

Parish Bulletin



PARISH OF
HOLY ROSARY

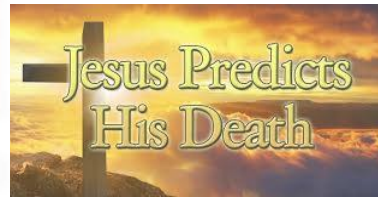


PARISH OF
ST BERNADETTE

Unless a grain of wheat



falls into the earth
and dies, it remains
just a single grain;
but if it dies,
it bears much fruit.



Cycle B Psalter Week 1
Sunday 21st March 2021

SUNDAY MASSES (ONLINE ONLY)

St Bernadette's Parish Vigil 6.00pm & 11am
Holy Rosary Parish 9am, 10.30am & 12.30pm

Weekday Mass Times (ONLINE ONLY)

St Bernadette's Parish: Mon, Tues & Wed 9.30am
Holy Rosary Parish: Thurs, Fri & Sat 10am

Given the current public health emergency the [Dispensation from the Obligation to attend Mass](#) has been extended UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. The faithful are encouraged, but not required, to attend Sunday Mass whenever possible or to participate in live-streamed Parish Masses offered online.

Visit www.stbernadettesparish.org and Click on "Watch Live" for St Bernadette's Parish.

www.holyrosaryparishbelfast.net for Holy Rosary Parish and click on the webcam

Church Opening Times for Private Prayer

St. Bernadette's Parish: Mon, Tues, Wed 10am-12pm
Holy Rosary Parish: Thur, Fri, Sat 10.30am-12pm

Our Faithful Departed

Recently Deceased

Patricia Sheehan, Lily Fitzsimmons, Ita Keane, Betty Mulvenna (Fri 10am),

Anniversaries: Fr Tom Hamill, Rita McCann, Moya Leyden.

St Bernadette's Bethany Bereavement Support Group ☎
07733773758

Holy Rosary Bethany Bereavement Support Group ☎
07818090323

To book a Baptism:

St Bernadette's Parish: ☎ parish office 02890793023 Option 1 or email stbernadettes@downandconnor.org

Holy Rosary Parish: ☎ parish office 02890642446 Option 2 or email holyrosary@downandconnor.org

Under the current health restrictions, the Diocesan recommendation for those who may attend is parents, child, and godparents only.

Weekly Offering 14th March: £612

Standing Order & PayPal Contributions will be given at the end of the month. Many thanks to all those who have been able to contribute to the parish finances through a standing order, PayPal, the Donate Button, or parish envelopes.

We recognise that this is a time of financial worry for many, and for that reason giving to the parish should be secondary to your own needs.

WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES 2021-2022

The new Weekly Offering Envelopes for 2021-22 are now ready for collection and distribution. Boxes can be collected from the sacristy during the times for private prayer and when the church reopens for public worship.



We would also be grateful if parishioners could help us deliver the new envelope boxes throughout the parish. Please contact the Parish Office or sacristy. Many thanks in anticipation.

A number of parishioners have chosen to contribute to the Parish through Standing Order, especially in these times when many are unable to come to church. If you wish to change from using envelopes to a Standing Order, a form is available from the Parish office, simply e-mail stbernadettes@downandconnor.org or ring 02890793023 (option 1).

SVP: Many thanks to parishioners for your continued generosity, especially through these difficult times. Donations may be left at either of the Parochial houses in Holy Rosary and St Bernadette's Parishes. For St Bernadette's Parish donations can be made online at www.Svpni.co.uk or telephone 02890750161 or on their own dedicated giving site which can be accessed <https://www.svp.ie/stbernadettessouthandeastbelfastappeal> If you require assistance, please telephone SVP Regional Office 02890351561 and you will be directed to your local SVP Conference. Holy Rosary Parish helpline **07512605759**

STATEMENT BY THE NORTHERN BISHOPS

- *Bishops in the North announce a cautious return to public worship for the faithful from Friday 26th March, in time for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter.*
- *Bishops emphasise the need for continued caution and a rigorous application of all mitigations and safeguards required to ensure the safest possible return to public worship in our Churches.*
- *Every person should consider carefully if returning to collective worship is the safe and appropriate step for them, at this time. Families are encouraged to join those celebrating the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus in Churches, from the 'domestic church' of their own living rooms, via live streaming.*
- *Bishops, together with other Church leaders, encourage all on Easter Sunday to pray and reflect in a spirit of remembering, solidarity, and hope in the context of the current pandemic.*

The Annunciation of Our Lord (Mar. 25th)

"For the story of Jesus to be told, it needs more than God's word to be spoken, it also needs the human word to say yes. In the annunciation Luke shows us that the God who chooses Mary must wait on Mary's own response. The love that offers itself is the love that must wait. Even God has to wait for women. Even God needs permission from mothers-to-be if his saving plan is to go ahead. That is why there are two annunciations: God's annunciation to Mary and Mary's annunciation to God. God's best plans can only happen when there is human co-operation, when God's word and our word come together. When those two annunciations come together, God's word always becomes flesh."

(Denis McBride, Waiting on God)



A Personal Penitential Prayer in preparation for Easter 2021

Easter is the most important feast in the Christian year. Many prepare for this feast by the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance. Confession to a priest is an essential part of the Sacrament of Penance, but because of the restrictions caused by the pandemic, it is not possible to celebrate the Sacrament at this time. What are we to do? Pope Francis has spoken about this situation. He reminds us that the confessor is not the master of God's forgiveness, but its servant. Only God forgives sin and God, who is the Father of tenderness, waits for the return of the sinner, and always welcomes with a loving embrace - God's forgiveness is immediate! In our present uniquely difficult situation, when it is not possible to come to the Church for Confession, speak to God from your heart; acknowledge truthfully what you have done or failed to do. Then, with all your heart, ask forgiveness with a sincere Act of Sorrow, confident that God always forgives the contrite. Later, when Covid-19 has released its grip, we can return to the Church and avail of Confession and celebrate the forgiveness that has been so freely given. A Penitential Prayer in preparation for Easter will be made available on the parish website next weekend. You may find this helpful.

Trocaire Boxes can be collected from & returned to the church. We would be grateful if you would change your coins into notes due to covid restrictions. Many thanks for your co-operation. You can also donate directly to the Lenten campaign through the Trócaire website www.trocaire.org Through the UK Aid Match Programme the UK government will match donations given by May 16th.



SEASON OF LENT

HOLY WEEK

Details of Holy Week Liturgies will be included in next week's bulletin.

The Season of Lent



- **Morning Prayer from the Divine Office** before Mass beginning at 9.15am in St. Bernadette's Church (Mon-Wed) and at 9.45am in Good Shepherd Church (Thurs-Sat).
- **Night Prayer of the Church** each Monday evening from the Good Shepherd Church at 8.30pm
- **Stations of the Cross for children** each Tuesday at 12 noon from the Good Shepherd Church Webcam
- **Stations of the Cross each Friday** at 12 noon from St. Bernadette's Church Webcam

Holy Rosary Parish invites you to **Lectio Divina** on Zoom on Tuesdays at 8pm in Lent. Whoever is interested can contact Michael on 07710585105 or on michael.mcloughlin2@ntlworld.com.

Walking With Jesus Via The Dolorosa: You are invited to continue on this Spiritual Lenten Journey by linking into <https://youtu.be/NgPGPrZtGsg> There is also a direct link to the programme on both parish websites. It can be accessed at any time.