

# Parish Bulletin



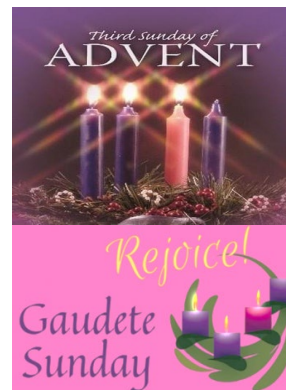
PARISH OF  
HOLY ROSARY



PARISH OF  
ST BERNADETTE



Luke 3:10-18



15<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## SUNDAY MASS TIMES

**ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH** Vigil 6.00pm & 11am  
**HOLY ROSARY PARISH** 9am, 10.30am & 12.30pm

### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

**St Bernadette's Parish:** **Mon, Tues, Wed 9.30am**  
**Holy Rosary Parish** **Thurs, Fri & Sat 10.00am**

### Confessions Saturday:

10.30 in Good Shepherd church and  
5.15pm in St. Bernadette's church.

### PARISH WEBCAMS

Visit [www.stbernadettesparish.org](http://www.stbernadettesparish.org) and Click on  
"Watch Live" for St Bernadette's Parish.

[www.holyrosaryparishbelfast.net](http://www.holyrosaryparishbelfast.net) for Holy Rosary  
Parish and click on "Holy Rosary Live".

## OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Jody Gormley, Very Rev Brendan McMullan, Terry Maguire,  
Veronica Burke, Michael Donnelly, Brendan Kerr,  
Paddy McCavera, Maura Madine, Kathleen Kielty,  
Terry Moran

### ANNIVERSARIES:

James Scollon, Hugh Magee, Michael Green,  
Brigid Presley (6pm), Brendan Fox & David Watson (9am),  
Jane Magee (10.30am), Martin McGonagle (11am)  
Teresa O'Rourke & Sinead Boyce (12.30pm),  
Betty McCafferty.

*Eternal rest grant onto them O Lord.*

**St Bernadette's Bethany Bereavement  
Support Group ☎. 07385591055**

**Holy Rosary's Bethany Bereavement  
Support Group ☎. 07388191309**

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

### HOLY ROSARY PARISH

**Christmas Eve:** 6pm and 9pm

**Christmas Day:** 9am and 10.30am

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO  
12.30 PM MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY  
IN GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH**

### ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

**Christmas Eve:** 6pm

**Christmas Eve:** 8.30pm

(celebrated according to the Syro-  
Malabar Rite of the Catholic Church)

**Christmas Day:** 11am

**12.30pm**

(celebrated according to the Syro-  
Malabar Rite of the Catholic Church)

**Please note there will be no Mass on  
St. Stephen's Day 26th December.**

**Masses, in both parishes, will return to the  
usual times from Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December.**

## ST BERNADETTES FINANCES

**Weekly Offering**

**£1199.08**



Thank you for your continued generosity  
towards the collections taken up in our parish.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

We would encourage parishioners to attend the  
Penitential Service in St. Brigid's.  
Several priests will be available to celebrate the  
Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### Penitential Service

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 4pm in St. Brigid's church

### Confessions

St. Bernadette's Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> from 7-8pm.

Holy Rosary Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> from 10.45am – 12noon.



### POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Once again, you are invited to donate a Poinsettia for Christmas in memory of a loved one. The plant's association with Christmas began in 16th-century Mexico, where legend tells of a girl, commonly called Pepita or Maria, who was too poor to provide a gift for the celebration of Jesus' birthday and was inspired by an Angel to gather weeds from the roadside and place them in front of the church altar. Crimson blossoms sprouted from the weeds and became beautiful poinsettias. From the 17th century, Franciscan friars in Mexico included the plants in their Christmas celebrations. The star-shaped leaf pattern is said to symbolize the star of Bethlehem, and the red colour represents the blood sacrifice through the crucifixion of Jesus. Please leave the poinsettia in the Church, as close to Christmas Eve as possible, along with a card with the name of your loved one on it. A Mass will be offered during the Octave of Christmas for all those whose names we receive.



### St Bernadette's Children's Liturgy

Children must be registered before they can attend. If any adults or students would be interested in becoming members of our group, please contact Mary Grace Wilson Tel 07554386905. You will be made most welcome.

#### Dates for Children's Liturgy Dec 24 – June 2025

15th/22nd Dec; 12th/26th Jan; 9th/23rd Feb; 9th/23rd March; 6th April; 4th/18th May. 1st/15th/29th June



### Christmas Carol Service

As we continue to journey through the season of Advent, looking forward with Hope, to the second coming of Christ

and as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, during the Christmas season, the Parish Choir, Folk Choir, and the children of St Bernard's Primary School welcome everyone to the

**Annual Carol Service in St Bernadette's church on Sunday 22nd December at 6:00pm.**

St Mary's Church, Chapel Lane, Belfast, is the venue for a special event in aid of this year's **St Vincent de Paul Annual Appeal. Celebrating 180 years in Ireland**, the Society is experiencing an increase in calls for help every day due to the crippling increased costs associated with day to day living and, although it can be the most wonderful time of the year, for some families at this time of year they wonder whether they will have Christmas at all. Local Belfast man Patrick Davey of Davey Music is a respected performer, teacher and composer of traditional Irish music, and he will be hosting Celtic Carols by Candlelight in St Mary's Church, Chapel Lane, Belfast, on Sun 22 Dec at 5.00pm. There will be music and readings for the season from the Celtic nations and proceeds from the event will be donated to this year's SVP Annual Appeal [www.svp.ie](http://www.svp.ie)



### St Bernadette's Children's Liturgy along with the Parish Faite Group will be having a Christmas Coffee Morning

after 11am Mass on Sun 15th Dec in the Parish Centre. All children, Parents and Parishioners are welcome!! Come along and enjoy the fun!!



### St Bernadette SVP

Many thanks to Parishioners for your continued support and generosity. Without your help our work would not be possible in these challenging times. Our Parish Christmas appeal was launched at weekend masses on the 29th and 30th of Nov. Donations can be placed into the red boxes at the back of the Church, online at <http://www.svp.ie/stbernadetteschristmasappeal24> or telephone 02890750161.

We are acutely aware that these are difficult times for many. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require financial help/ support. If you require assistance, please telephone SVP Regional Office at 02890351561 and you will be confidentially directed to one of our Conference Members or another Conference of your choice.

### St Bernadette's Retirement Group

- Our next coffee morning will be Wednesday 18th December after 9:30am Mass. Old and new members are most welcome, so come along and meet new friends.
- You're also very welcome to join us for our weekly walk, we meet at 10:15 in St Bernadette's church carpark every Thursday.
- We're organising a Malahide trip, The Grand Hotel, 4-6th March 2025, €380 bed and breakfast, (for 2 nights) per couple. (Twin room.) If interested, please contact one of our committee members. We'll take your name at our next coffee morning.
- Lyric date, Tuesday 7th Jan, 7pm, for members who have booked and paid.
- Our January lunch will be in the Parador on Wednesday 29th January, 12:30 for 1 o'clock lunch. Details at our next coffee morning.

### ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH CONTACTS

Fr. Brendan Hickland, PP

☎ (028) 90642446 (Option 1)

[b.hickland@downandconnor.org](mailto:b.hickland@downandconnor.org)

Rev Fr. Jose Bharanikulangara Assistant Priest:

Holy Rosary Parish & St Bernadette's Parish

Chaplain to Syro-Malabar Community

28 Willowbank Park, Belfast BT6 0LL

☎ (028) 9079 3023

[St Bernadette's Parish](http://www.stbernadettesparish.org)

[stbernadettes@downandconnor.org](mailto:stbernadettes@downandconnor.org)



### DOWN & CONNOR CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL RETREAT.

**Acts 1:8 "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses"** To celebrate the Jubilee our theme is "Witnesses of Hope" in Drumalis Retreat Centre Larne from Fri 17th-Sun 19th January 2025. Speaker is Fr Darren Brennan. Join us for the weekend or for a day. An opportunity to grow in faith together. To book a place please contact Margaret on 0771628811.



### Holy Rosary Parish Centre Bingo Evening

Sunday 15th Dec at 7pm

# LOOK

Sunday 15 December 2024  
3rd Sunday of Advent  
Luke 3:10-18

In the **GOSPEL TODAY**

## SHARE!

John explains that God wants us to be fair and treat people well. God wants us to share what we have with people who do not have as much as us.

### Share

Who has more toys, Sam or Martha? Can you help Sam to share his toys with Martha? Put a circle round the toys that Sam can share with Martha. Draw a line from the circles to Martha to show that she can play with those toys.



Here is plate with ten biscuits.

You would like some and your friend would like some.  
How can you share them out fairly?  
Draw the biscuits on your plates.

### John the Baptist

People ask John the Baptist what they should do in order to be better people. Translate John's words so that you can be a good person too!

✿ + ★ ❖ ☆ ✨ ✓ ⚙ + ❁ ⚙ + ☆ ❖ ✿

— — — — —

a= ★ e= ☆ i= ✓ h= + o= ❁ r= ❖ s= ✿ t= ⚙ w= ✨

### Puzzle

Can you fit these words into the grid? The first one has been done for you.

3 LETTERS:  
**INN**

4 LETTERS:  
**STAR, TREE, SNOW, PIES WRAP, WINE**

5 LETTERS:  
**SHARE, HAPPY**

6 LETTERS:  
**CAROLS CANDLE**

7 LETTERS:  
**PUDDING, SINGING**

8 LETTERS:  
**PRESENTS**

Answers: Share with others.

### A PRAYER TO SAY

Help me to share, even when it is hard. Help me to be ready to welcome you, Jesus. Amen.