



# Parish of St. Bernadette



Second Sunday of Advent 10th. December 2017. (B) Vol.15 No. 15.

[www.stbernadettesparish.org](http://www.stbernadettesparish.org) e-mail: [info@stbernadettesparish.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@stbernadettesparish.org)

**First Reading (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11)** Here begins the second part of the Prophet Isaiah, the Book of Consolation. After the justifiable chastisement and warning of the first part, where the people are reminded of where infidelity will bring them, now there begins the promise of a road back to God and the image of a messenger announcing the 'good news' of a new way opening across the desert.

**Second Reading (2 Peter 3:8-14)** In this reading, the image of the Day of the Lord, so beloved of the Prophetic Tradition, is reinterpreted. It is no longer the imminent day of divine intervention, but rather the ongoing 'day' of God's invitation to humanity to live in his presence through the Son.

**Gospel Reading (Mark 1:1-8)** The Prologue of Mark gives us a programme for the entire gospel. The image of John here is the image of a 'precursor' - a foretaste of what is to

happen when the good news really takes root with Jesus Christ. John's ministry of baptism is merely a prelude to what will happen with Christ: John brings people across the Jordan, symbolically restoring them to the Land of the Promise; but Christ will bring them further



## Preparing for Christmas

The **Parish Penitential Service** will be held on **Wednesday 20th. December** at **7.30p.m.**

**Penitential Services** in neighbouring Parishes will take place as follows:

**Sunday 17th. December**

**St. Brigid's** at **4p.m.**

**Monday 18th. December**

**Holy Rosary** at **7.30p.m.**

**Thursday 21st. December**

**Drumbo** at **7.30p.m.**



## Welcome!

A number of events are being held in the church this week. On **Monday** at **7p.m.** The children of **St. Bernard's P.S.** will present their **Christmas Celebration**.

On **Thursday**, we are pleased to welcome the staff and students from **Lagan Integrated College** for their annual **Carol Service** at **7p.m.**, being held for the first time in this church.

On **Friday** at **8p.m.**, we are delighted to have the **Priory Singers** present "**Carols By Candlelight**". The proceeds will go to **St. Bernadette's Church Restoration Fund**.

**Help to conserve heat! Please close the internal doors as you enter and leave the church!**

**Reflections** on the **daily Mass readings** during **Advent** will be available at the back of the church each week. Please take a copy home with you. It only takes a few moments to read them each day and anything which helps to direct our minds to a spiritual preparation for the birth of Our Lord is more than worthwhile.

## Our Faithful Departed



### Anniversaries

David McGarrity, Brendan Browne, John Craig, Michael Colgan, Michael McCaughey, Patrick McLarnon, Rose Ann Adams, Mary Nichol, Paddy Corr, Nellie O'Neill, Kathleen Curran, Mary Ellen O'Hara, James Rainey, Frank Daly, Dympna McFerran, Eileen Steele, Agnes Carvill.

Mathavi Kannan, Margaret Heaney, Jack Lee, Bridie McGrath, Veronica McElkerney, Vera Clifford, Thomas McGrattan, Christina Orr, Irene Maguire, Daniel McKenna, Peggy Mossey, Brigid Presley, Martin McGonigle.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest.

## Parish Carol Service

"**Carols By Candlelight**" with readings & reflections will take place on **Sunday 17th. December** at **6p.m.** with the **Folk Choir, Parish Choir**, soloists, and the **Aquinas Diocesan Grammar School Folk Group**. As a Parish family, we will come together in peace and serenity to meditate on the events leading up to the birth of Our Saviour. Please make a special effort to attend with your family and friends.

## Living Youth

We need young people from the Diocese to volunteer at the **2018 World Meeting of Families Congress** in **Dublin** from **22nd. - 26th August** for those aged 16 - 25 and to attend the **Papal Mass** Cost £100 per person. Register your interest now! Email us at [info@livingyouthni.org](mailto:info@livingyouthni.org) with your name, contact number, Parish, and date of birth.



## Parish Collections

Last week's collection amounted to **£1,532**. Sincere thanks for your generosity.



## Retirement Association

**Wednesday 13th. December** - Monthly Coffee

Morning in the Lounge in the Parish Centre at 10.15a.m. Everyone is welcome! Meet other members & make new friends!

**Thursday 14th. December** - Weekly Walk at 10.15a.m.



## The Priory Singers

We are a chamber choir formed thirty years ago by Dr Harry Grindle. The choir is now in the very capable hands of Robert Thompson, Director of Music. We are delighted to present "Carols by Candlelight" in **St. Bernadette's Church** on **Friday 15th. December** at **8p.m.** with Organist Phillip Elliott. Admission is free (retiring collection). Proceeds to the St. Bernadette's Church Restoration Fund. We look forward to offering the Parishioners of St. Bernadette's and other local churches some wonderful music for the Nativity.



## Apostolic Workers

The **Coffee Morning** held last week raised **£1,000**. We wish to thank everyone for your most generous support. Help us to help the Missions!

**St. Joseph's College** has received the **Aisling Award** for **Outstanding Achievement in Education for 2017**. This is a great honour especially as we are celebrating 25 years since the College opened. I would like to thank Fr. Armstrong P.P. and all the Parishioners of St. Bernadette's who continue to support us.

**Michele McCormick, Principal.**



## 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

10.15a.m. Drop in for tea/coffee after Mass.  
10.30a.m. Mothers & Toddlers.  
7.30p.m. - 8.30p.m. Pilates Class.  
8p.m. Indoor Bowling Club.  
8.30p.m. - 9.30p.m. Pilates Class.

### Tuesday

7p.m. - 8p.m. Zumba Class.  
8p.m. - 9.15p.m. Yoga Class.

### Wednesday

10.30a.m. Mothers & Toddlers.  
8p.m. Taekwondo.

### Friday

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

### Saturday

10a.m. Taekwondo.  
1.30p.m. Junior Badminton.

### Rosetta 2-4 After School Club

From **Monday - Friday** for P1 - P7 children from **2p.m. - 4p.m.** Contact **Sinead** Tel. **07816 779910**.

## Ministers of the Eucharist



Group Leader for **December** - **Flo McGarrigle**.

### Mass Rota

6p.m. **E. Mooney, C. Foster**.

10a.m. **G. Mooney, J. McGinnity, E. McGrath**.

12p.m. **F. McGarrigle, G. Flanagan, E. McGettrick, N. McGarvey**.

## Ministers of the Word



**Sunday 17th. December** - Group 2

**Arthur Foster, Mary McHugh, Peter Livingstone, Marie McKinney**.

The new Readers' rota is now available for collection from the Sacristy.

## 500 Club



**Week 12:** Congratulations to the lucky winners in the **Weekly Draw: Eileen Hodgson & Rita McGettrick**.

Our **Annual Appeal** takes place this weekend.

A member of our Conference will speak at all Masses to explain the work that we do. We are grateful for your generosity throughout the year which allows us to help all the people in our community who are in need. Direct Debit forms are available for those who choose to donate in this way.

Latest News



We also begin our **Christmas Appeal** for families and people in need within our local community. This year, rather than providing food hampers, we would like to give a gift voucher for local stores in order to protect the individual's dignity and self respect. Therefore rather than donating food we would be grateful if you would donate money or a gift voucher and put it in an envelope marked **SVP Christmas Appeal**. Please put your Envelope into the collection basket or leave it into the Sacristy. We hope you will support us in this new initiative.

Once again we thank you for your generosity and we wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Our annual **Christmas Gift** campaign has been launched to help families in Third World countries to become independent and self-sufficient. You can buy beehives, chicks, goats, solar lamps, tools, clean water kits, and lots more! The gift is sourced locally and sustainably from the country where it is needed. So the gifts not only support families in the world's poorest places, they help grow the local economy. Pick up a brochure in the Lourdes Chapel porch or visit: [www.trocaire.org/gifts](http://www.trocaire.org/gifts)



## What's On!



**May 27th. - June 1st. N.I. Cancer Pilgrimage to Lourdes.** Cost £669 (price reduction for Cancer Patients) from Belfast, full board, travel insurance for persons up to 85 years on date of return. Medical & nursing staff in attendance. For booking, please Tel: **075167 59646** or e-mail at: [mail@nicancerpilgrimage.org.uk](mailto:mail@nicancerpilgrimage.org.uk)



"The incarnation of the Word in a human family, in Nazareth, changed the history of the world. We need to enter into the mystery of Jesus's birth, into that "Yes" given by Mary, as well as the "Yes" of Joseph, who gave a name to Jesus and watched over Mary." Amoris Laetitia - The Joy of Love, Pope Francis.