



Parish Newsletter

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 27 January 2019
Cycle C | Issue 09



WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

In Ireland, the custom of 'slagging' has become an art form. It sounds like an insult – but this ridiculing of a person is a measure of how much you like them! Last Sunday we had the Cana Gospel and Cana village is only a few miles from Nazareth. 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth' – one Cana citizen (Nathanael) asked. And the answer is yes ... Jesus came out of Nazareth. At the time Nazareth was a tightly knit community of about 30 families, and we can only speculate

at how stifling that could be. Small may be beautiful but it can also have a lot of turmoil simmering beneath the surface of civility. In Ireland everything and everyone has to fit in – there are all sorts of invisible 'hard borders' drawn up between outsider and insider. People can bury their true identity and nature in small places, where smallness of thinking can match the environment.

Yes, it was in exactly such a Nazareth that Jesus was raised, attended

Today's Readings



Nehemiah 8:2-6.8-10
Psalm 18:8-10.15
1 Corinthians 12:12-30
Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Next Sunday's Readings



Jeremiah 1:4-5.17-19
Psalm 70:1-6.15-17
1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13
Luke 4:21-30

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synagogue 'as he usually did' (Gospel), recited Torah and learned on his mother's knee how to pray. It was in Nazareth in what one called the 'hidden years', from his infancy to adulthood, that he increased in wisdom and stature and in divine and human favour. Nazareth marked the very identity of Jesus. He was called 'Jesus of Nazareth' by crowds and demons – even over the cross it read 'Jesus of Nazareth – King of the Jews.' In all truth, you can say that Jesus – the greatest gift the world has ever received, in his turn received the gift of his own rural community.

Last September, it was announced that the first National Community Day will take place on the bank holiday Monday of May 2019. The idea is to celebrate the great spirit of community and to

gather communities together, to get to know each other and deepen their links. For some people, rural communities are seen only as exits named on the motorway sign, pretty to pass through but not a place to stay and linger in.

There is a beauty in all our Nazareths – our home places, not perfect by any means but each of them an incubator of the sign of God's presence in our world. They can be beautiful images of what Christ's Church can still become in and through us and all our modern-day Nazareths. For even today the Gospel text is 'being fulfilled even as you listen.'

– Tom Cox

Reflection

Who is Jesus? What does Jesus mean now?

Lesson

Only God's Word (which became visible in Jesus) is the good news of salvation.

Prayer

Help us, Lord Jesus, to remain faithful to the Gospel, to the word of God which remains for ever. Help us, too, to realise that your word is alive and active.

"The welfare of the family is decisive for the future of the world and that of the Church."

– Pope Francis

This Week (28 Jan–3 February)

- 28 Mon** St Thomas Aquinas, priest and doctor
- 29 Tue** St Gildas the Wise, monk
- 30 Wed** St Hyacinthe Mariscotti, St Aidan
- 31 Thur** St John Bosco, priest
- 1 Fri** St Brigid, abbess, Patroness of Ireland
- 2 Sat** THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
- 3 Sun** FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





St. Anthony's Parish, Belfast

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Henry McCann (and Chaplain to the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald)
 3 Willowfield Crescent, BT6 8HP. Tel. 028 90458158. Mobile 07740603643.
Email: h.mccann@downandconnor.org, stanthonys@downandconnor.org,
 henrymccann@hotmail.com, **Website:** www.saintanthony.co.uk
MASS TIMES & SERVICES (UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED):
 Saturday Evening at 6.30pm. (English Parish Mass)
 Sunday Morning (in Polish): 9.30am, 1pm & 7pm. (English Parish Mass): 11.30am
 Weekdays: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday at 9.30am. Friday at 7.00pm.
 Wednesday: Communion Service discontinued until further notice (Day off)
 Holy Days of Obligation: Vigil Mass at 7.00pm & Morning of Feast Day 09.30am
 Confessions: Before each Mass and By Arrangement.
 Baptisms: Saturdays at 4pm (3 weeks notice required)



THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR—YEAR C

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS
 Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

1. The scene in the synagogue marks the launch of the public ministry of Jesus in Luke. Read the quotation from Isaiah slowly. Reflect on each line carefully. Which of these images captures something of what Jesus and his message has meant for you?
2. Jesus was filled with the Spirit and sent. He came bursting with a message to communicate. When have you had the experience of being enthused by something in that way? Who have been the people you met who had that kind of enthusiasm?
3. His message was addressed to those who were poor, oppressed, blind, or captives. Who are these today? In what ways have you been, or are you, among these? How has the message of Jesus been good news for you, freed you, given you new sight, or revealed God's favour to you?
4. The message Jesus had was one of liberation and he told his listeners that it was being fulfilled even as they listened. It is being fulfilled even as we hear it now. If this does not resonate with you right now, when has the gospel given you an experience of liberation?

John Byrne OSA. Email jphyrneosa@gmail.com

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Anniversaries: John O'Connor, John Higney, Claire Burke (nee Kelly), Eileen & James Irvine, Patrick Gunn, Jim & Kathleen McCann, James McDonnell, Mary Riordan, Brigid & John Rooney, Ernie Young (Sat 26th at 6:30pm), Michael Gallagher (Sun 27th at 11:30am), Brigid Murray (Thurs 7th Feb at 9:30am), Michael Gallagher Jnr (Sun 10th Feb at 11:30am), Mary Hughes (Sun 24th Feb at 11:30am)

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 27th January

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Wright
 Morning Mass: Loretta Watson & Kathryn Curran

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Stephen Murphy
 Morning Mass: James Henderson

Sun 3rd February

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Anthony Clifford
 Morning Mass: Tracy Mallon & Kay Dunn

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Frank Doherty
 Morning Mass: Séamus Monaghan



COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to

last week's collections: Living Youth £363.49, Weekly Collection £396.50, Monthly Stipend £15, Shrines £87.24.

Catholic Schools Week 2019. Catholic Schools Week will run from 27th January to 3rd February 2019. The theme of this year's Catholic Schools Week is Catholic Schools: Celebrating the Work of Our Local Catholic Schools. The themes for the individual days very much describe the faith life of a Catholic school.

Feast of Candlemas (Presentation of the Lord), Saturday 2nd of February. Candles for use in home or church are normally blessed on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. If you would like to order candles, they are 2 for £1. Please put your names on the sheet provided. Mass will be celebrated on Sat at 10am.

BBC Radio Ulster Broadcast Mass. Last Summer Rev. Bert Tosh, director of Religious Broadcasting asked if the parish would be available for a Radio Broadcast Mass, but it had to be post-poned. As part of the 80th Year of Celebrations there will be a Mass on Sun 3rd March at 10:15am. More details later.

Diocesan Vocation Weekend. "Ask Jesus what he wants from you and be brave!" (Pope Francis) Why not take time to explore and reflect on becoming a priest. Join us at the Vocations Weekend in Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne from Friday 15 – Sunday 17 February 2019. If you wish to attend this weekend or would like further information contact: Fr. Kevin

Tel: 02890614567; Email: vocations@downandconnor.org.

Oberammergau Passion Play fully escorted tour ex Dublin 22nd August 2020 - 7 days. (play performed only every 10 years). Visiting Innsbruck Salzburg and Lake Constance. Price includes daily tours, tickets for the Passion Play and dinner/bed and breakfast at the hotels. £2049pp twin sharing (single room supplement £295) Limited availability. DEPOSIT £200pp. Contact Marie or Paul Downe Travel - tel. 02844 613288 or email marie@downetravel.co.uk

St. Brigid's Day Lecture 2019, given by Bishop Alan McGuckian, S.J. "DISCERNING DISCIPLES: POPE FRANCIS ON PRAYER", in St. Brigid's Parish Centre 38 Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast, on Thursday, 31st January 2019 at 7.30pm.

Thinking about volunteering in 2019? Parkinson's' UK currently have a variety of volunteer roles on offer. We have roles that require just a couple of hours of your time per month, home based roles and roles where you can help decide priorities within your local area. So, whether you thrive in a group environment or enjoy making strategic decisions in a small team, please call Emma McKeown on 0797 686 6649 for a no obligation chat to kick start your volunteering journey or email emckeown@parkinsons.org.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

30th Anniversary 'Homegrown' Concert celebrating the work of TinyLife, the premature baby charity. Friday 1st March 2019 at 8 pm in Clonard Monastery, Belfast. Artists include the cream of Northern Ireland talent: The Priests, Karl McGuckin, Malachi Cush, Andrea Begley, Eimear McGeown, Niamh Perry, St Dominics Grammar School Choir & Special Guest Phil Coulter. Tickets £20 available from Clonard office, TinyLife office (Bloomfield Avenue) tel: 02890 815050 or online www.buytickets.at/tinylife.

Trócaire Volunteers: 'How marvellous it would be at the end of the day each of us could say: today, I have performed an act of charity towards others'. Pope Francis. Trócaire is looking for volunteers in the Diocese of Down and Connor to bring social justice alive in their parishes. For more information contact Maria in Trócaire at 028 90808036 or email maria.kane@trocaire.org.

Fr James Keenan SJ, Professor of Moral Theology in Boston, will deliver a talk on "What's so Good about Virtue Ethics?" in the Holy Rosary (Good Shepherd) Parish Centre, 511 Ormeau Road, Belfast BT7 3GS, on Wednesday, 6th February at 7.30pm. All welcome to attend and Car Parking is available in the grounds of the Centre.

4 Corners Festival Belfast. This inter-denominational festival aimed at promoting reconciliation runs from January 30 to February 10. It consists of more than 20 events throughout Belfast, including a concert in St Peter's Cathedral and a talk at Clonard Monastery. The theme is "Scandalous Forgiveness" and the intention is to promote discussion about the role of forgiveness in our divided society through music, prayer and discussion. The keynote speaker is Fr Gregory Boyle, a Jesuit priest who has devoted his life to rehabilitating ex-gang members in Los Angeles. The Festival was co-founded in 2012 by Catholic priest, Fr Martin Magill and Presbyterian minister, Rev Steve Stockman. The events are free and further details can be found at the website 4cornersfestival.com.

Pilgrimage to Rome/San Giovanni 15th / 22nd April Easter 2019 with Papal Ceremonies in Rome for the Easter Period 7 nights €995 pps Payments can be made in instalments. Contact James Treacy on 061921470 or 0860572216.

Bredagh GAC would like to thank all those who supported and contributed to their recent fundraising events. The 5K Santa Run raised £750 for St Vincent de Paul to benefit those in need in the community and the GOAL mile on Christmas morning helped to raise £2025 for the GOAL charity. The awards dinner raised £1440, which has been donated to St Johns GAC to support one of their players undergoing treatment for a rare form of cancer. Relay teams for the Belfast Marathon are currently being organised to raise funds for the Children's Cancer Unit charity. If interested in participating in either relay or whole marathon please contact 07552164004 to register your interest.

Parish Safeguarding. Can you please ensure that all Children and Vulnerable Adults are accompanied at all times when entering the Sacristy / Toilet facilities. If you have any queries regarding the Safeguarding Policy please contact a member of the Parish Safeguarding Committee. Many Thanks. Fr Henry McCann PP.