



# Parish of St. Bernadette

24th. Sunday of the Year. Sunday 11th. September 2016. (C) Vol.14 No. 03.

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

Fr. Paul Armstrong P.P. 28 Willowbank Park. Tel. 9079 3023

## 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 (Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14)** In our First Reading today from the Book of Exodus, we hear how Moses begs pardon from the Lord for the Israelites who have strayed away from following God's path. God listens to the prayer of Moses for leniency and is merciful to his people.

**Second Reading (1 Timothy 1:12-17)** In this extract from his first letter to Timothy, a very humble Paul recognises that his own conversion story is living proof of the mercy of God – from being someone who fought passionately against the early Church to becoming one of its most zealous followers, even to the point of death. 'Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them'.

**Gospel Reading (Luke 15:1-32)** We listen to three very familiar parables in our Gospel today – the parable of the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the most familiar one of the Prodigal Son. Each tell us of the wonderful and boundless kindness of God. They demonstrate how our merciful and generous God stretches out his hand in forgiveness to us sinners in spite of our consistent unfaithfulness to him. These parables are so familiar to us that we often hear them but not listen closely to them, that we become immune to their meaning. Today let us open our hearts and minds anew to what this Gospel is telling us at this particular time.



## Reflection

There are two elements in our relationship with God which need to be distinguished.

The first element is the love of God. That love is absolutely unconditional. No matter what kind of person I may be, no matter what I have done against God, against others, or against myself, God's outreaching love (called agape, in the Greek original of the New Testament) for me is absolutely unchanging.

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## Church Opening Times

The church is open for private prayer each weekday until 6p.m. (Tuesdays until after the 7.30p.m. Mass.). This also provides the opportunity for everyone to enjoy and appreciate the splendid results of the work carried out during the recent refurbishment programme.



## Parish Choir

The choir sings each Sunday at the 10a.m. Mass with a rehearsal at 9.30a.m. New members are always welcome especially young adults to help swell our numbers and make an important contribution to the celebration of the Eucharist. If you like singing, please come along and speak to the Parish Organist Marty Lavery. An ability to read music is not required and you will be made most welcome.

## Our Faithful Departed



### Anniversaries

Mary Forde, Patricia Aherne, Alphonsus McClean, Sarah T. Murray, Claire O'Kane, Joseph Smith, Frank Grego, James Speight, Brenda Oliver.

Charlie Murtagh, Alice McGrath, James Bredin, Mary Shepherd, Colette Gormley, Edward Kelly, Monica Callan, Harry Philips.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest.

The **Children's Liturgy** resumes this Sunday at the **12p.m. Mass**. The Children's Liturgy Team brings the message of the gospel to the young members of our Parish family each Sunday. Story-telling and art are used as ways of helping the children to understand the meaning of God's word. The priest will invite the children from P2 to P5 to go to the Children's Liturgy Room at the beginning of Mass and return to their parents /guardians after the Homily. New leaders & helpers are needed. The Diocesan Child Protection procedures apply. If you can help out please contact **Michele** Tel. **077112 61886**.

## Eucharistic Adoration



**"Praise God in difficult moments. Seek God in quiet moments."** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is on **Tuesday** in the **Lourdes Chapel** from **8a.m.** until **7.15p.m.** Why not drop in for a few minutes of quiet reflection, away from the rush and strain of daily life, and simply say a silent prayer? Or just sit and rest in the presence of the Lord? Volunteers are particularly needed to attend between **3p.m. & 5p.m.** **"Will you give a little of your time to be in the very presence of Our Lord?"**



## Parish Collections

Last week's collection amounted to **£1,767**. Sincere thanks for your generosity.

**Team 4** will help with the collection this week.

Have you recently moved into St. Bernadette's Parish? You can assist the Parish considerably by taking **Offertory Envelopes** and if you pay tax, the Parish will receive a payment from the Inland Revenue at **no extra cost** to yourself if you sign a **Gift Aid Form**. Just call into the Sacristy after Mass and leave your name and contact details. Please give us your support.



## Retirement Association

**Tuesday 13th. September** - Bowling at the Ormeau Park at **11a.m.**

**Wednesday 14th. September** - Monthly Coffee Morning in the Lounge in the Parish Centre at **10.15a.m.** Meet other members & make new friends!

**Thursday 15th. September** - Weekly Walk at **10.15a.m.** Meet in the church car park.

**Friday 16th. September** - Bowling at the Ormeau Park at **2p.m.**

**28th. September** - Monthly Lunch in the Belfast Boat Club at **1p.m.** Cost £17 p.p. To make a booking, please contact **Geraldine** Tel. **078459 33371** as soon as possible.



## 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 12th.

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

10.30a.m. Mothers & Toddlers.

7.30p.m. Pilates (2 sessions).

7.30p.m. Wynchurch Art Group.

8p.m. Bowling Club.

### Tuesday 13th.

Zumba resumes on 20th. September at 7p.m.

### Wednesday 14th.

10.30a.m. Mothers & Toddlers.

2p.m. Speech & Drama.

5p.m. Children's Soccer.

5.30p.m. Irish Dancing Classes.

7p.m. - 8.30p.m. Yoga. Contact Maeve Tel. **077 1383**

8p.m. Taekwondo.

### Thursday 15th.

4.30p.m. Speech & Drama.

7p.m. Adult Painting Class.

### Friday 16th.

9.30a.m. Pilates.

7p.m. Youth Club - registered members only!

### Saturday 17th.

10a.m. Taekwondo.

1p.m. Junior Badminton.

1p.m. - 2:30p.m. - Beginners session

2:30p.m. - 4p.m. - Improvers session

### After School Club

**Rosetta 2-4 Club** for P1 - P7 children from **Monday - Friday** from **2p.m. - 4p.m.** For more information please contact **Sinead** Tel. **07816 779910**.

## Ministers of the Eucharist



Group Leader for **September** - **Jim McGettrick**.

## Ministers of the Word



**Sunday 18th. September** - Group 4

**Brendan Kerr, Nesson McGarvey, Marie Moriarty.**

## 500 Club



**Week 51:** Congratulations to the winners of the **Weekly Prize Draw:** **Paul Mulholland & John Corr.**

Each winner receives **£50**.

The new cycle of the 500 Club begins on **19th. September**. Many thanks to all loyal members and promoters for your support. Promoters can pick up new Promoter's Cards and envelopes in the Sacristy. All annual subscriptions (**£52**) are now due. Cheques should be made payable to **St. Bernadette's Parish Trust**. The proceeds make an important contribution to the running costs of the Parish. Please help us to continue with the draw by joining if you are not already a member. There are two prizes each week of £50 plus a bonus week at the beginning of December when we have prizes of £250, £150 and £100. Registration forms are available in the Sacristy.

## Lima Mission



The **Third World Group** will be collecting annual sponsorship payments for **Fr. Coney's Children's Centres** in Lima after the **12p.m. Mass** this **Sunday & on Sunday 18th. September**. If you would like to sponsor a child within the Centres please speak to us after Mass. We will be happy to give further details. Many thanks to all our sponsors for your continued support.

## Faith & Life Convention



The third **Diocesan Faith and Life Convention** will take place on **Saturday 24th. September** in **Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock**. This is a forum for people to gather together from Parishes throughout the Diocese, to take part in a range of conversations about the meaning of faith and its relevance to our everyday lives. The theme for this year is "**Faith in a World in Need of Mercy**". A creche will be available this year to facilitate parent delegates accompanied by small children.

Registration is available online at:

[www.faihandlifeconvention.org](http://www.faihandlifeconvention.org)

## 110th. Belfast Scouts



The **110th Belfast (St. Bernadette's) Scouts - Boys and Girls** will resume next week as follows:

**Beavers: 6-8 years** on **Tuesday 13th. September** from 6.30p.m. - 7:30p.m. Contact Linda at [110thbelfastbeaver-scouts@gmail.com](mailto:110thbelfastbeaver-scouts@gmail.com) A few spaces are available.

**Cubs: 8-10 (1/2) years** on **Wednesday 14th. September** from 7p.m. - 8:30p.m. Contact Phil at [110thcubs@gmail.com](mailto:110thcubs@gmail.com) Currently no spaces available.

**Scouts: 10(1/2)-14 years** on **Friday 15th. September** from 7.30p.m. - 9:30p.m. Contact Davy at [scouts110@virginmedia.com](mailto:scouts110@virginmedia.com)

**Explorer Scouts: 14-18 years** on **Monday** from 7.30p.m. - 9:30p.m. Contact Norman at: [norman.mckee@btpopenworld.com](mailto:norman.mckee@btpopenworld.com)