



# Parish Newsletter



THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 19 November 2017  
Year A | Issue 52



## USING GOD'S GIFTS CREATIVELY

I have sympathy with the servant who was given the one talent and kept it safe. I am not naturally a risk-taker and yet Jesus in this parable praises the servants who were creative and took risks. They recognised love and trust in what the owner had done. The servant given one talent did not see love and trust, just a scary responsibility.

God created us in love. The life we have been given is a treasure entrusted to us to be nurtured and developed until it reaches full maturity. There

will be growing pains along the way as we move beyond our comfort zone to develop ourselves physically, intellectually, socially and spiritually. We will need to take risks if we are to discover our full potential. Of course we will make mistakes but the God who made us in love, accompanies us on life's journey, as a loving parent accompanies a child as s/he finds out how to walk, talk and find a place in the world.

The God who invites each individual to

### Today's Readings



Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31  
Psalm 127:1-5  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-6  
Matthew 25:14-30

### Next Sunday's Readings



Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17  
Psalm 22:1-3,5-6  
1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28  
Matthew 25:31-46

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be brave in developing their potential also invites Christian communities to be creative in discovering how to witness to the Gospel message in today's world. Which is more important for us as Christians? Do we focus on conserving past customs and ways of doing things, or do we take risks and be creative in finding new ways of

**I invite everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelization in their respective communities.**

living and celebrating the Good News? Pope John XXIII, when announcing the Second Vatican Council, famously said that he was not a museum keeper, and

### **Reflection**

When did taking a risk help you to grow?

### **Lesson**

Be alert and stay awake for you never know when a moment of grace will come.

### **Prayer**

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of this day. You have given it to me in love; help me to live it to the full.

wanted the Council to find new ways of presenting the Christian message for the day. Pope Francis in his letter *The Joy of the Gospel* wrote, "I invite everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelization in their respective communities... The important thing is to not walk alone, but to rely on each other as brothers and sisters" (EG 33).

Our faith is not given to us to be locked away. It is given to us to be used and developed. We use it when we believe in its value, trust it, and use it, bringing our faith into the experiences we have in daily life. We use our faith in parishes and church communities when we seek new ways of bringing faith alive for people and finding how to inspire people to work together so as to make their community a better place in which to live. ■

– John Byrne

### **This Week 20–26 November)**

- 20 Mon** St Edmund
- 21 Tue** The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 22 Wed** St Cecilia, virgin and martyr
- 23 Thur** St Columban, abbot and missionary
- 24 Fri** St Andrew Dung-Lac and Comp., martyrs
- 25 Sat** St Catherine of Alexandria, virgin and martyr
- 26 Sun** SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING







# 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)



## 33rd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Matthew 25:14-30

1. A gift given in love is given to be enjoyed, treasured, and used. Through fear, one servant failed to recognise the loving trust being shown to him and buried the talent. When have you found that overcoming fear helped you to make the most of opportunities in life?
2. On the level of our own personal life, faith is not given to us to be locked away, but to be 'traded' with. We trade with it when we believe in its value, trust it, and use it, bringing it into the experiences we have in daily life. Can you recall times when relying on your faith has brought you rewards?
3. Likewise with our own personal gifts and talents. We can fall into the trap of seeing these as our personal possession so that we can do with them as we like, rather than share them as gifts so that they can be multiplied. What is your experience of hoarding or sharing your own gifts? When did you feel most alive?
4. Pope Francis in his letter *Evangelii Gaudium* wrote, 'I invite everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelisation in their respective communities. ... The important thing is to not walk alone, but to rely on each other as brothers and sisters' (EG, 33). How is your parish responding to this call?

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### WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Mary Cunningham, Ethna Heaney (Kay Curran's sister), Katie Shinn (niece of Kay Dunn)

Anniversaries: Mary Jane McGreevy, Manuel Simão Antonio Da Silva, Anna & Frank McPhillips (Sat 18th at 6:30pm), James Murray (Mon 20th Nov at 9:30am), Sally Watson (Sat 27th Nov at 6:30pm), Patrick Joseph Greenan (Sat 2nd Dec at 6:30pm)

### READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 19th November

#### READERS:

Vigil Mass: Maria Murphy & Ann Flanagan  
Morning Mass: Suzanne Hopkins & Kathryn Curran

#### EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Sean Rafferty  
Morning Mass: Louis Corscadden

Sun 26th November

#### READERS:

Vigil Mass: Eamon Blancy & Carmel Blancy  
Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard & Tracey Mallon

#### EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Wright  
Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

**COLLECTIONS:** Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Weekly Collection £609.23, Monthly Stipend £54.61, Propagation of the Faith £2, Bishop's Commissions £1, Shrines £85.34. 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.  
**PLEASE NOTE:** If you have missed sending in your collection envelope donations, One Envelope Per Collection (eg Weekly or Monthly) will suffice. For example there is no need to put weekly envelopes inside each other with your donation. Discard the missed envelope(s) and place your total donation into ONE envelope. Thank you.

November Lists of Deceased are available in the porch. Please take one and record the names of your loved ones, (and any donation you may wish to give—optional), and place them in the collection basket.

Mass for Deceased will be on Friday 24th November at 7pm during the Novena Mass to our Lady of Perpetual Help. You are invited to bring a flower to remember your loved ones who have died. The Mass will be in English and Polish.

Course for Ministers of the Word. All the priests and ministers of the Word in our Pastoral Community are welcome and indeed highly encouraged to participate,

including those who have been recently selected for this ministry, and are now in need of training. This programme (10 sessions), will take place on Monday evenings, 7-9.30pm, (including 30 minutes break). The dates for the course is as follows: for 2017:- 25th September, 9th & 23rd, October, 6th & 20th November, The dates for 2018 are:- 12th & 26th February, 12th March, 9th & 23rd April. (Two discrete sessions, one just before Advent, and one just before Easter.) An Information Handout for the last meeting (Mon 6th Nov) now available in the sacristy.

**Advent at Clonard Monastery.** You are invited to join us in Clonard Monastery to celebrate the beautiful season of Advent. Let's gather together on four consecutive Tuesdays (28 Nov, 5 Dec, 12 Dec and 19 Dec) in the conference room of Clonard Monastery from 7.30-8.30pm. Kindly, sign up at Clonard reception, or email [reception@clonard.com](mailto:reception@clonard.com), or phone 028 9044 5950.

**The Gospel of Mark for Today.** Drumalis, Larne - commencing Saturday, 25 November. 'The Gospel of Mark for Today', a short course led by Sr Pamela Thimmes OSC will take place at Drumalis over four Saturdays (25 Nov 2017, 27 Jan 2018, 24 Feb 2018 & 21 April 2018 from 10 am - 4 pm). The cost of the course is £160 and includes refreshments and lunch on each day as well as facilitation fees. For further information or to book a place, please contact 028 28276455/28272196 during office hours (Mon-Fri, 9 am - 5 pm). Details are also available on the Drumalis website - <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>.

The Iona Institute NI invites you to an evening conference: **The Future of Marriage & Family in N. Ireland.** Wednesday 29th November 6.30 - 8.30 pm, Wellington Park Hotel, 21 Malone Road Belfast, BT9. Conference Speakers: Thomas Pascoe 'Lessons from the revolution in England: same-sex marriage and the end of truth'. Thomas Pascoe is Campaign Director for the London based Coalition for Marriage and works to promote marriage and freedom of conscience throughout the UK. David Quinn - 'Marriage & Family in N.Ireland' David is Founder & Director of The Iona Institute, author & Columnist (Irish Sunday Times). To register email - [tharkin@ionainstitute.ie](mailto:tharkin@ionainstitute.ie). Suggested Donation: £6.00.

**SVP Christmas Cards.** Saint Vincent de Paul (St. Bernadette's conference) will be selling packs of ten Christmas cards after Sunday masses, starting 19th November. If you buy them and send them, it will help to spread the name of the charity as well as helping towards supporting local people in difficulty in this busy season.

**Saint Vincent de Paul - St Bernadette's conference invite senior citizens to a social Christmas dinner** at the Ivanhoe on Wednesday 6th December at 1pm. There will be entertainment and no charge. Please contact Stephen Murphy on 07742 405857 by 26th November if you are interested in attending.

**A Special Mass of Remembrance is being organised by St Paul's Disability Care Group** and will be held on Friday 24 November 2017 in St Paul's Church, Falls Road, Belfast at 7.30 pm followed by refreshments immediately afterwards in the Fr O'Kane Centre. This Mass will remember all those with a disability or special needs who have died. If you would like a friend or family member remembered in this Mass, please contact Bernadette on 028 90285374, Frances on 0771 8914692, Mary on 028 94423956 or email [stpaulsdisabilitycaregroup@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaulsdisabilitycaregroup@hotmail.com).

**Rosary on the Coast for Life and Faith.** On Sunday 26 November 2017, the Feast of Christ the King, hosted by St Comgall's Marian Prayer Group, Bangor Parish. Where?: Park in Queen's Parade car park. Head to Pickie Fun Park, keep going and the Most Holy Rosary will be said on the small beach 100 yards beyond Pickie Fun Park. Why?: To pray the Rosary for the Preservation of Faith and Family Life. 2.30pm - 3.30pm. Join us and unite with the Saints of Bangor, St Comgall, St Columbanus, St Gall, St Malachy in praying for God's protection of life and family in our land of Ireland.

**Saintfield & Carrickmannon Parish: Liam Lawton Concert - O Holy Night,** Monday 18th December 2017 in Aid of Marie Cure and the N. I Hospice. Tickets contact: 07788435797 or 07919332490.

**St Colmeille's Ballyhackamore are presenting an Advent DVD programme** for the over sixties, 'Beloved Disciple', in the Iona Room, Parochial Hall on four Friday mornings, beginning this Friday 24th November at 10.00am, starting with refreshments. All are welcome.

**Christmas at Tobar Mhuire. Christmas Craft Fair** - on 25th and 26th November from 1pm - 5pm. Fun for all with Craft Stalls, face painting, tombola, plenty of food and refreshments, and of course a visit with Santa. **Christmas Candlelight Dinner** - Enjoy great food and music at our 6 course Christmas Dinner on 9th December with music by local singer Matthew Campbell. **Advent Day of Reflection** - A time for reflection and solitude amongst the busy Christmas period with guest speaker Sean Goan on Saturday 2nd December from 10am - 4pm. **Gift Shop** - Christmas Shopping in our Gift Shop for your religious Christmas items, from Christmas cards to Nativity sets, Advent candles and gifts. For further information on pricing or bookings call 02844 830242 or email [secretary@tobarmhuirecrossgar.com](mailto:secretary@tobarmhuirecrossgar.com)

**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.