

Parish Newsletter



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST | 18 JUNE 2017
Year A | Issue 30

THE BEATING HEART IN OUR MIDST

I've met many returned missionaries to Ireland and all will relate the immense experiences they have had. One Irish Missionary serving in a western Irish diocese relates the patience of people as they had three language groups at the one Mass. Everything was translated into three languages so it took three times as long – yet not one complained.

A former Missionary in post-earthquake Haiti relates how, one day, he was

approached before Lent by some local people with a request. He wondered, would it be for food? Or maybe his mediation in negotiating a cease-fire in some shootings that had been taking place? Or would it be for more houses in the housing project? None of the above.

They asked him to come to their area to celebrate Mass before Lent. The place was a crossroads, surrounded by shacks, and with a statue of St Ann on

Today's Readings



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

Next Sunday's Readings



Jeremiah 20:10-13
Psalm 68:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35
Romans 5:12-15
Matthew 10:26-33

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a table with a lovely cloth and covered with flowers – they came together. Children, men and women, young adults all together – it was the most beautiful celebration of his priestly life.

In the post-fire St Mel's Cathedral of 2009, the local priests tentatively went into a ruined space and found the tabernacle and its contents to be miraculously intact despite searing temperatures of 800-900 degrees Celsius. An impromptu "Corpus Christi" procession of hard-hatted, hi-vis vested priest, builders and parishioners, formed as the Eucharist was transferred to the parish house via the Holy Family picture which also survived.

Sometimes we don't realise how blessed we are to have such access to

the Body and Blood of Christ. We go to extremes. I met one priest last March covering on his own, in a two-priest parish, who had 25 masses over one week! In many countries, Christians simply don't have the access; they have to wait, to ask, they certainly don't have a choice. In so many countries Christians are persecuted and ironically the persecutors realise more how important the Eucharist is and put endless obstacles in the way for that reason.

It is the Bread of Life, it is the Wine of Joy, it is the Food and the Drink of Eternal Life and I wish that we would all rediscover this great richness in our midst. Yes, Jesus said "take and eat", but maybe we need to re-learn in times of prayer before the Eucharist that we should also "sit and look". ■

– Tom Cox

Reflection

Place yourself in Capernaum and relish the words of Jesus that particularly touch you.

Lesson

Jesus is the living bread that came down from heaven.

Prayer

Jesus, I give you my soul, that I may be free from sin. I give you my heart, that I may always love you.

This Week (19–25 June)

- 19 Mon** St Romuald, abbot
- 20 Tue** The Irish Martyrs
- 21 Wed** St Aloysius Gonzaga, religious
- 22 Thur** St John Fisher & St Thomas More, martyrs
- 23 Fri** THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS
- 24 Sat** THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST
- 25 Sun** TWELFTH 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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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 BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 6:51-58

1. Jesus tells us that to have life we need more than physical nourishment. How have you been aware of deeper hungers? What has met that deeper longing in you?
2. Jesus tells us that it is not just something he gives us which will give us life, but himself in his life, death and resurrection. How has your faith in the person of Jesus fed you?
3. Jesus speaks about 'drawing life' from him. In day to day living what are the practices which support your faith and help you to draw life from Jesus?
4. The Eucharist is one of the ways in which we draw life from Jesus. Recall with gratitude how the Eucharist has been a source of nourishment and life for you.
5. Perhaps you can also think of human examples of people drawing life from one another. From whom have you drawn life? Who has been able to draw life from you?

John Byrne OSA. Email jpb Byrneosa@gmail.com

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, James Phoenix, Maureen Lavery (Sat 17th June at 6:30pm), Peggy Mackin, Stuart Wright (1st Anniv Sat 24th June at 6:30pm)

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

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

Sun 25th June

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Flanagan & Shauna Mullen

Morning Mass: Loretta Watson & Eileen Dunn

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Frank Doherty & Séamus Monaghan

Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Weekly £658.90, Monthly Stipend £60.80, Peter's Pence £2, Shrines £106.70. **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.

Mid-summer's Evening, for Parish Pastoral Councils, 7pm on Wednesday 21st June at St Bernard's, 165 Antrim Road, Glengormley. This, the third annual Mid-summer Evening, is an initiative of the Diocesan Pastoral Council which aims to enable networking across our parishes and the sharing of experience and good practice. The invitation is extended to all Parish Priests and, ideally, to two or three members of Parish Pastoral Councils or other active members of the parish. Please confirm with Fr Henry if you would like to attend by the end of this Sunday.

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.

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

St Vincent de Paul Senior Citizens Outing. St Bernadette's conference of Saint Vincent de Paul is having their annual senior citizens outing on Wednesday next 21st June to Newcastle, by bus, where we will have dinner and entertainment. There are a small number of places available, however we need to know by Sunday evening (18th) to have diners booked. Please contact Stephen Murphy on 07742 405857 if you wish to reserve a place.

Graduation Masses at Queens. The Catholic Chaplaincy invites all this summer's Queen's graduands, their families and friends, to attend the Graduation Masses which will be celebrated at 12.30pm each day from Thursday 29th June to Wednesday 5th July 2017 (excluding Sunday) in the Corpus Christi Chapel at Chaplaincy, and to stay afterwards for tea and coffee. We take this opportunity to congratulate all those students who are completing their time at QUB.

Rally for Life. 'Save lives. Save the 8th.' All-Ireland RALLY FOR LIFE, Dublin, Saturday 1st July. For information regarding buses, contact The Life Institute, 01 873 0465, email info@thelifeinstitute.net. Website: <https://rallyforlife.net>

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.