

Parish Newsletter

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 3 March 2019
Cycle C | Issue 14

A CHANGE OF PERSPECTIVE

While it's natural enough to assess other people, we're not so good at seeing our own faults. Worse still, I feel our expression of Christianity shows a rising tendency to claim the high moral ground and shoot at everyone else. It really has nothing to do with church attendance (attendees tend to be all labelled as 'hypocrites' repeatedly and boringly by some) – it seems to be part of who we are. Maybe it gives the critic a bit of status. We need to remember that 'our very business in life is not to

get ahead of others ... but to get ahead of ourselves.' (Thomas Monson)

I was reminded recently of a colleague who had prepared a script for use in a parish ceremony. It was marked almost unconsciously by a retired teacher on the committee, mistakes highlighted in red biro. He didn't react negatively and simply said to her 'You always were a really good teacher.' To his surprise, tears welled up in her. Maybe a critical spirit says more about us than about what is criticised? When you think

Today's Readings



Ecclesiasticus (Sir) 27:4-7
Psalm 91:2-3, 13-16
1 Corinthians 15:54-58
Luke 6:39-45

Next Sunday's Readings



Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Psalm 90:1-2, 10-15
Romans 10:8-13
Luke 4:1-13

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of it, our words flow from what is in the heart.

If we are filled with the love of God, then we will judge mercifully. Too often we are negative in our criticism of the petty faults of others, forgetting that we too are imperfect. We can turn to Christ in our weakness, knowing that in the Lord we can never labour in vain.

They tell of a young married couple who had moved house. The very first morning, as they sat down to breakfast together, the wife looked out of the window, and to her surprise, she saw her new neighbour hanging dirty laundry on the clothesline. So she made some remarks about how the neighbour clearly didn't know how to wash clothes. This went on for a while

as they gradually settled into their new marital home. One morning, she looked out and saw that the neighbours' laundry was clean.

'Wow, look!' the surprised wife said to her husband, 'Her clothes are clean! Someone must have taught her how to wash her clothes!' The husband kindly responded: 'Well ... actually, I got up early this morning and washed the window.'

And so it is with life – what we see when watching others depends on our very personal 'window' through which we look. Washing our own windows from time to time changes our perspective.

– Tom Cox



Reflection

What characteristics do you search for in leaders of the Church today?



Lesson

A good leader reaches into his or her heart where there is a storehouse of goodness and shares this goodness with those who are led.



Prayer

Lord, through your servants, Moses and Joshua, you led your people to the chosen land. Raise up in your Church leaders after your own heart – men and women who possess the vision of Jesus. Amen.

This is me, a sinner on whom the Lord has turned his gaze. And this is what I said when they asked me if I would accept my election as pontiff. I am a sinner, but I trust in the infinite mercy and patience of our Lord Jesus Christ, and I accept in a spirit of penance.

– Pope Francis



This Week (4-10 March)

- 4 **Mon** St Casimir
- 5 **Tue** St Kieran, bishop
- 6 **Wed** Ash Wednesday
- 7 **Thur** Ss Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs
- 8 **Fri** St John of God, religious; St Senan, bishop
- 9 **Sat** St Frances of Rome, religious
- 10 **Sun** FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



The Parish of St Anthony's is part of the Diocese of Down and Connor and operates in accordance with the Diocesan Privacy Notice, copies of which are available in porch.

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)



8TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR—YEAR C

SEEKING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Luke 6:39-45

1. Can you remember an occasion when you were giving out about the behaviour of another person, and later realised you had some of the same fault yourself? Was that a wake-up call for you? Jesus tells us it is more constructive to correct our own faults, than complain about the faults of others.

2. If we want to help other people we need to have our feet on the ground, with a realistic awareness of our gifts and our limitations. Otherwise we will be impractical, like the blind leading the blind. What has helped you to be realistic about what you can and cannot do?

3. No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit. This parable invites us to examine the motivation behind what we do. If our basic motivation is love, then our lives will bear good fruit. If love is absent from our lives then the fruits will be conflict, disharmony and abuse of people for our own selfish ends.

John Byrne OSA. Email jbyrneosa@gmail.com

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Anniversaries: Brigid Murray, Betty McParland, Michael Gallagher Jnr, Brigid Curran, Mary Hughes, Terence McCann, Patrick, Catherine & Tommy Bell & Tommy Bell Jnr (Sat 2nd March at 6.30pm), Susan Gallagher (Sun 10th Mar at 11.30am), Fr Pat Gallagher (Sun 17th Mar at 11.30am)

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 3rd March (RADIO BROADCAST MASS at 10.15am)

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Wright

Morning Mass: Kathryn Curran &

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Frank Doherty

Morning Mass: To be confirmed

Sun 10th March

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Anthony Clifford

Morning Mass: Loretta Watson & Kay Dunn

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Sean Rafferty

Morning Mass: Louis Corscadden

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Weekly Collection £516.87, Shrines £82.54

BBC Radio Ulster Broadcast Mass. As part of the 80th Anniversary year of celebrations for St Anthony's Church, there will be a

RADIO BROADCAST MASS ON SUNDAY 3RD MARCH AT 10:15AM SHARP. Please note there will be NO 9:30AM MASS IN POLISH, AND NO 11:30AM MASS IN ENGLISH that Sunday.

We encourage you to attend. Doors will be closed at 10am with NO ADMISSION AFTER THIS TIME. Please follow instructions from stewards. Mass will finish at 11am at which time doors will open again.

Season of Lent. Times of Masses Ash Wednesday: Wed 6th March 9:30 (English), 7pm (Polish). Ashes will be imposed during these masses.

Lenten Stations of the Cross. Every Friday in Lent after 7pm Novena Mass.

Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2019: Living in Fear. Trócaire, the Irish overseas development agency, has launched its annual Lenten appeal with a dramatic new ad campaign that highlights the impact of its work with families in developing countries. For further information visit www.trocaire.org. You can support the Lent Campaign now by picking up your 2019 Trócaire Box in the Church Porch.

Lenten Pioneer Pledge. Many people choose to abstain from alcohol during Lent. Why not take this opportunity to perhaps help yourself or

someone you know with an alcohol or drug problem by offering your sacrifice for freedom from addiction? Please consider taking the short term Lenten Pledge and make a difference to someone's life. Register your pledge with local Pioneers and say the daily prayer. Prayer: "I promise in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary to abstain from all alcoholic drink during Lent."

Vocations Prayer Evening. There will be an evening of prayer followed by refreshments in St Joseph's Church, Greystone Road, Antrim on Thursday 7th March 2019 from 7.00pm-9.00pm for those men discerning a vocation to the Priesthood. The event will conclude at 9.00pm. Anyone interested in coming to this evening is asked to contact Fr Kevin (Vocations Director) on 028 9061 4567 or by email - vocations@downandconnor.org.

Living Youth - Local Summer Pilgrimages 2019

Summer Madness - join with over 2,000 other young people, from all religious backgrounds, across the island of Ireland to celebrate, connect and explore your faith. This 5-day camping experience at Glenarm Castle is on from 28th June - 2nd July 2019, Cost: £120, Age: 15 - 18.

Camino Through the Mourne - join with other young adults to spend time together in a faith environment, all through the medium of outdoor activities such as hikes, walks and outdoor adventures. Stay in Newcastle Co Down from 6th - 9th August 2019, Cost: £125, Age: 18 - 25.

For more information and to apply go to www.livingyouthni.org or follow Living Youth on Social Media.

Trocaire Lenten Campaign 2019: Living in Fear. Trócaire, the Irish overseas development agency, has launched its annual Lenten appeal with a dramatic new ad campaign that highlights the impact of its work with families in developing countries. For further information visit www.trocaire.org. You can support the Lent Campaign now by picking up your 2019 Trocaire Box in the Church Porch.

'Strictly Come Dancing' in aid of the Lourdes Pilgrimage. Join us for a superb evening of fun and entertainment in Carryduff Parish Centre on the 15th March 2019 at 7.30pm. Ticket: £15 for Adults, £7.50 for children. Can be ordered through the Carryduff Parish Office on 028 9081 2238 or drumbo@downandconnor.org.

Drumbo & Carryduff Parish Pilgrimage To Rome, Assisi & Cascia. Spiritual Directors- Fr Conor McGrath Fr Dominic Mc Grattan. Due to cancellations spaces have become available. Including Divine Mercy Sunday in Rome. 6 Night Pilgrimage to Assisi, Cascia, Rome & Vatican City, 27 April- 03 May 2019. Package price from £945.00 pps. Single rooms now available. Application form available in the Parish Office on 90812238 opt 2.

Lenten Days and Holy Week Retreat at Dromantine - 2019. 16th March 'A Lenten Encounter: Looking Up and Reaching Out' led by Fr. Damian Bresnahan SMA 10am - 5pm Cost £25 lunch included. 30th March 'A Lenten Experience: Called to Renewal' led by Fr. John Gallagher SMA 10am - 5pm £25 lunch included. Holy Week Retreat Wed 17th April at 5pm - Sunday 21st at 11am. The SMA Community invites you to join them in reflectively celebrating the Easter Triduum, beginning with the Seder Meal. £250 full board. Dromantine Retreat Centre, Newry BT34 1RH. Booking: Tel. 028 30821964 or admin@dromantineconference.com.

Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers). Fr John O'Donoghue, MAfr, will be visiting St Anthony's Parish on the weekend of March 30/31st for the mission appeal. They are one of the groups who make a direct appeal to the people present at mass to contribute to our missionary efforts in a second collection. We look forward to welcoming Fr John and we hope you will be as generous as you can.

Food Bank. We are again collecting toiletries and non-perishable foodstuffs as part of a Food Bank working with local parishes. If you would like to contribute, please place items in the bags provided.

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.