

Parish Newsletter



THE MOST HOLY TRINITY | 11 JUNE 2017
Year A | Issue 29

TRINITY AND LIFE

Wedding season is well and truly upon us. Sometimes you get to see the music which isn't great for your indigestion. One of my more "hammy" moments in a wedding sermon reminded couples of how love has been used and over-used in so much modern music. Witness Tina Turner ask "What's love got to do with it?" the Beatles state: "Love is all you need"; Queen's "Crazy little thing called love"; Phil Collins: "You can't hurry love"; while the Supremes sang

"Stop in the name of love" and to the amusement of married couples Jennifer Lopez sang her "love didn't cost a thing." The Bee Gees enquired "How deep is your love?" while Meat Loaf said he "would do anything for love", but more cautiously Elton John asked, "Are you ready for love?" I haven't even mentioned Larry's Cunningham's "Lovely Leitrim", for love of your native place is indeed the purest of loves! I'm joking, of course, for they are pale reflections of the words of Jesus to his

Today's Readings



Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9
Psalm: Daniel 3:52-56
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
John 3:16-18

Next Sunday's Readings



Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16
Psalm 147:12-15, 19-20
1 Corinthians 10:16-17
John 6:51-58

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night-time visitor Nicodemus, "God so loved the world..."

Not all modern music is that wrong about love, however. Andrew Lloyd Webber wrote a song called "Love Changes Everything". It contains a striking line: "Love changes everything – how you live and how you die." The call today as we celebrate Trinity is to wonder at the mystery of God's love for us. We say that it is represented in Trinity, how Father, Son and Spirit co-exist in love. We make that practical by who we extend the love to, by

believing in this Gospel that "God so loved the world." And Jesus who was sent shows us how to love. Our job is not to condemn the world, but to love it. In this world, so filled with blessings and burdens, joys and sorrows, it is easy to forget the love of our God. Maybe when we think of Trinity and consciously or not, make the Sign of the Cross, the words love and mystery come to mind. This mystery of love is ours. It belongs to us, not as something we can put in the bank account for hoarding, but as something we can invest our very lives and the world with.

So this feast of the Trinity is asking us, how are we doing in loving the world, the neighbour, and in extending ourselves to those on the fringe? It asks us if we believe that love can indeed change everything. And if we don't, What do we need to do to make sure that it begins to happen a lot more? ■

– Tom Cox

Reflection

Ponder the wonder of light as a symbol of God's life-giving love.

Lesson

God expressed his love most by giving his Son.

Prayer

God of love, strengthen our faith in the name of your Son.

This Week (12–18 June)

- 12 Mon** St John of Sahagun
- 13 Tue** St Anthony of Padua, priest and doctor
- 14 Wed** St Methodius, patriarch of Constantinople
- 15 Thur** St Vitus, martyr
- 16 Fri** St Aurelian, bishop
- 17 Sat** Ss Teresa and Sancia of Portugal
- 18 Sun** THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST



St. Anthony's Parish, Belfast

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Henry McCann (and Chaplain to the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald)
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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)



FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 3:16-18

1. The reading evokes contrasting images of God, a God who judges and a God who saves. We might reflect on how our image of God has changed with the years. What has helped you to believe in a God whose will is that you should have eternal life?
2. God sent his Son into the world for this purpose, that we might have eternal life. How has the story of Jesus helped you to have that kind of faith?
3. The eternal life promised is life that survives all forms of death, failure, defeat and humiliation. What has helped you to have that sense of being alive, even in painful and disappointing circumstances?

John Byrne osa

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WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Richard Sheppard, Margaret Murray

Anniversaries: Raymond Matthews, Kathleen & Jim Burns, Rebecca Crilly, Isobel & Thomas McGiffin, Elizabeth & Paul Spiers (Sat 10th June at 6:30pm), James Phoenix, Stuart Wright (1st Anniv Sat 24th June at 6:30pm)

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 11th June

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Eamon Blaney & Carmel Blaney

Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard & TBC

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Wright

Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

Sun 18th June

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Anthony Clifford & Shauna Mullen

Morning Mass: Sarah Corscadden & Kay Dunn

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Stephen Murphy

Morning Mass: James Henderson



COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Monthly Stipend £621.33, Education of Diocesan Students to the priesthood £10, Shrines £76.49. **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.

Down and Connor Living Church Three Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg. Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th June 2017. Transport to be confirmed. Cost: £60. Please contact Geraldine Mullan : Tel: 028 90690920. Email: livingchurch@downandconnor.org. Lough Derg guides are available in the porch.

The WMOF2018 Volunteer Application Process is now Open! You can apply to volunteer here: www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer. Applicants to volunteer must be residents of the island of Ireland at the time of application and be over 18 years of age, as of 1st January 2018 (or as part of a group), among other terms and conditions. Volunteers can also help in the lead up to the event in the main offices of WMOF2018 and in various preparatory events taking place around Ireland. Volunteer information leaflets are available in the church porch.

Amoris: Let's talk Family! Let's be Family! You are cordially invited to an exciting and interactive journey of reflection on love, marriage and family. In each diocese from September 2017, everyone is invited to a catechetical programme run locally and also available online. More information can be found on leaflets available in the church porch.

Relic of St. Teresa of Calcutta visits Belfast. Itinerary:

Monday 12th June - Arrive at St. Patrick's Church Donegal St, Belfast - 7:00pm - 7:15pm. - Mass at 7:30pm. - Veneration after Mass until 11pm.

Tuesday 13th June - Veneration in St. Patrick's - 12:00 noon - 13:00. - Veneration after 1pm Mass until 15:00. - Transfer Relic to Corpus Christi Church Springhill Grove, Belfast BT12 7SL. - Mass in Corpus Christi Church Belfast at 7:00pm followed by veneration until 9:00pm.

Wednesday 14th June - Veneration in St. Patrick's - 12:00 noon - 13:00. - Veneration after 1pm Mass until 15:00. - Farewell Prayer Service - 15:00 - 16:00. - 16:00 Relic leaves Belfast.

Clonard Solemn Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help. June 14th. - 22nd. More details at www.clonard.com/novena/. See poster in porch.

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.

Come and celebrate 50 years of Charismatic Renewal in the Concert Hall, RDS, Dublin on Saturday, 24th June 2017, 10 a.m., concluding with Mass at 6.30 p.m. This is a one-day national event. Tickets: €20. Speakers: Fr Pat Collins, C.M., and Testimonies. Mass Celebrant/Homilist - Archbishop Eamon Martin. Further information: Sr Bridget Dunne, The Haven, Bachelor's Quay, Cork. Phone: 021-425 1100. Email: nsc@iol.ie. Website: www.ccireland.org.

Down and Connor: Sharing the Good News, newsletter available in the Church porch with information on past, present and future events within the diocese, including the Faith and Life Convention and Meeting of Pastoral Councils at Mid-Summer's Eve.

Gardening Talk by Cherry Townsend, of Kilcoan Gardens, Islandmagee, in aid of Mary's Meals, on Wednesday 14th June at 7:30pm in St Vincent's Centre, Willowfield Drive, Belfast. Tickets available from Suzanne 07825 449133, or at the door cost £5. See posters in the church porch.

Media Training. The Iona Institute NI invite you to take part in 'How to speak up' media training workshops. Gain confidence in speaking out on important issues: The meaning of marriage, The right to life, the role of faith in public life, and more. Adult evening session Thursday 29th June 6 - 8.30 pm. Youth 16yrs+ one day event Friday 30th June 10.00am -3.00pm. Both events held in St Brides parish hall 38 Derryvolgie Avenue Belfast BT9 6FP. To book a place & find out more email tharkin@ionainstitute.ie or call 07531149891

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. As well as academic input, the course requires students to carry out pastoral work within their parishes. The first cohort is coming to the end of the course and feedback has been very positive. In addition to students from the Dioceses of Derry and Dromore, fourteen students from all parts of Down and Connor have participated. 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

Parish Pastoral Council. The next meeting for those involved in the forming of the Pastoral Council will be on Thursday 15th June at 7pm in the St John Paul II hall behind the church.

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.