



Parish of St. Bernadette



Second Sunday of Advent (C) 9th. December 2018. Vol.16 No. 15

www.stbernadettesparish.org e-mail: 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

First Reading (Baruch 5:1-9) Restoration following exile is promised for God's people. Consolation is offered to Jerusalem, the Holy City, with the assurance that her desolation will be no more. The exiles will return, guided by God and being shaded and sheltered by him along the way. A chastened people, whose infidelity had caused exile, will live now in a peace born of honour and integrity. Tradition held that Baruch, presented as delivering this message of hope, had been a scribe or secretary to Jeremiah.

Second Reading (Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11) Words of both encouragement and challenge here for the Christian community at Philippi. The 'Day of Christ', or final coming, is uppermost in Paul's mind. Between now and then the Philippians have much to strive after, and that will include 'improving' their knowledge and 'deepening' their perception of what the call to discipleship involves. Paul shows real affection for this community and obviously has high hopes for them.

Gospel Reading (Luke 3:1-6) John the Baptist emerges in these opening lines of Luke's third chapter. This prominent figure from the infancy narratives now finds his proper place in the unfolding story of salvation. John, in fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy, is the one who finally prepares the way for the coming of the Messiah. John can be seen as a link between the world of the prophets and the advent of Christ. His baptism is symbolic of the call to repentance which is central to his ministry of preparation. The background detail gives his ministry a concrete date and moment of history. ©Intercom



Reflection

Although our own Baptism was something which may have taken place a long time ago, as an infant or as an adult, what happened then has constantly to be renewed. We need to re-affirm our commitment to the Christian community, to the Body of Christ, through which we go to God and through which our God comes to us. ©1999- 2018 Living Space



Festival of Carols

"Carols By Candlelight" with readings & reflections will take place next **Sunday 16th. December at 6.30p.m.** with the **Folk Choir, Parish Choir,** and guest soloists.

As a Parish family, we come together to meditate on the events leading up to the birth of Our Saviour in a serene and peaceful atmosphere. Please make a special effort to attend with your family and friends.

The "Do This In Memory Of Me"

Programme for children, who are to receive their **First Holy Communion** next May, continues next **Sunday** at the **10a.m. Mass.** Please remember the children in your prayers.

Reflections on the daily **Mass** readings during **Advent** are available at the back of the church. It only takes a few moments to read them each day. Anything which helps to direct our minds to a spiritual preparation for the Nativity of Our Lord is more than worthwhile.

Our Faithful Departed



Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Finn McCann R.I.P.**, the brother of a Parishioner, whose funeral will take place in Larne on Monday, and for **Fr. Christopher Nellis R.I.P.**, Parish Priest of Armoay, whose funeral took place on Tuesday.

Anniversaries

Patrick McLarnon, Mary McGarvey, Peggy Mossey, Bridie Murtagh, Nellie O'Neill, Irene Maguire.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest.

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

Preparing for Christmas



The **Parish Penitential Service** will be held on **Wednesday 19th. December at 7.30p.m.**

Penitential Services in neighbouring Parishes will take place as follows:

Monday 17th. December - Holy Rosary at 7.30p.m.

Thursday 20th. December - Drumbo at 7.30p.m.

Sunday 23rd. December - St. Brigid's at 4p.m.

Christmas Eve : Vigil Mass for Families at 7p.m.

Midnight Mass at 10p.m. with the **Adult Choir.**

Christmas Day Masses: 9.30a.m. & 11a.m. The **Folk Choir** invites all of the children of the Parish to sing with them at the **11a.m. Mass.**



Parish Collections

Last week's collection amounted to **£1,675**. Sincere thanks for your generosity.

The second collection, which was announced for this weekend for the **World Meeting of Families 2018** held in Dublin, has been postponed and will be held at a later date.



Retirement Association

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

Everyone is welcome!

Thursday 13th. December - Weekly Walk. Meet in the church car park at 10.15a.m.

Friday 14th. December - Ten Pin Bowling at the Ice Bowl, Dundonald from 10.30 - 11.30a.m. Concession rate £2 per game.



Living Youth

Advent – What Is It Really About? Our Advent Programme for Parishioners who are in Year 10 or above continues in **Holy Rosary Parish Centre** on **Wednesday 12th., & 19th. December** at 4p.m.

Youth Alpha for ages 16-19 concludes this **Sunday** in **St. Joseph's Parish Centre** from 7p.m. until 9p.m.



Coffee Morning

The P4 children of St. Bernard's P.S. will host a Coffee Morning in the **Parish Centre** after 10a.m. **Mass** next Sunday. All proceeds to the **Children's Cancer Unit Charity** and their '**Erin the Elf Campaign**' featuring **Erin Donnelly** from P4 who was successfully treated at the Unit last year. Please come along and show your support for a brave and inspirational girl. Lots of nice treats for everyone to enjoy! All are welcome!



Parish Centre News

For information & bookings: Tel. 9079 3023 Option 3 or e-mail: 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. *Last session before the Christmas break!*

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.

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 16th. December

Group 10.

500 Club



Week 12: Congratulations to the lucky winners in the Weekly Draw: **Ita Maguire & Kieran McConville**.

Each receives £50

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 this 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 this **Sunday** 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 9th. St. Peter's Cathedral Schola Cantorum sing **Carols by Candlelight** at 4.30p.m. in the Cathedral. Attended parking available. Everyone will be made most welcome!

December 12th. "Advent. A season of Joy" - a Lectio Divina prayer meeting, organised by Ballynafeigh Clergy Fellowship, in **St. John's Presbyterian Church** from 7p.m. to 8p.m. All are welcome!

December 13th. Live Christmas Crib at **St. Mary's Grotto** from 10a.m. to 5p.m. until Sunday 6th. January. This year animals are kindly provided by the Irish Donkey association. There will be a baby donkey in the crib. Carol singers daily at 2p.m. & 5 p.m. Proceeds to the Mill Hill Missionaries working in Sudan.

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.