



# Parish of St. Bernadette



**First Sunday of Advent (C) 2nd. December 2018. Vol.16 No. 14**

[www.stbernadettesparish.org](http://www.stbernadettesparish.org) e-mail: [info@stbernadettesparish.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@stbernadettesparish.org)

**First Reading (Jeremiah 33:14-16)** In the midst of prophecies concerning exile and displacement, Jeremiah offers the hope of ultimate restoration and a fresh start for God's chosen people. Just as their downfall had been due to corrupt and misguided governance, so their hopes for renewal will centre upon an altogether new kind of leadership, in which the lineage of King David will be restored. Honesty, integrity and faithfulness to God's covenant will be the hallmarks of this renewal, rather than any conventional form of political revival.

**Second Reading (Thessalonians 3:12-4:2)** Writing to the largely gentile converts who made up the Christian community in Thessalonica, Paul encourages their perseverance. Timothy has returned from visiting the Thessalonians with very positive accounts, for Paul, of their fidelity. This has lifted Paul's heart. He looks forward to seeing them again and, meanwhile, exhorts them to continue their efforts in the Christian life and its demands. This letter is traditionally viewed as being Paul's earliest and, therefore, the oldest writing in the New Testament.

**Gospel Reading (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36)** This eschatological discourse, or sermon on the things to come, effectively draws the public ministry of Jesus to a close in each of the Synoptics. Remarks, by onlookers, on the grandeur of the Temple provoke a reaction from Jesus, prophesying its destruction. Jesus foretells the terrors which will be visited upon Jerusalem and the world around it, in advance of the final coming of the 'Son of Man'. The disciples are warned to be vigilant and prayerful in the face of all that is going to happen.  
©Intercom



## The Season of Advent

Today we begin the new liturgical year in the Church and set out on our Advent journey in preparation for the birth of Our Lord. Advent, like Lent is a **time for prayer, penance, sacrifices, and good works.**

The **Jesse Tree** will be decorated with symbols that remind us of the purpose and promises of God from Creation to the Birth of Jesus Christ. Jesse was the father of King David and God promised David that his Kingdom would last forever.

The **Advent Wreath** signifies continuous life which has no beginning or end, the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life found in Christ. The three purple and the rose candles represent 1,000 years each - 4,000 years from Adam and Eve until the Birth of the Saviour. The progressive lighting of the candles each week signifies the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead.

The special **Advent Calendar** has been produced by the **Parish Pastoral Council** to help guide us on our spiritual journey through Advent.

## Our Faithful Departed



Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Joe Kearney R.I.P.**, of Beechgrove Drive, whose funeral took place in the Good Shepherd Church on Wednesday.

### Anniversaries

Mary Martin, Patrick Blaney, Paula Heath KIELTY, Patrick Dolan, Sally Gilmore, Bridget Murtagh, Alice Kearney.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest.

**From the First Sunday of Advent, 2nd. December, names for inclusion in the weekly Anniversary List of the Dead should be left in the Sacristy one week before publication or submitted by e-mail to:**  
[info@stbernadettesparish.org](mailto:info@stbernadettesparish.org)

## Calendar of Feasts

**Saturday 8th. December** is the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** It is a **Holy Day of Obligation.** The **Vigil Mass** on **Friday** will be at **7.30p.m.** and on **Saturday** at **10a.m.**

## First Friday Visits

Next Friday is the First Friday of the month. The sick, housebound, and those Parishioners who are in hospital and nursing homes will be attended by the priest during the week. Please remember to pray for the sick of our Parish and those who care for them. Remember also those priests who, after long service in the Diocese, are now in poor health.



## Parish Collections

Last week's collection amounted to **£1,705**. Sincere thanks for your generosity.

The monthly collection for the **Support of the Priests** will take place this weekend.

The **Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference** has asked that a final collection be held to help defray the costs for the organization of the recent **Papal Visit** to Ireland. This will take place in this Parish next weekend. There is no envelope for this collection.



## Retirement Association

**Thursday 6th. December** - Weekly Walk. Meet in the church car park at 10.15a.m.

**Friday 7th. December** - Ten Pin Bowling at the **Ice Bowl, Dundonald** from 10.30 - 11.30a.m. Concession rate £2 per game.

**Wednesday 12th. December** - Monthly Coffee Morning in the **Lounge** in the **Parish Centre** at 10.15a.m.

Everyone is welcome! Meet other members & make new friends!



## Living Youth

**Advent – What Is It Really About?** SE Belfast CYM would like to invite any Parishioners who are in Year 10 or above to an Advent Programme being held in **Holy Rosary Parish Centre** on **Wednesday 5th., 12th., & on the 19th. December** at 4p.m. We will explore Advent, spending time together, and having a bit of fun. We hope to see as many of you there as possible! Please register at: <https://goo.gl/forms/kBaiytqLiAtcjTWm1>

**Youth Alpha** for ages 16-19 continues each **Sunday** in **St. Joseph's Parish Centre** from 7p.m. until 9p.m. until **December 9th.**



## Parish Centre News

For information & bookings: Tel. **9079 3023 Option 3** or e-mail: [parishcentre@stbernadettesparish.org](mailto:parishcentre@stbernadettesparish.org)

### Monday

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.  
8p.m. Indoor Bowling Club.  
8.30p.m. - 9.30p.m. Pilates Class.

### Tuesday

7p.m. Zumba Classes.

### Wednesday

10.30a.m. Mothers & Toddlers.  
7p.m. - 8p.m. Active Yoga advanced.  
8.15p.m. - 9.30p.m. Relaxation Yoga.  
8p.m. Taekwondo.

### 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



**December - Group 2.**  
Team Leader - Flo McGarrigle.

## Ministers of the Word



**Sunday 9th. December**  
Group 9.

## 500 Club



**Week 11:** Congratulations to the lucky winners in the **Christmas Bonus Draw:**

£250 - Una McCloskey

£150 - Mary Murray

£100 - Gerry Loughran



We offer a confidential, non-judgemental service to vulnerable individuals and families who are in great need. We can provide direct financial assistance and essential items such as food, fuel, and household items. Do you need our help? Tel. **9035 1561**

Latest News



Our **Annual Appeal** will take place at all of the Masses next weekend. Christmas is the time of year when there is increased demand for our help. Representatives of the Parish Conference will speak at Masses to explain our work and to thank you for your most valuable support during the past year. A special church-door collection will take place. **Gift Aid forms** will be available.

**S.V.P. Christmas Cards** will be on sale in the **Lourdes Chapel Porch** this weekend after all of the Masses.

## Cappella Caeciliana †

"**Unity. May they all be one**", our latest CD, was launched recently. Most of the tracks were recorded here in St. Bernadette's. It is a beautiful compilation of Sacred Music featuring the **Priests** and the composer **Sir. James MacMillan**. It will make an excellent gift for Christmas. Copies of the CD are now on sale from the Sacristy at the special price of £10.

## St. Bernard's P.T.A.



Our **CHRISTMAS FAIR** will be held next **Sunday 9th. December** from **10.30a.m. to 2p.m.** in the **Parish Centre.** **SANTA** will be there to meet all of the children!

## What's On!



**December 5th.** "Advent. A season of Joy" - a Lectio Divina prayer meeting, organised by Ballynafeigh Clergy Fellowship, from **7p.m. to 8p.m.**, in the **Good Shepherd Parish Centre.** All are welcome!

**December 8th. Stormont Rosary For Life at Parliament Buildings** (Main Gates) at **3p.m.** For more information contact the **Rosary Crusade for Ireland** Tel. **9027 8484.**

**December 12th. Anam Cara** hosts a **Parent Evening** at **7.20p.m.** in the **Crowne Plaza Hotel, Shaw's Bridge.** All bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not will be most welcome.

**August 15th. Down & Connor Diocesan Pilgrimage To Fatima.** 7 nights full board: £715. Discount of £100 if paid in full by December 14th. Contact **Joe Catney** Tel. **9071 4001** or **07776 25631.**