



Parish of St. Bernadette



Fourth Sunday of Lent 26th. March 2017. (A) Vol.14 No. 30
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

First Reading (1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13) Samuel, also known as Kings, is a narrative about the so-called great and good in Israel. Much of it concerns political corruption, treachery and murder - generally carried out by proxies. Sadly, at present we are not unfamiliar with murders and serious crime carried out by proxies on the streets of our capital city.

Second Reading (Ephesians 5:8-14) Here Saint Paul is urging the Ephesians to live virtuous lives - lives of goodness, justice and truth. Further on in the chapter he exhorts husbands and wives to love each other. However, he also suggests in the same context that the wife should fear her husband. An attempt can be made to explain this comment as intelligible in the cultural environment in which it was written. Today such a view is rightly regarded as unacceptable as - unless fear is interpreted to mean love and respect - indeed it always was and is.

Gospel Reading (John 9:1-41) Here we find two attitudes, that of co-operation and that of rejection. The blind man allowed Christ to touch his eyes with the clay and spittle. He also followed Christ's instructions to wash in the pool of Siloe. From the Pharisees there was nothing but rejection. They refused to believe the blind man's account of the incident. Nor would they accept the version given them by the blind man's parents. One is reminded of the truism: 'There are none so blind as those who are determined not to see'. All of us are given the opportunity to accept or reject the gift of faith, grace, God's friendship.

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Reflection

Every time we receive the sacraments Jesus comes to us by touching our senses and there is a visible sign of Jesus coming to us invisibly through his sacrament. Who would think that anointing with oil would be the signal for the Spirit of the Lord to fall mightily on David? Who would think that anointing with a paste of clay and washing would restore sight? But God uses the ordinary elements of nature to convey his power and healing to us in the sacraments. In every sacrament Jesus comes to us invisibly but powerfully. As you receive the sacraments you hear Jesus, and Jesus touches you. Jesus touched the blind man and Jesus touches you when you receive his sacraments. © Fr. Tommy Lane 2008



First Confession

The boys & girls of P3 in St. Bernard's P.S. will make their First Confession on Wednesday morning. We pray for God's blessing on them, also their teachers, parents, and everyone who have been working with the children to help them prepare them for this important milestone in their young faith lives.

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 happy repose of the soul of **Pearl Ward R.I.P.**, of Wynchurch Gardens, who died on Friday. Removal to the church on Tuesday morning for 10a.m. Requiem Mass.

Anniversaries

Michael Joseph Finn, Patrick Forde, Una Flynn, Frank Campbell, Gerard O'Hara, Luke Murtagh, Charlie Higney, Lucy Magee, James McFarlane, John Barr, Mary Donnelly, Eileen O'Connor, Josephine Dolan, Patrick Carlin, Sean Gilmore, Winifred Murdock, Thomas Rocks, John McQuade.

Flora Craig, Tom Boyle, Frank McGeough, Vincent McCaughan, Owen Colgan, Louis O'Keeffe, Mary Cunningham, Jim Agnew, Mary Coyle, Nancy Feeney, Rita Reilly, Mary Ann Campbell, Bernard Murtagh.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest.

Eucharistic Adoration



"Praise God in difficult moments. Seek God in quiet moments." Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues each 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? We need more adorers at lunch time and in the afternoons. *"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 **£1,599**. Sincere thanks for your generosity.

Team 1 will help with the collection this week.

Offertory Envelopes for 2017

New boxes have already been distributed in several districts of the Parish. If you have used the offertory envelopes in the past and have still not received your box, or if you live outside the Parish, 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 details with the representative in the Main Porch and a box will be issued to you in a few days.



Retirement Association

Monday 27th. March - "Secret Scripture" in the QFT at 6.20p.m. Based on the novel by Sebastian Barry. Adm. £4. If you wish to make a booking please contact Geraldine Tel. 0784593 3371 as soon as possible.
Wednesday 29th. March - Monthly Lunch at Hydebank College at 1p.m. To help finalise the catering order, please contact Geraldine Tel. 078459 33371 as soon as possible if you wish to attend.
Thursday 30th. March - Weekly Walk at 10.15a.m.



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 27th.

10.15a.m. Drop in for tea/coffee & a chat after Mass.
10.30a.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 28th.

7p.m. Zumba Class.
8p.m. - 9.15p.m. **New Yoga Class.**

Wednesday 29th.

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 30th.

7p.m. Adult Painting Class.

Friday 31st.

9.30a.m. - 10.30a.m. Pilates Class.
7p.m. Youth Club - registered members only!

Saturday 1st.

10a.m. - 2p.m. Taekwondo.
1p.m. - 4p.m. Junior Badminton.

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 April - Flo McGarrigle.

Ministers of the Word



Sunday 2nd. April - Group 9
Mollie Hayes, Valerie O'Brien,
Brian O'Rourke.

500 Club



Week 27: Congratulations to the lucky winners in the **Weekly Draw: Mark Crean & Moya Dolan.**
Each winner receives £50.

The **Trócaire Lenten Campaign** is under way. Do you have a **Trócaire Box**? If not, please take a box home with you, fill it, and return it at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Where does your money go? Last year, 2.4 million people directly benefited from our overseas programmes largely funded by you.



Apostolic Workers



A **Coffee Morning** for **Mothers Day** will take place in the **Lounge** in the **Parish Centre** after both Masses this Sunday. Drop in for a cuppa, some goodies, and give whatever you can afford! Help us to help the Missions!

World Meeting of Families 2018



Pope Francis has decided that the World Meeting of Families will be held in Dublin on **22th. to 26th. August 2018**, with the theme "**The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World**". The World Meeting of Families will be a festival of witness to the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. Thousands of Catholic families from around the globe are expected to travel to Ireland. Hosting a global event of this size requires a huge amount of planning and financial outlay. The second of three National Collections to help with funding will be held on **8th. & 9th. April**. A special leaflet will be distributed after Mass this weekend to help you to apply for tickets to attend or to volunteer at the event.

What's On!



March 28th. - April 1st. Fortwilliam Musical Society presents "**All Shook Up**". A hilarious romantic comedy featuring **the hit songs of Elvis Presley** at the Theatre At The Mill, Newtownabbey. Box Office Tel. **9034 0202**.

March 31st. St. Malachy's Fundraising Event with **Hugo Duncan & Country Harmony** in Concert in St. Malachy's Parochial Hall from **8p.m. to 11p.m.** Adm. £7 at the door. Proceeds in aid of the church restoration fund.

April 2nd. Fr Gerard Magee (Chaplain, QUB), will conduct the **Elmwood Chamber Orchestra** in a programme of music by Grieg, JS Bach, Elgar and Beethoven, in the **Great Hall** at **Queen's University** commencing at **3p.m.** Entrance: Adult: £10; Student/OAP: £5. For more information Tel. **9066 9737**.

April 11th. The Corrymeela Ormeau Cell Group & Ballynafeigh Clergy Fellowship invite you to a screening of the film "**The Choices We Made -Bystanding and Conflict in Northern Ireland**" in St. John's Presbyterian Church at **7.30p.m.**