



# Parish of St. Bernadette



The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ 25th. December 2016.(A) Vol.14 No. 17

www.stbernadettesparish.org e-mail: 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 52:7-10)** How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the one who brings good news. Now we see the Lord face to face: the face of the living God reflected in the face of a new-born child.

**Second Reading (Hebrews 1:1-6)** The age of the Prophets is over. God no longer speaks through intermediaries. Now God speaks to humanity through his Son, Jesus of Nazareth. In Jesus is the fullness of God. There is nothing of God that is not in Jesus. There is nothing in Jesus that is not of God.

**Gospel Reading (John 1:1-18)** The Word of God is the fullness of God's presence amongst his beloved people. May we truly reverence the living word we are about to hear.



## Reflection

At this time our city and homes are filled with light, guiding us through the dark valleys of our lives. It is no coincidence that Christmas is celebrated in the depth of winter, just after the winter solstice, as we look forward in hope to the longer days of light and the new life ready to burst forth. Jesus will say later that he is "the Light of the world". Today's Gospel says that the Light shines in the darkness and that the darkness cannot overpower it. It is in this hope that we long to see the darkness of our world put to flight.

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## Mass Times

Mass will be celebrated at 9.30a.m. each morning this week. There will be no evening Mass on Tuesday. The prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be said on Tuesday morning.

**The church will be closed after Mass each morning next week.**



## Vocations

Please make a personal commitment to pray each day, for vocations to the priesthood, especially for those who are preparing for the priesthood, and for those who are already ministering as priests in our diocese. It would be a great help. Remember also those priests who are ill or in any difficulty.



## Eucharistic Adoration

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** will not take place next Tuesday. We will resume on **Tuesday 3rd. January.**

The latest & past editions of the **Parish Bulletin** are available online at: [www.stbernadettesparish.org](http://www.stbernadettesparish.org)

## Our Faithful Departed



Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Monsignor Colm McCaughan R.I.P., Chancellor Emeritus** of the Diocese of Down & Connor, whose funeral took place in Ballycastle on Friday.

### Anniversaries

Elizabeth Kennedy, Kevin McCusker, Teresa Small, Cassie Toye, Richard Derby, Eilish Egli, Jack McIlkerney, Teresa Marshall, Anita Murtagh, Teresa Duffin, Frances McArt, Charlie Stuart, Rose Beattie, Rita Devlin, Thomas McGettrick, Mary O'Halloran.

Eileen Rocks, Daniel Duffin, Laurence Fody, Mary Moore, William Greene, Gerry Crosbie, Denis Malone, Sr. Olivia Curran C.P., Nellie Rooney, Anna Forde, Sarah McGlinchey, Margaret Carville, William Kennedy, Norman Kennedy, Jane McDade, Brigid Dunlop.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest.

Dublin has been chosen as the venue by Pope Francis to host the next **World Meeting of Families in August 2018.**

Started by Saint John Paul II, and held every three years, this major world event celebrates family as the cornerstone of our lives, and the fundamental building block of society and the Church. Families and others from all over the world will gather in Dublin from 22-26 August 2018 to celebrate their lives together, to share their experiences from different parts of the world, to reflect on the different challenges they face and to grow together in faith. The theme chosen by Pope Francis is "**The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World**".

The Holy Father invites families across the world to reflect on this theme during the Christmas season as we gather around the crib. A "**Prayer Before The Crib**" has been published. This will be displayed at our own Parish crib. A limited number of bookmark-size copies will be available in the church this weekend. You may also find information on the World Meeting 2018 at: [www.worldmeeting2018.ie](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie)





## Parish Collections

Last week's collection amounted to **£1,684**. Sincere thanks for your generosity.

The **Christmas Voluntary Collection** will be taken up at all of the Masses this weekend.

**Team 6** will help with the collection this week.



## Retirement Association

**Thursday 29th. December** - Weekly Walk at 10.15a.m. Meet in the church car park.

The Chairman & Committee wish all of our members a peaceful, happy Christmas and a healthy New Year!



## Diocesan Pilgrimages

The **Down & Connor Lourdes Pilgrimage Committee** will host the **Emerald Ball** at **Titanic, Belfast** on the eve of St. Patrick's Day, **Thursday 16th. March**. The evening will commence with drinks at 7p.m., to be followed by a sumptuous four course dinner at 8p.m. There will be a high-end luxury ballot and dancing to a live band. Dress is formal and monies raised will support for the sick and the young people who help them. Tickets are £60 each and available from the **Pilgrimage Secretary, Sinead** Tel. 906 10477. The Emerald Ball promises to be the highlight of the social calendar so be sure to reserve your tickets early.



## 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

Pilates Classes resume on Monday 10th. January.

### 7Tuesday

Zumba Class resumes on Tuesday 10th. January.

Yoga Class resumes on Tuesday 10th. January.

### Wednesday

Irish Dancing Classes resume on 11th. January.

Yoga Classes resume on 11th. January.

### Thursday

Adult Painting Class resumes on 5th. January.

### Friday

Youth Club Registration on 13th. January from 6.45p.m. to 7.30p.m. A very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year from the Management Committee and leaders of St. Bernadette's Youth Club.

The Centre will be closed for the holiday period. Please check with your group leader when your own particular activity will resume.

The Management Committee wish all of our User Groups and patrons a very Happy New Year!

## Ministers of the Eucharist



Group Leader for **December** - Flo McGarrigle.  
Group Leader for **January** - Jim McGettrick.

## Ministers of the Word



**Sunday 1st. January** - Group 7  
**Nicholas J. McCafferty, Kathleen Leyden,**  
**Nicholas M. McCafferty, Estelle McGrath.**

## 500 Club



**Week 14:** Congratulations to the lucky winners in the **Weekly Prize Draw: Ronnie Hughes & Marie O'Reilly.**  
Each winner receives £50.

## Diocesan Directories



The **Down & Connor Directory** for 2017 will be on sale after all of the Masses this weekend. Priced at **£4** each, it includes lots of useful information on Mass times in every Parish, contacts for priests, religious orders, schools, and all Diocesan organisations. Buy one now before they are all gone!

## Church Car Park



**Car owners! Please note that the church car park will be locked after morning Mass each day during the coming week. Please do not leave your vehicle unattended in the car park after Mass times.**

## School Events



Pupils and parents seeking entry to Year 8 in the intake for September 2017 are invited to attend the following schools:

### Wednesday 11th. & Thursday 12th. January

St. Malachy's College at 7p.m.

### Saturday 14th. January

Our Lady & St Patrick's, Knock from 9.15a.m. - 12.30p.m.

St. Dominic's High School from 9.30a.m. - 1p.m.

Aquinas Diocesan Grammar School from 9a.m. to 1p.m.

Our Lady & St Patrick's Knock from 9.15a.m. - 1p.m.

### Thursday 19th. January

St. Joseph's College from 7p.m. - 9p.m.

### Saturday 21st. January

Assumption Grammar, Ballynahinch from 10a.m. -

## What's On!



**Until January 7th. Live Christmas Crib at St. Mary's Church, Chapel Lane from 10.30a.m. To 5p.m. daily.** There will be prayers each day in the crib at **3p.m.** for peace for every child, born and unborn.

**January 19th. Aquinas Young Musicians Concert in Drumbo at 7p.m.** The programme includes Vivaldi's Gloria and a variety of solo pieces performed by A-Level students. Everyone welcome!

May I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all of those who contribute so much of their time and talent to the life of St. Bernadette's, not only during the organisation and celebration of the liturgy in the church, but also in activities for the benefit of the wider Parish community and beyond. I am also extremely grateful to our Parishioners for your support for the church throughout the year: through your participation in the liturgy and your financial contributions. I wish each of you and your families every blessing during this Christmas season and a joyful, peaceful New Year.

*Rev. Anthony P.P.*