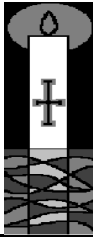




Parish of St. Bernadette



Sixth Sunday of Easter 21st. May 2017. (A) Vol.14 No. 38
www.stbernadettesparish.org e-mail: 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**

First Reading (Acts 8:5-8, 14-17) Surprisingly, the Samaritans welcomed the message of Philip's preaching when they heard it because they were open to receiving it. Sometimes we, who are steeped in the Christian tradition and who would be expected to receive the message of the Gospel with open hearts, do not do so. We introduce all kinds of conditions and restrictions. Or we choose what suits us and disregard what is too challenging.

Second Reading (1 Peter 3:15-18) Taking the advice of Peter, as Christians we are called to have our answer always ready for those who ask us the reason for the hope that is ours. And the reason for our hope is Jesus our Risen Lord. But he can only be our hope if we have experienced him personally as our Lord and Saviour.

Gospel Reading (John 14:15-21) The fundamental commandment of Jesus is that we love God and our neighbour. We cannot love one without the other. It is impossible to compartmentalise God and people such that they remain unconnected. Our dealings with others have implications for our friendship with God. This is how, in practise, we connect love and the commandments. If we love God, we will keep his commandments, including the commandment to love our neighbour. © Intercom 2017



Reflection

...we rejoice in the gift of the Spirit by which the Father and Jesus his Word continue to be with us and in us and to guide us in the Way which he guarantees our true happiness and fulfilment. How do we know that is true? We just have to follow his invitation: 'Come and see.' Many have done so and not been disappointed. ©1999- 2017 Living Space



Marian Devotion

A specially-commissioned icon of Our Lady will be installed at **Our Lady's Shrine** in the church. The origin of the icon to Our Lady of Perpetual Help is unknown. Many have thought that St. Luke painted it, but its existence prior to the late Middle Ages cannot be confirmed. Likely it is Eastern in origin due to the Byzantine style and Greek lettering.

The icon features the child Jesus fleeing into his Mother's protective arms as the Archangels Michael and Gabriel show Him the instruments of crucifixion. The Greek letters spell out the first letters of Mary and Jesus' names.

The icon will be blessed by **Bishop Farquhar** at the **7.30p.m.** Mass on **Tuesday 30th. May.**

Please remember to pray each day for more vocations to the priesthood and the religious life and especially for those priests who are ill or in any difficulty.

Our Faithful Departed



Anniversaries

Basil Collins, Paddy Murphy, John Lavery, Sr. Alphonsus McKernan, Sara Watson, Sean McCann, Catherine McCloskey, Brigid Boles, Gerard Murray, Francis Leyden, Donal Lavery, John (Desmond) Bateson, Rose Devine.

James McKenna, Patrick John Curran, Arthur McQuoid, Gerard Maguire, Gerald Murray, Sarah McFall, Mary Christine Galway, James Gerard Kieran, Catherine Boyle, Paul Kearny.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest.

Prayer at Exam Time



Father, I pray that you would help me pass this exam. Thank you for your guidance and for sustaining me as I have worked for this qualification. I ask now that your spirit would lead me. Come sharpen my thinking and help me to excel in this test of my learning and understanding. May I be able to recall everything I need from my studies and answer each question well. Amen.

Eucharistic Adoration



"Praise God in difficult moments. Seek God in quiet moments." Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament resumes 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 reflect in the presence of the Lord? Pray for those who need your prayers at this time in their lives. We need more adorers at lunch time, during the afternoon, and to stand in for people who may be going on holiday. **"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 **£2,216**. Sincere thanks for your generosity.

The annual collection for the **Education of Diocesan Students** will take place this weekend. There are eight young men in training for priesthood for the Diocese at present. Your financial contribution is another concrete way of supporting these students as they journey towards priesthood for service in our Parishes.

Team 3 will help with the collection this week.



Retirement Association

Tuesday 23rd. May - Ormeau Park Bowling at 11a.m.

No previous bowling experience needed and all equipment will be supplied.

Thursday 25th. May - Weekly Walk at 10.15a.m.

Friday 26th. May - Ormeau Park Bowling at 2p.m.

Wednesday 31st. May - Monthly Lunch in the **Belfast Boat Club** at 1p.m. To help finalise the catering order, please contact **Geraldine** Tel. **078459 33371**



Church Florists

Do you have a talent for arranging flowers? We need more volunteers to help create and maintain the floral displays in the church throughout the year. If you can help, please leave your name and telephone number in the Sacristy.



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 22nd.

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

10.30p.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 23rd.

7p.m. Zumba Class.

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

Wednesday 24th.

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 25th.

7p.m. Adult Painting Class.

Friday 26th.

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

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

Saturday 27th.

10a.m. Taekwondo.

1p.m. - 4p.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 May - **Jim McGettrick**.

Ministers of the Word



Sunday 28th. May - Group 6
Michelle Marken, Fiona Kearney,
Elizabeth Quinn.

500 Club



Week 35: Congratulations to the lucky winners in the **Weekly Draw: Imelda Montgomery & Bernice Heverin.**
Each winner receives £50.

Coffee Morning



A **Coffee Morning** will take place in the **Lounge** in the **Parish Centre** after Masses **next Saturday & Sunday** hosted by **Anne and Clare Foster**. The proceeds will be donated to **The Children's Cancer Unit Charity** which exists solely to support the work of the Children's cancer and Haematology unit at RVH. Please drop in for a cuppa, some goodies, and give whatever you can afford! Everyone welcome!

Golden Jubilee



The "**Hail Gladdening Light**" concert to celebrate the **50th. Anniversary** of the opening of St. Bernadette's Church took place on Friday evening. We would like to thank **Philip O'Rawe**, a member of Capella Caeciliana and of our own adult choir, who was key to staging the concert. We thank the members of **Cappella Caeciliana**, their conductor **Donal McCrisken**, organist **Stephen Hamill**, and **Fr. Eugene O'Hagan** for presenting such a wonderful programme of music. We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who attended in such large numbers to support the event.

Senior Citizens are invited to an outing to **Newcastle** on **Wednesday 21st. June**. A coach will leave the church car park at **10.15a.m.**

Latest News



Tea/coffee will be served at **Clare Lodge** holiday home on arrival, with lunch at 1p.m. This will be followed by some entertainment. If you wish to attend, it is vital that you sign the list in the church porch by **14th June**, to finalise the catering. Alternatively please contact **Frances** Tel. **078005 62398** or **Nigel** Tel. **077642 77651**.

What's On!



June 3rd. An "**Ecumenical Journey**" with Fr. Eddie O'Donnell & Rev. Ruth Patterson in St. Brigid's Hall from **2p.m. - 4p.m.** All are welcome to attend!

June 11th. Down & Connor One Day Pilgrimage to Knock led by Bishop Noel Treanor. Buses will be leaving from various Parishes throughout the Diocese. For more information please contact **Fr. Vincent Cushnahan**, the Pilgrimage Director, at: **cush25@hotmail.com**

June 14th. - 22nd. Clonard Solemn Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

June 23rd. - 25th. Down & Connor Living Church Pilgrimage to Lough Derg. Cost £60. For bookings, please contact **Geraldine** Tel. **9069 0920** or email: **livingchurch@downandconnor.org**