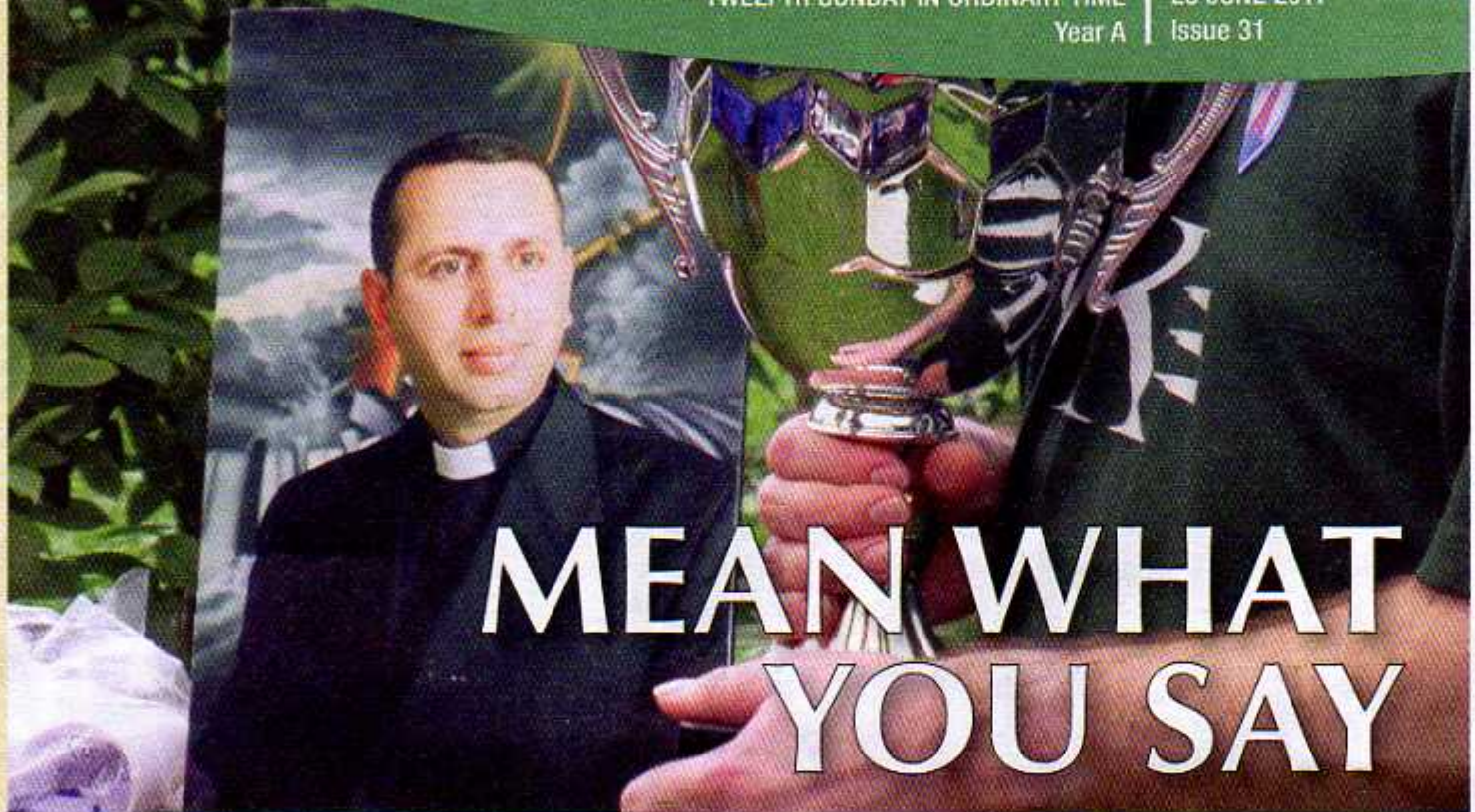


# Parish Newsletter

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 25 JUNE 2017  
Year A | Issue 31



## MEAN WHAT YOU SAY

It's said of the Irish that we are completely comfortable with paradox. We can be charming and articulate, madcap and melancholic, backward and fatalistic. We can be very much post-colonial double-speak bitterly opposing the national English team in any code (soccer, rugby, cricket... we don't mind) – but support enthusiastically their league clubs. We claim to abhor any form of “pull” or “cronyism” but tacitly endorse it when it suits us; we boast and begrudge in

equal measure. We've taken to social media and confessional radio like addicts as it enables us to vent our grievances without actually doing anything about them. We're obsessed with property but yet make it harder for people to actually own one. Your friend may not be your real friend. Poor old Jeremiah (First Reading) learned that one as well with “my friends watched for my downfall.”

It's no surprise that in Ireland at least we have the emergence of the

### Today's Readings



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

### Next Sunday's Readings



2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16  
Psalm 88:2-3, 16-19  
Romans 6:3-4, 8-11  
Matthew 10:37-42

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“Catholic atheist”, who wants to have the trappings but not the core or the responsibility of the message. It reminds of the Woody Allen joke about the atheist marrying the agnostic – neither of them could decide on which religious-school ethos for their child not to be raised up in.

I’m being a bit provocative but truth is a many-splendoured and -layered thing. If you chip away at things you will find something that lies behind the facts: meaning. And Jesus is all about meaning.

To this Jesus adds, “What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight, what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops.” In other words, opposites are not necessarily opposites after all. All things become possible in the upside-down kingdom of God’s grace. Enemies become friends and our family members might become enemies. Love one another, but not more than you

love me. Find your life by losing it; lose your life to find it. Persecutors can truly kill the body but our authentic life belongs to God who, like a father, watches over the smallest of his creatures. Jesus reassures that nothing will happen to any of his followers without his knowledge and purpose.

Reports from persecuted Christians in Syria recount their praying in the name of Jesus, simply praying the Lord’s Prayer or mouthing Jesus as they died, one woman almost smiling. How would we Irish face suffering and persecution?

If you visit the Irish College in Rome, go to their College Chapel and you will see, in mosaic, the image of past-student Fr Ragheed Ganni, martyred in Mosul exactly 10 years ago. He stayed when all begged him to leave. Ragheed felt no need to fear – he not only heard today’s Gospel – he lived it.

**Front page picture: Tomb in Karemlash, Iraq, of Fr Ragheed Ganni, martyred in Mosul on Trinity Sunday, 2007**

– Tom Cox

### Reflection

In what ways do you demonstrate discipleship?

### Lesson

The followers of Christ must have courage at all times.

### Prayer

Father, your loving care stretches from one end of the universe to the other. Enable us to reveal your kingdom to all we meet.

### This Week (26 June–2 July)

- 26 **Mon** St Rudolph
- 27 **Tue** St Cyril of Alexandria, bishop and doctor
- 28 **Wed** St Irenaeus, bishop and martyr
- 29 **Thur** ST PETER AND ST PAUL, APOSTLES
- 30 **Fri** First Martyrs of the Church of Rome
- 1 **Sat** St Oliver Plunkett, bishop & martyr
- 2 **Sun** THIRTEENTH 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, stanthonys@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)



## 12th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Matthew 10:26-33

1. 'Do not fear' is the unifying theme in this passage which is set in the context of a mission sermon by Jesus, preparing his disciples for what lay ahead. He urges them to have courage in speaking his message and living his message, drawing strength from their trust in the Father whose care for us exceeds his care for hundreds of sparrows. How has trust in God been a source of strength in life for you?

2. The body/soul terminology presupposes an anthropology in which the soul represents one's real self and the body is the perishable shell. For Jesus the important thing is to be true to one's real self, even if this does involve some material or physical loss or pain. When you have had that kind of courage, what was it like for you?

3. There is no such thing as secret discipleship. It is in declaring their allegiance to Jesus that his followers will find life. They will be the losers if they hide their discipleship. Does this resonate with your experience?

John Byrne OSB. Email jpb Byrneosa@gmail.com

### WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Margaret Murray (Month's Mind Sat 1st July at 6:30pm)

Anniversaries: Rebecca Crilly, Isobel & Thomas McGiffin, Elizabeth & Paul Spiers, James Phoenix, Maureen Lavery, Peggy Mackin, Mark & George Workman, Stuart Wright (1st Anniv Sat 24th June at 6:30pm), Frank McPhillips (Sun 25th at 11:30am), Charlotte & Michael Hopkins (Sun 2nd July at 11:30am)

### READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

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

Sun 2nd July

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Maria Murphy & Phyllis McGrillen  
Morning Mass: Tracey Mallon & Margaret Woods

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Sean Rafferty  
Morning Mass: Louis Corscadden

**COLLECTIONS:** Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Peter's Pence £418, Weekly £354.22, Monthly Stipend £26, Shrines £62.84. **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 WMOF2018 Volunteer Application Process is now Open!** You can apply to volunteer here: [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer). 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.

**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](mailto: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. 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](mailto: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. It would be helpful for planning purposes to have some idea of the likely number of participants before the end of August. However, I do appreciate that some people might only be recruited at or after the information meeting. 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.

**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](mailto:info@thelifeinstitute.net). Website: <http://rallyforlife.net>

**Lunchtime Concert in St Peter's Cathedral.** DØLAKORET, a mixed choir from Norway will hold a short concert in Saint Peter's Cathedral this Tuesday 27th June at 12.30pm. Everyone is very welcome to attend!

**Victim Support NI are calling for Volunteers.** Victim Support NI, the leading organisation supporting victims of crime in Northern Ireland, has called for people to volunteer with the charity in the Down and Connor Diocese. If you have an interest in this type of role you can apply via their website <http://www.victimsupportni.co.uk/volunteer/>, by emailing [volunteer@victimsupportni.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@victimsupportni.org.uk) or by calling 028 90277778.

**Dromantine Summer Camp 2017!** 5 nights' accommodation, 6 days of fun filled activities and 3 meals a day for only £150! Fun! Faith! Friendship! The Camp, 47 years running, welcomes Boys and Girls aged 11 - 17. Visit web site for further information about the Camp and available spaces remaining [summertimeconference.com](http://summertimeconference.com) or telephone 028 30821224. Boys Camp - Week 1: Sunday 16th July - Friday 21st July. Girls Camp - Week 3: Sunday 13th - Friday 18th August.

**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.

**Ordination to the Priesthood.** Please pray for Rev. Manuelito Milo who will be ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Noel Treanor this Sunday 25th June in St Peter's Cathedral, Belfast at 3pm. All welcome. Keep him and all ordinations to the priesthood at this time of year in your prayers.

**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.