy. There is no heavy work involved. **Gillian McKeever**, our Team Co-ordinator, will be delighted to hear from you. Teams are not restricted to ladies only! **Men are most welcome to help out!**

Apostolic Workers



A **Coffee Morning** for **Mothers Day** will take place in the **Lounge** in the **Parish Centre** after both Masses next Sunday. Drop in for a cuppa, some goodies, and give whatever you can afford! Help us to help the Missions!

What's On!



March 25th "Faith in the Public Square". The inaugural Conference of The Iona Institute N.I. from **9.30a.m.** - **1.30p.m.** in **St. Brides Hall**, Derryvolgie Avenue. The Keynote Speakers include: Archbishop Eamon Martin, Baroness Nuala O'Loan. Adm. **FREE!** To register, please email **info@ionainstitute.ie** or Tel. **00 353 1 661 9204**.

March 28th. - April 1st. Fortwilliam Musical Society presents "**All Shook Up**". A hilarious romantic comedy featuring the hit songs of **Elvis Presley** at the Theatre At The Mill, Newtownabbey. Box Office Tel. **9034 0202**.

March 31st. St. Malachy's Fundraising Event with **Hugo Duncan & Country Harmony** in Concert in **St. Malachy's Parochial Hall** from **8p.m.** to **11p.m.** Adm. **£7** at the door. Proceeds in aid of the church restoration fund. Everyone welcome!

April 11th. The Corrymeela Ormeau Cell Group & Ballynaveigh Clergy Fellowship invite you to a screening of the film "**The Choices We Made - Bystanding and Conflict in Northern Ireland**" in **St. John's Presbyterian Church** at **7.30p.m.**

April 22nd. The Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Venerable Matt Talbot at **12.30p.m.** For further details and booking, please contact **Mary** Tel. **075990 606999**