



Parish of St. Bernadette



5th. Sunday of Lent (B) 18th. March 2018. Vol.15 No. 28.

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

Fr. Paul Armstrong P.P. 28 Willowbank Park. Tel. 9079 3023 Option 1

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 (Jeremiah 31:31-34) The mercy of God is explored afresh. No political liberation of the people, as in Israel's past, is promised. Neither is yet another prophet promised, as happened so often before. God now proposes to relate more directly with his people, and in the depths of their hearts. A deeper, more personal and intimate knowledge of God, through his word and from within, is to be the new expression of their relationship. Later this will be developed even further when Jesus becomes God's Word-made-flesh among his people.

Second Reading (Hebrews 5:7-9) People sometimes lament 'distractions' in prayer. Exploring them frequently reveals that these are rooted in realities that impinge on their lives. Worry about one's health prognosis, personal relationships, or financial strain, for example, should hardly rank as distractions, despite being thought of as such by some. Failure to make them a basis for prayer results in a time of artificial talk with God. Nor do we have to await the arrival of a comfortable 'mood' for prayer, as Jesus' example here shows.

Gospel Reading (John 12:20-30) Change in any kind of community is difficult to accomplish smoothly. The place of Greeks in a hitherto predominately Jewish community around Jesus was bound to be contentious. Jesus' shocking reply not only clarifies that the Greeks belong, but that their belonging will be achieved only through the existing group giving way to a newer, more fruitful and abundant one. Christian communities have nothing to fear from even fundamental changes around and within them. ©Intercom

† Lenten Programme

Let's talk Family! Let's be Family!, a Parish conversation based on Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation 'The Joy of Love' concludes on Tuesday, in St. Bernard's P.S. at 8.15p.m.

In our final session, we look at two themes - 'God's Mercy - No one Excluded' and 'A Gospel of Hope for our Families.' We explore Pope Francis' understanding of human fragility in the reality of human life, the importance of reaching out to all, regardless of their circumstances, and the priority of God's mercy in how we approach that fragility. We are all challenged to reach out to people on the margins, as Jesus did. We also explore a spirituality of hope in regard to love and marriage. We will listen to the experiences of older couples and hear their advice to younger parents. The session includes Pope Francis' practical advice on how families can be places of joy in the midst of human fragility. Please come along even if you have missed previous sessions. The programme sets the tone for the **World Meeting 2018 in Dublin**. See www.worldmeeting2018.ie/amoris. All are invited. There is no charge.

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.

Our Faithful Departed

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Catherine (Kay) Topping R.I.P.**, of Trinity Lodge, whose funeral Mass will take place on **Tuesday** at 9.30a.m., and for **Eilish Whittaker R.I.P.**, sister of a Parishioner, whose funeral was held in England on Wednesday.

Anniversaries

Mary Hughes, Mattie Marshall, George Hayes, Mary Ann Gallagher, Conor McGurk, Sarah Dowd, Mary Rose McGonagle, Edward Patrick Jones, Brian Goldsmith, Mary McCartan, Brigid Watson, Barney O'Neill, Gerard Breslin, Samuel Lyttle, Moya Leyden, Agnes Merriman, James Cassidy.

Joseph Murdock, Pearl Theresa Ward, 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.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest.

Holy Week ††

Next Sunday is **Palm Sunday**. Please gather in the **Parish Centre** at 9.55a.m. for the **Blessing of Palms**. The Celebrant and faithful will then process to the church for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The "Do This In Memory" programme will be at the 12p.m. Mass with a special reading of the Passion for children.



Parish Collections

Last week's collection amounted to **£1,887**. Sincere thanks for your generosity.

The annual collection for **Needy Parishes** will take place this weekend. The money raised will help support those Parishes in deprived areas, or that may only have a small number of Parishioners.

Offertory Envelopes for 2018 / 2019

The new boxes are available this weekend. Please collect your new box from the Main Porch after Mass. The boxes have been sorted in ***alphabetical street order***. ***Please look for your street name when collecting your box***. If you do not already use the envelope system and would like to do so, please register your contact with the representative in the Main Porch and a box will be issued to you in a few days.



Retirement Association

Thursday 22nd. March - Weekly Walk. Meet in the church car park at 10.15a.m.

Wednesday 28th. March - Monthly Lunch in the **Parador** at 1p.m. Two courses: £17. Please contact **Geraldine** Tel. **078459 33371** if you wish to attend.



Parish Penitential Service

The **Parish Penitential Service** in preparation for Easter will take place on **Wednesday 28th. March** at **7.30p.m.** A number of priests will be available for open and closed confessions.



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 or coffee and a chat after Mass.

No Mothers & Toddlers today.

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

8p.m. Bowling Club.

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

Tuesday

7p.m. Zumba Class.

Wednesday

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.

Friday

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

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

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 **March** - **Maura Presley**.

Mass Rota

6p.m. **M. Presley, R. McConvey, C. White.**

10a.m. **G. Goodall, M. McIvor, J. Lyons.**

12p.m. **E. Dolan, G. Malone, A. Foster.**

Ministers of the Word



Sunday 25th. March - Group 5

Sean O'Hare, Clare Kearney,

Sandra McKillop.

500 Club



Week 26: Congratulations to the lucky winners in the **Weekly Draw: Mary Cassidy & Moira Matthews.**

Each winner receives **£50**.

Invitation



St. Bernadette's Ladies are invited to a **Visitors' Night** on **Wednesday 21st. March** at **8p.m.** in **Cairnshill Methodist Church** with a talk on "**Mercy Ships**" - a team of nurses, doctors & surgeons who donate their time and skill to help on board the world's largest non-governmental floating hospital. Refreshments will be served. If you wish to attend, please contact **Marie** Tel. **9079 2226**

St. Bernadette's Parish



A new telephone system is currently being installed in the Parish. From this coming **Tuesday**, there will be only one telephone number for **Fr. Armstrong**, the **Church**, and the **Parish Centre**. The **Parish telephone number** will be **028 9079 3023**. Press option 1 to speak to **Fr. Armstrong**, for the **Sacristy** press 2 and for the **Parish Centre** press 3. You can also make contact by e-mail to: **info@stbernadettesparish.org**

World Meeting of Families Dublin 2018



Prepare for the big event in Dublin by reading Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation on Love in the Family - **Amoris Laetitia, The Joy of Love**. Copies available from the **Sacristy** Price **£5**.

What's On!



March 18th. Rosary at the **Mass Rock for Life and Faith** at **St. Peter's Church**, The Rock, Stoneyford at **2.30p.m.**

March 30th. Annual Good Friday Prayer Walk with **Ormeau Churches Together** in conjunction with the **Ballynaveigh Clergy Fellowship**. Gathering & Short Prayer Service in the **Ormeau Park** at **11a.m.**, followed by a Service in **Cook Centenary Church** at **11.30a.m.**

April 6th - 8th. Focolare Movement in **Stranmillis College** with **Open Day 7th. April**. (£10 donation). Keynote talk from **Brian Rowan**. Families welcome. There will be separate programmes for children. For more information Email: **nirlfoc@focolare.ie** Tel. **9066 1028** or visit our website: **www.focolare.org/ireland**



"Our first reaction when we are annoyed should be one of heartfelt blessing, asking God to bless, free and heal that person." Bless ...that you may obtain a blessing." (1Pt.3:9) **Amoris Laetitia - The Joy of Love**, Pope Francis.