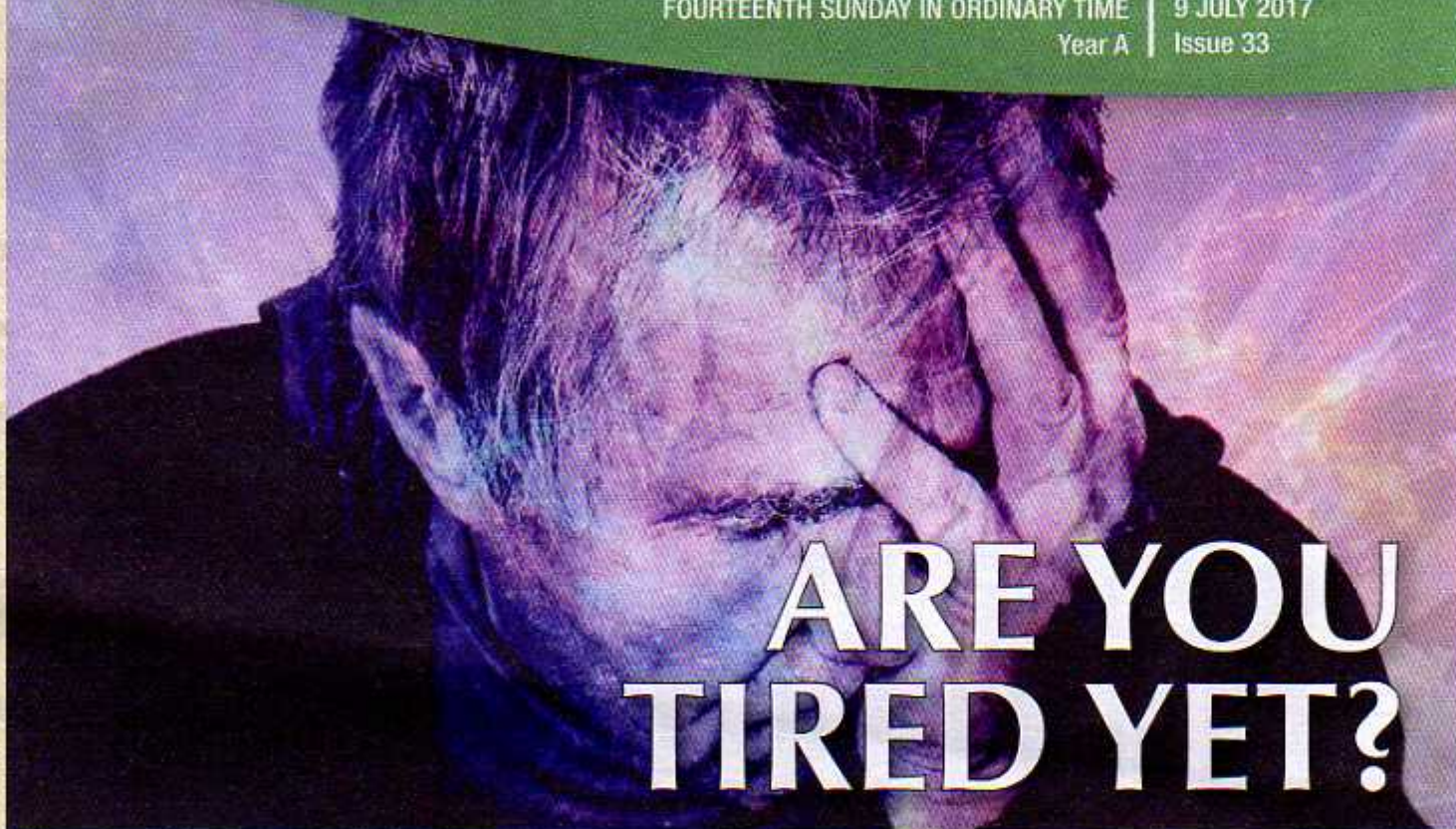


Parish Newsletter



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 9 JULY 2017
Year A | Issue 33



ARE YOU TIRED YET?

The late Fr Liam Ryan in our module on Irish Society and change once mused on how society had become a rat race and asked us young 20-somethings “who exactly wins a rat race?” Somehow it always stayed with me thirty years later. Maybe pride was always our Irish disease and it led us down many a dark alley. Everything had to be perfect. Being as good as the neighbour was never good enough and we always had this restless instinct that there was

something better. We were materially poor but spiritually rich... and now?

In the past it may have been a compulsive religion that became a burden for many of us. But we live in a society where this kind of religion is no longer the norm and we’ve only succeeded in replacing religious compulsion with other burdens. Fear and anger are burdens and we are so afraid and angry about many things. We fear pain or loss or worse. A lot of

Today's Readings



Zechariah 9:9-10
Psalm 144:1-2,8-11,13-14
Romans 8:9,11-13
Matthew 11:25-30

Next Sunday's Readings



Isaiah 55:10-11
Psalm 64:10-14 (Lk 8:8)
Romans 8:18-23
Matthew 13:1-23

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people experience hurt, and anger is a completely natural response to hurt. But anger keeps us miserable and we replay the hurt, like a worn-out tape, over and over again.

Well certainly today, a growing group of people state themselves to be "spiritual but not religious". A rough translation of that is, "I don't really like religion/church but nearly all my belief aligns with a particular faith." So St Paul would be pleased (Second Reading) or would he? Does the evidence mount up? On the surface of things, it can seem that we're incredibly ambiguous about spiritual

matters, first condemning those who are too conservative, then condemning those who are too liberal. But in reality, we're like children who can't make up their minds what they want. People strive to appear wise and clever in a near-competitive sport and to that Jesus says "Thank you for hiding (from them) the truth and revealing it to mere children."

When people are full of self, we can't be selfless, only selfish. Given enough time, energy, money, education and sheer graft we figure we can know everything we need to know. But the truth will remain hidden. Why? Because we will not be childlike, innocent and unknowing. We will not be humble and gentle of spirit. We will not have found rest for our souls.

Today look at your wants – and ask... Are they ever what you really need? "Start where you are, use what you have, do what you can" (Arthur Ashe) ■
– Tom Cox

Reflection

Prayerfully ponder how Jesus desires his own union with God as Abba will be felt by his disciples.

Lesson

Jesus invites us to build his house of love with the rock of gentleness and humility.

Prayer

Jesus, may my labour always be inspired by your teaching and my burden be doing your will.



This Week (10–16 July)

- 10 Mon** St Fortunatus
- 11 Tue** St Benedict, patron of Europe
- 12 Wed** St John Jones, martyr
- 13 Thur** St Henry
- 14 Fri** St Camillus de Lellis, priest
- 15 Sat** St Bonaventure, bishop and doctor
- 16 Sun** FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





St. Anthony's Parish, Belfast

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Henry McCann (and Chaplain to the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald)
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Email: h.mccann@downandconnor.org, stanthony@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)



14th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Matthew 11:25-30

1. For Jesus the key to a personal knowledge of God and relationship with God is not primarily through academic study but through a mind and heart open to learn. Recall moments when you had a sense that your relationship with God took a significant step forward. What kind of dispositions prepared you for that growth?
2. Jesus was dealing with a society in which people were very conscious of status, dignity and external appearances. He wanted to break down the barriers this created so that all would be aware of their worth and dignity. Perhaps you can recall someone who was not highly thought of in human terms, but who was a light to you.
3. In v.27 Jesus lets us into the secret of his relationship with his Father, one of total trust. This trust freed him from anxiety and worry about himself. As a result he was a person of gentle and humble heart and was able to bring rest to those who were overburdened. Recall people whose trust in God enabled them to be supportive to others who were stressed or burdened. Perhaps you have experienced this yourself?
4. Recall and give thanks for people who, like Jesus in the story, were able to combine challenge with sympathetic support and understanding. Perhaps you have been able to do this for others at times also.

John Byrne OSA. Email jbyrneosa@gmail.com

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Anniversaries: James Phoenix, Maureen Lavery, Peggy Mackin, Mark & George Workman, Stuart Wright, Frank McPhillips, Charlotte & Michael Hopkins, Neil Watson (Sat 29th July at 6:30pm).

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 9th July

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Eamon Blancy & Carmel Blancy
Morning Mass: Martina McClory & Kathryn Curran

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Wright
Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

Sun 16th July

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Flanagan & Phyllis McGrillen
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: Monthly Stipend £697.72, Weekly £80, Peter's Pence £15, Shrines €65.31. NEW BOXES OF ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE. If your details have changed, or if you would like to register for a box, please give your details to Fr McCann as soon as possible. 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.

The World Meeting of Families 2018. The launch of a special year of preparation for the World Meeting of Families will take place in Knock, Co. Mayo, on Monday 21 August. Each diocese in Ireland has been asked to nominate one family to take part in the entrance procession of a Mass that will begin at 3pm in the Basilica. If you wish to have the opportunity to represent our Diocese, please contact the parish priest/administrator before 8th July. Your family name and address will be forwarded to the Diocesan Office. During the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (10th - 17th July), all the family names that have been sent in will be placed in a hat. At a gathering of the pilgrims, one of them will then be asked to draw out the name of a family who will represent the Diocese in Knock. The family will be contacted as soon as possible. All the families of the Diocese are invited to attend this special day of family activities in Knock. More details will follow in due course. (Fr Michael McGinnity, Diocesan Representative).

Pastoral Community Forum. As part of the development of pastoral communities within the diocese, each pastoral area is asked to find one volunteer who would work with the parish priest to represent the parish on a Pastoral Community Forum. As yet no one has come forward. If you would like to take part in the South and East Belfast Pastoral Community Forum, please give your name to Fr McCann as soon as possible.

Diploma in Pastoral Theology at Drumalis. Drumalis invites applications for the next intake of the Diploma in Pastoral Theology, validated by St. Patrick's Pontifical College, Maynooth. This intensive, two-year course is delivered over twelve days per year. Course fees are subsidised by the Friends of Drumalis. Please bring this to the attention of parishioners who might benefit from it and who might share those benefits with their parishes. Further information is available on the Drumalis website or by emailing maura@drumalis.co.uk

Course of Training for Old and New Ministers of the Word. The Bishop has asked that the importance and role of Ministry of the Word be enhanced and highlighted as an important calling of the faithful to participate in the life of the Church. There will be an information meeting on Monday 11th September, 7pm, at St. Malachy's Parish Centre. It will provide an opportunity for Ministers of the Word to find out more about the programme and have their questions or concerns addressed. Parishioners who are interested in training to become Ministers of the Word are also welcome to attend this formation programme, but existing members are highly recommended to attend. The cost of running the entire programme will be £40 per person, paid by each parish. This programme (10 sessions), will take place on Monday evenings, 7-9.30pm, (including 30minutes break). The dates for 2017 are as follows:- 25th September, 9th, 23rd, October, 6th, 20th November. The dates for 2018 for the continuation of the course are as follows: - 12th, 26th February, 12th March 9th, 23rd April. Please keep these dates in your diary.

Pilgrimage from Belfast to Rome and Montecassino, celebrating 25th anniversary of Aquinas School, Belfast, Oct 27-31. Angelus with Pope Francis. For details phone Kieran or Laura on 00353 579355050.

Simon Community NI are looking for volunteers to help at a bag pack in Tesco Newtownbreda on Thursday 20 July between the hours of 9 and 6. If you could spare an hour or two to help please contact Amanda on 07818 222 860 or email amandascott@simoncommunity.org. All help would be greatly appreciated.

Volunteer Opportunity. Voice of Young People in Care (VOYPIC) would be keen to recruit volunteers to help with our local fundraising initiatives. For more information contact Geraldine on 028 90 244 888 or by email geraldine.andrews@voypic.org

RCIA stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and is for individuals from any faith background (and none) 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 classes are on Thursday evenings and last 1hr.30mins. RCIA is also for cradle Catholics who want a deeper understanding of their catholic faith and for Catholics who have lapsed from the practice of celebrating their faith and whom God is inviting to come back to him. Ultimately, RCIA is a journey of faith exploration and development, culminating 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. (Catechumen participants are those who were never baptized. Candidate participants are those who were baptized into another faith denomination).

The RCIA programme begins at St. Mary's, Chapel Lane on 5th October 2017. Should you wish to take part, please contact Fr. James Boyle MHM, or Anne McCrossan ASAP to arrange a meeting and register. Tel: 02890 320482
Email: administratorofstmarys@btinternet.com. SEE POSTER IN THIR PORCH.

Lough Derg 2017: You may begin the Three Day Pilgrimage on any day up to and including Sunday 13th August. Advance booking is not necessary.

There are various travel options available countrywide. The Lough Derg team can help you to co-ordinate public transport or link up with Pilgrimage Organisers in your locality. Telephone Maureen or Lorraine on 071 9851518 (from NI 00353 71 9861518). Email: info@loughderg.org www.loughderg.org

CCJ-NI have a new venture starting... FIRST MONDAY STUDY. We have had many comments from members who have enjoyed Rabbi Singer's teaching at different events, so from Monday the 7th August we will be hosting an INTERACTIVE Bible Study on the first Monday of each month at 7:45pm. The topics for these studies will be the application of our faith in our daily lives. August will be titled "Truth through the Psalms". Numbers for these studies will be limited to allow for open discussion and interaction, so registration is a MUST on a first come, first served basis each month. For more information contact Sharon Lough (co-secretary), ccj.belfast@gmail.com, or phone 07925 926685. See poster in Porch.

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.