

# Parish Newsletter

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 28 JULY 2019  
Cycle C | Issue 35

## PRAY ALWAYS

**A**t first glance our readings today present prayer as hard work. Abraham engages in a lengthy negotiation with God to get what he wants. Jesus tells people to be persistent, keep on asking, knocking at God's door. It makes prayer sound like an energy-sapping exercise. Yet that suggests that God needs to be badgered for us to get an answer to our prayers. The model of prayer proposed by Jesus himself suggests otherwise.

When you pray, say 'Abba' (Our Father). That is not a formal address, but an intimate greeting to one whose love we trust. A friend of mine told me about visiting a bed-bound invalid. When he said to her that she had plenty of time for prayer she said: 'I cannot say prayers like I used to. When I start and say "Our Father" I am overwhelmed by the thought that I can address God like that. I get no further. I lie here in awe at the love God has shown me.'

### Today's Readings



Genesis 18:20-32  
Psalm 137:1-3, 6-8  
Colossians 2:12-14  
Luke 11:1-13

### Next Sunday's Readings



Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23  
Psalm 89:3-6, 12-14, 17  
Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11  
Luke 12:13-21

Jesus wants us to start our prayer by bringing to mind that we are praying to a God who loves us. He then prompts us to move on, not by listening to our requests but praying, 'may your kingdom come'. God's kingdom is the kingdom of love. We ask God to tune us in to what he wants, trusting that what God wants is what is best for us. We do not bargain with God, but we ask God to help us to desire what is best for us.

And then we follow this up with asking God 'give us this day our daily bread' – give us the resources we need. We pray that God will give us the energy, generosity, determination, health and other resources to be fully alive, so that we may flourish and be a source of enrichment for others.

Knowing our human frailty, we know in all honesty, that we will at times fall short of our aim to be loving. We ask God to forgive us and, at the same

time, express our willingness to forgive others whose love of us has sometimes been lacking and who have hurt us.

And Jesus urges us to end our prayer with a plea not to be put to the test, not to be pushed to the point where we lose hope and give up.

This is a prayer that is more than a prayer. It is a recipe for life. It is both a reminder of our priorities and a reminder that God is with us on our journey.

– John Byrne, OSA



## Reflection

Think of the day that lies ahead for you and say 'The Lord's Prayer' slowly. How does it speak to what you have to do?



## Lesson

Think of the love that God has shown us, by letting us be called God's children, and that is what we are. (1 John 3:1)



## Prayer

'I thank you, Lord, for the wonder of my being.' (Ps 139)

## WE ARE CALLED TO TRUST EACH OTHER WITH OURSELVES

Trust is the theme for today and as married couples we are called to trust each other enough to become 'two in one flesh'. We need to listen sensitively to one another and to share our innermost thoughts, feelings, hopes, dreams, joys, sorrows, worries and anxieties in such a way that we might both be fully human and fully alive.

MARRIAGE MATTERS  
([www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk](http://www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk))



## This Week (29 July–4 August)

- 29 **Mon** St Martha
- 30 **Tue** St Peter Chrysologus, bishop and doctor
- 31 **Wed** St Ignatius of Loyola, priest
- 1 **Thur** St Alphonsus Liguori, bishop and doctor
- 2 **Fri** St Eusebius of Vercelli
- 3 **Sat** St Germanus of Auxerre, bishop
- 4 **Sun** 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ST PAULS is an activity of the Priests and Brothers of the Society of St Paul who proclaim the Gospel through the media of social communications. Tel: 01-6285933 PN35C

# 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)



## 17th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Luke 11:1-13

1. In the prayer Jesus gave us as a model, the focus is not on getting God to do what we want, but on trying to be open to what God wants: 'Your kingdom come.' That openness implies a trust that what God wants for us is our good. When have you found that it was good for you to take life as it comes, trusting that the Spirit was with you no matter what happened?

2. One of the points in the parable of the friend knocking at the door, is that in the case of true friendship it will not be necessary to browbeat the friend into giving what you seek. Recall times when you had a friend who gave willingly and readily. What was it like to have such a generous and willing response? Perhaps you can also recall when you have been that kind of a friend to others.

3. In the culture of the Middle East, hospitality is a priority. It would be unimaginable not to help a friend. Just so, it is unimaginable that God will ignore our prayer. When you think of the reliability of God, what are the images that you find helpful and that encourage you to persist in prayer? John Byrne OSA. Email jpb Byrneosa@gmail.com

### WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Canon Bernard Magee PE CC, (The Month's Mind Mass will be held in St Malachy's Church, Castlewellan on Sunday 4 August @ 11.00am.), Eileen Ferguson, Kyle Bradshaw, Fr Philip Dunlea CSSR

Anniversaries: Stuart Wright, James McGrillen, Jean O'Connor, Elizabeth, Paul and Vince Spiers (Sat 27th July at 6:30pm), Dan Gallagher (Sun 28th July at 11:30am), Bobby McParland (Sat 3rd August at 6:30pm), Mick Gibney (Sun 4th Aug at 11:30am), Thomas & Isobel McGiffin (Sun 11th Aug at 11:30am), Brenda Gunn (Sun 18th at 11:30am).

### READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 28th July

READERS:

Easter Vigil Mass: Clodagh Doyle  
Morning Mass: Martina McCrory & Eileen Dunn

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Anne Wright  
Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

Sun 21st July

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Anthony Clifford  
Morning Mass: Suzanne Hopkins & Margaret Woods

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Stephen Murphy  
Morning Mass: James Henderson

**COLLECTIONS:** Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Diocesan Pastoral Services £364.78, Weekly collection £275.50, Shrines £67.77

**Food Bank.** It is suggested that since a lot of the recipients are of Asian extraction, that less pasta should be donated and more rice donated. AND ALSO the food bank is for nutritional food and there are 6 bags of Tea! We ask you to think of foods that are nutritional.

**Collection for Fr Krzysztof Sanda Schr.** Fr Krzysztof will be saying his last masses at St Anthony's on Sunday 1st September, before taking up his new placement in Boston, Lincolnshire. He will be replaced by Fr Wlodzimierz Dzduch Schr. There are collection envelopes available in the porch for a collection to be taken up before August 18th. I trust you will help show our appreciation for his work here.

**Making a Killing.** Join Trócaire for their annual talk at Féile an Phobail. Making a Killing: holding corporations to account for land and human rights violations. Speakers include Caoimhe De Barra, Trócaire's CEO. Thursday 8th August | 7pm | St. Mary's University College. For more information +44 (0) 28 90 808 841

**Free Event, promoted by Shalom World: Jesus Heals.** Holy Mass, Preaching, Healing Adoration. Celebrant Fr Jilto George CMI, Shalom Director of Retreats. 2 events coming up in August 2019 in Down and Connor. Both Venue times: 6:30pm - 9:30pm.

Thurs 8th August - St Colmille's Church, 191a Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3JB

Mon 12th August - St Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Whitehouse, 305 Shore Road, Belfast, BT37 9RY.

Programme includes: Divine Mercy Chaplet, Holy Mass, Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration, Individual Anointing of Holy Oil, Finishing with Eucharistic Blessing. You are invited to join us at this Mass and experience Jesus' healing touch for the body, mind and soul! Contact Jacinta 07756 225114, or Roshni 07737 230680.

### Holy Land and Fatima Pilgrimages:

Special Belfast Christmas Pilgrimage to the Holy Land €1,795.

Special Belfast Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 31st October for Halloween 8 nights €1,685 (taking in Bethlehem, Jerusalem Mount Tabor, Cana, Nazareth, Jericho, River Jordan, Dead Sea and Sea of Galilee).

Special Belfast Fatima Pilgrimage for Miracle of the Sun on 13th October €759 (prayers, Mass and Hungarian Stations of the Cross in Fatima). Contact James Treacy 00353 860572216 (all ex Dublin)

**Priory Institute 2019 Online Summer School.** Paul: The Radical Gospel. A two-week online course will begin again on 12th August. One lecture per day. Cost 80. To enrol today email enquiries@prioryinstitute.com, or see www.prioryinstitute.com, or phone +3531 4048124.

**Marie Curie Hospice Belfast invites you to attend our Summer Fete, 1a Kensington Road, Belfast, BT5 6NF, Sunday 18th August 2019, 12noon-4pm.** Refreshments, Nurses Cake stand, face-painting, Tombola Stalls, Crafts.

**Golden Rose Pilgrimages.** 10 day Lenten Pilgrimage to The Holy Land, staying in Bethlehem & Tiberias, 11th of March 2020 to 21st of March 2020. Full programme & Spiritual Director. Price: £1,249. For Further Details Please Contact Teresa on 02890 591495 or 07470 304695

**St Vincent De Paul: Clare Lodge, Newcastle.** Why spend Christmas or New Year alone when you can be among friends and have company. Clare Lodge Christmas breaks from 24th December - 27th Dec (accommodation & full board meals) - (single room occupancy £175.00) (Sharing room £145.00). New Year 30th December - 2nd January (accommodation & full board meals) - (single room occupancy £175.00) (sharing room occupancy £145.00). Alternatively, if you just wish to spend the day having Christmas Dinner and Evening Tea or New Year's Dinner & Evening Tea in the company of others for the cost £20.00 (numbers for day visit limited to 20 people). All bookings to be made in advance. For further information and any queries, please contact Clare Lodge Reception on 028 4372 2849 or email clare.lodge@svpni.co.uk. (All special dietary meals catered for via prior arrangement)

**Mary's Meals Annual Walk in support of Mary's Meals, 7th August-15th August,** walking across Ireland and finishing in Knock. Suzanne and Dessie Hopkins, and Margaret Sheppard are joining in this Sponsored Walk and are seeking sponsorships and volunteers along the walk to give our flyers. Please support them. Sponsorship sheets are found in the sacristy and for further information contact Suzanne 07825449133

**The Youth 2000 Summer Festival** will be held from 15th - 18th August, at the Clongowes Wood College, Co. Kildare. The Youth 2000 Summer Festival is both Youth 2000's largest event and the largest Catholic youth event in Ireland with over 1,000 attending. There are free buses going from all around Ireland. For more information and to book your place visit <http://youth2000.ie/>

**Protecting Our Unborn Children.** Talk by Dr. Anne McCloskey in Glen Community Complex, 41 Suffolk Road, Wednesday 7th August at 7pm. Everyone welcome.

**The Legion of Mary Annual Young Adult Catholic Conference** takes place in All Hallows College, Dublin on Saturday August 31st and Sunday September 1st 2019. This is a fantastic weekend packed full of interesting events for young Catholics. Prices range from €25-€50, accommodation also available. For further details visit our website <http://www.legionofmary-deusetpatria.com/> or contact Lucy 087 9959803.

**National Centre for Liturgy Course on Pastoral Liturgy and Ministry** offers to parishes four modules: What, then, is Liturgy?; The Church's Year; Christian Initiation: Order of the Christian Initiation of Adults; Scripture and Liturgy - Ministers, Proclamation, Books. These modules will provide training for those who may be called upon to undertake roles of leadership in parishes, cluster of parishes and deaneries. See Flyers in the Porch.

**PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO MASSES NEXT WEEK.** Next mass Saturday vigil 3rd August at 6:30pm.

**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.