

Parish Newsletter



13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 1 July 2018
Cycle B | Issue 31

FAITH THAT LEADS TO ACTION

THE Gospel this Sunday is probably one of the most relatable stories regarding women's health at the time of Jesus. We don't know her name, but we know her situation – 'suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years', 'under various doctors', 'spent all she had', and 'got worse'. It's hard to get across how isolating, humiliating and impoverishing her chronic haemorrhaging was for that woman at that time. So I'll spell out

the implications of a chronic menstrual problem. Sexually, she could not touch her husband. Maternally, she could not bear children. Socially, anything she touched was considered unclean – even a dish she washed or a floor she swept. Spiritually, she could not enter synagogue or temple. She was at the end of her tether.

And here was Jesus on his way to Jairus – easily the most important man in the

Today's Readings



Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24
Psalm 29:2,4-6,11-13
2 Corinthians 8:7,9,13-15
Mark 5:21-43

Next Sunday's Readings



Ezekiel 2:2-5
Psalm 122:1-4
2 Corinthians 12:7-10
Mark 6:1-6

community, and this physically drained and socially isolated woman took a risk. By touching him, she had to touch others – if just one of them recognised her, it was curtains. She had no money, no clout, no friends, no solutions and possibly no husband who might have divorced her – as many did in these health situations at the time. She had

We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, spread love. Be poor among the poor. We need to include the excluded and preach peace.

– Pope Francis

a gut instinct that Jesus could help. Maybe it was more superstition than faith, but what I like is that Jesus took her at her level. We have often seen

Reflection

Single out jairus and the suffering woman. Follow in your imagination their different ways of coming to Jesus and notice what you feel.

Lesson

Both stories reveal the greatness of the power of Jesus and yet so available to people with faith in God.

Prayer

Lord, strengthen our trust in you. Reach out your healing hand and deliver us from all our afflictions.

people touch statues and use just about anything to touch healers and sacred items, believing it would heal and protect them. Faith is surely an evolving thing – whatever way people encounter the Lord is good.

Then Jesus called her, the most isolated woman of all, the most beautiful title of all – ‘daughter’. One lovely tradition has it that she never forgot and followed him from that day onwards even up a steep hill to Calvary – that her name was Veronica. She who had touched his garment, offered him a cloth to wipe his sweat and blood when he fell. She received his healing touch and in his hour of human need, he received hers. We don’t know of course if it was her, but the name Veronica means ‘true icon’ – or a true representation of Christ. Wouldn’t it be great if we took a leaf from her book ... We don’t have to do much but we do have to do something, to touch and be touched in the process. ■

– Tom Cox

This Week (2-8 July)

- 2 **Mon** St Otto of Bamberg, bishop
- 3 **Tue** ST THOMAS, APOSTLE
- 4 **Wed** St Elizabeth of Portugal
- 5 **Thur** St Anthony Zaccaria, priest
- 6 **Fri** St Maria Goretti, virgin and martyr
- 7 **Sat** St Ethelburga; St Maelruain of Tallaght
- 8 **Sun** FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The Parish of St Anthony's is part of the Diocese of Down and Connor and operates in accordance with the Diocesan Privacy Notice, copies of which are available in porch.



St. Anthony's Parish, Belfast

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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)



13th Sunday of Ordinary Time—Year B

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS
Mark 5:21-43

1. Like this woman, have you had the experience of a cure, an improvement, a success, after a long period of nothing happening? What was that like for you? What made the difference? On that occasion was there anything different in you, in others, in the circumstances – something that paved the way for the change or improvement?
2. 'Who touched me?' Jesus asked. It seems a strange request with crowds milling around. Many people brushed against him but the woman made contact in a different way. The same can happen in our relationships. We brush against many people but make real contact only with a few. Who are the people you have touched, and who has touched you? What difference has this made to you and to them?
3. Jesus said to the woman, 'Your faith has made you well'. What difference does it make to you that you have faith? In what ways does your faith make you well?
4. When Jairus asked Jesus to come and cure his daughter, some thought there was no point. Sometimes a situation can look like a lost cause. Has it ever happened to you that subsequent events showed there was hope where you thought there was none?

John Byrne OSA. Email jpb Byrneosa@gmail.com

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Fr Frank Harper, James McGrillen (Funeral St Anthony's, Wed 4th July at 12:30pm)
Anniversaries: Michael Matthews, Isobel & Thomas McGiffin, Patricia McDonnell Nwoga, Rebecca Crilly, Rose McPhillips & Francis McPhillips, Michael & Charlotte Hopkins, Stuart Wright (Sat 30th June at 6:30pm).

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 1st July
READERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Flanagan & Anthony Clifford
Morning Mass: Sarah Corscadden & Margaret Woods

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:
Vigil Mass: Sean Rafferty
Morning Mass: Louis Corscadden

Sun 8th July
READERS:

Vigil Mass: Phyllis McGrillen & Maria Murphy
Morning Mass: Loretta Watson & Kathryn Curran

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:
Vigil Mass: Anne Wright
Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: World Meeting of Families Collection £390.64, Weekly Collection £576.80, Monthly Stipend £23, Shrines £69.02.

Please consider signing a Gift Aid form so that the parish can claim back the Tax from the HMRC on your contributions. Your own Tax is not affected. New boxes of envelopes are available in sacristy. If you would like a box please speak to Fr McCann.

St Anthony's Parish Pastoral Council. Members of new Parish Pastoral Council will be speaking of the new Parish Pastoral Plan to be launched this weekend in English and Polish. A copy of the Plan is available in the church porch. The Parish Pastoral Council committee will be officially installed later in the Summer/Autumn.

St Anthony's 80th Anniversary: This year we celebrate 80 years since the first mass was celebrated in St Anthony's Church. The first meeting looked at various aspects of the celebration. Many thanks to all who attended. An update to the 50th Anniversary Booklet is being sought, and other preparations are in progress. Next meeting: Tues 3rd July 2018 at 7:30pm in Pope John Paul II Room/SVP Room behind the church.

World Meeting of Families – Tickets and Registration. A NEW updated information sheet as to the process of registration for the World

Meeting of Families is available in the Church porch. It includes details as to ticket allocations for the Congress in the RDS, the Festival of Families (Sat 25th Aug in Croke Park), and the Papal Mass (Sun 26th Aug in Phoenix Park). Tickets will be issued online in due course to those who have registered. People who have a disability will be transported via a shuttle service from their coach on arrival to their designated enclosure in Phoenix Park. After the Mass, they will be transported back to their coach. More information is found on the Update Sheet. — The parishes of our Pastoral Community (South Belfast), will provide a number of coaches to transport those interested in going to the Papal Mass (Sunday 26th August), Phoenix Park, Dublin. There will be enough coaches for those who are interested, at a price of £20. You will be kept in contact as to when tickets are made available. To assist with the booking of coaches, please give your name and contact information (email) on the sheet provided at the porch door ASAP.

World Meeting of families - Festival of Families in Croke Park, Saturday 25th August, will soon be released to each diocese. While tickets are limited for this event, it is hoped that a family from every parish in Ireland will be present. Any family who would be interested in attending, please contact Fr McCann ASAP. Family names will be put into a hat for a 'lucky draw'. Once the tickets are available, you will be contacted regarding your allocation before 31st July.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (11-16 July.) There are a few places left on the 5-day pilgrimage. If anyone is interested they should contact the Pilgrimage Office on 028 9064 6040 or email lourdes@downandconnor.org.

Icon Painting Workshop with Theodore Papadopoulos, October 8-13 2018, Knock, Co Mayo, Ireland with the Alexian Brothers Monastery. For more information see www.theodoreicons.com/knock.

National Grandparents Pilgrimage to Knock Sunday Sept 9th 2018. Chief Celebrant Archbishop Jude Thaddeus Okolo, Apostolic Nuncio. See poster in porch.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is for individuals from any faith background (and none), or for cradle Catholics or lapsed, who want to explore and enquire into the catholic faith. It is a weekly series of classes and discussion covering a wide range of aspects of the catholic faith. The weekly sessions last 1hr.30mins A journey of faith exploration and development, it culminates in the reception of the catechumens/candidates into the catholic community at Pentecost, if after their exploration and enquiry into the catholic faith the Holy Spirit inspires them to do so. The RCIA begins at St. Mary's, Chapel Lane on Thursday 18th October 2018. Please contact Anne McCrossan ASAP to arrange a meeting and register. Tel: 02890 320482 or Email Fr Brian McCann: stlukes@downandconnor.org; or Fionnuala E Fionnuala.mclernon@btinternet.com.

Healthcare Pastoral visitors' course 2018: The next course run by the NI Healthcare Chaplains' Association (NIHCA) and Edgehill College will run for 9 weeks beginning Thurs 27th September 2018 from 7.30 - 9.30pm at Edgehill College, Belfast. The course is aimed at lay people who are interested in healthcare pastoral visitation, either within the local church context or within a chaplaincy context, or who already visit healthcare facilities such as hospitals, hospices or residential/nursing homes as part of their church responsibilities. Cost is £75, which includes materials and refreshments each night. For further information and an application form contact: Mrs Kay Irvine, College Administrator, Edgehill Theological College, 9 Lennoxvale, Belfast BT9 5BY. Email: kirvine@edgehillcollege.org Tel. (028) 9066 5870.

First Saturdays Devotion of Reparation as requested by Our Lady of Fatima will take place in the Church of Christ the Redeemer, Lagmore, Belfast, BT17 0TG on Saturday 7th July: Sacrament of Reconciliation from 8.30am; Rosary at 9.00am; Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 9.30am; Meditation on the Mysteries of the Rosary at 10.00am (for fifteen minutes).

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 PP.