

# Parish Newsletter



31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 4 November 2018  
Cycle B | Issue 49

## THE BIGGEST CHOICE

I didn't know my grandmother, but my brother-in-law found her funeral notice online. Well, it was a complete listing of who was in the choir, her priest son (my uncle) got full title and the expression of sympathy from his bishop was also read out. Without being unkind to the Ireland of 1957, it all came across as trying to make an impression.

Maybe we're not so different, just a little more subtle in how we approach making an impression and trying to get notice. Rule keeping that was so beloved of the Scribes and Pharisees of the time of Jesus is certainly not in vogue currently, but we have found other delights to distract us.

They tell of a newly cemented foot-path being unveiled in a small town.

### Today's Readings



Deuteronomy 6:2-6  
Psalm 17:2-4, 47, 51  
Hebrews 7:23-28  
Mark 12:28-34

### Next Sunday's Readings



1 Kings 17:10-16  
Psalm 145:7-10  
Hebrews 9:24-28  
Mark 12:38-44



Cement takes time to “cure” or dry and come the day when the Mayor unveiled it to reveal it had the unmistakable tiny footprints of a barefoot toddling baby. It’s still there, seemingly, and never fails to lift people’s hearts. It gives people hope to continue.

A person who thinks only about building walls, wherever they may be, and not building bridges is not a Christian. This is not in the Gospel.

– Pope Francis

Consciously or not, we all *must* leave our mark in life, footprints in a way but this time the mark is left in a different place – on the heart. A single loving act can grow forever in the heart of another. Jesus did not separate the two commandments – he joined them. We have an immense power over each other for good or evil. Just as a single



## Reflection

How far are you from the Kingdom of God?



## Lesson

The love of God, neighbour, and self are intertwined. The person who hears, understands, and practices is ‘not far from the kingdom of God’.



## Prayer

Lord, help us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind and our strength. Amen.

loving act can grow forever as a ‘footprint’ in the heart of another – similarly a single act of arrogance can crush an already embittered soul. The choice is ours for the ‘taking’ or should I say for the ‘giving’. A tender word of understanding and compassion may be your legacy or you could be remembered for a thoughtless gesture of indifference.

At funerals we all chat and make tea and remember the encounters we had with the deceased, in order to capture something of their personality. What words would you write over your headstone? What words really matter? Surely the question is ‘How much did this person love?’ Love is a fire, and fire must be harnessed before its powerful potential can do good. Where to begin in this great endeavour? Like all things the answer is local. For it is sometimes easier to love humanity as a whole than to love one’s neighbour in particular.

– Tom Cox

## This Week (5-11 November)

- |    |      |                                      |
|----|------|--------------------------------------|
| 5  | Mon  | Ss Elizabeth and Zechariah           |
| 6  | Tue  | All the Saints of Ireland            |
| 7  | Wed  | St Willibrord, bishop and missionary |
| 8  | Thur | All Saints of Wales                  |
| 9  | Fri  | DED. OF THE LATERAN BASILICA IN ROME |
| 10 | Sat  | St Leo the Great, pope and doctor    |
| 11 | Sun  | 32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME         |





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

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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)



## 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time—Year B SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Mark 12:28-34

1. Today's gospel brings us right to the heart of what a Christian life involves: love of God and of neighbour. Jesus tells us that having life both now and in the future is the fruit of living in a spirit of love. How have you experienced the power of love given, and received, as a source of life and vitality?

2. If you were asked what is most important in life, what would your answer be? Recall the experiences and relationships you have had. Which are the ones that you treasure most? What has particularly enriched your life? How would you encourage another person who asked you how s/he could live a full life?

3. Jesus praises the questioner as one who had answered wisely. Recall some of the wise people you have known, people who in their words and actions impressed you with their capacity to see and treasure what is important in life.

John Byrne OSA. Email [jpbyrneosa@gmail.com](mailto:jpbyrneosa@gmail.com)

### WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Patrick Lundy

Anniversaries: Catherine Patricia Lord, Rose McPhillips & William McPhillips, Mary Jane McGreevy & Carol McGreevy (Sat 27th Oct at 6:30pm)

### READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 4th November

#### READERS:

Vigil Mass: Anthony Clifford & Shauna Mullen

Morning Mass: Sarah Corscadden & Kay Dunn

#### EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Stephen Murphy

Morning Mass: James Henderson

Sun 11th November

#### READERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Flanagan & Shauna Mullen

Morning Mass: Loretta Watson & Eileen Dunn

#### EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Frank Doherty

Morning Mass: Séamus Monaghan

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Weekly Collection £589.24, Monthly Stipend £57, Propagation of the Faith £17.50, Shrines £87.99.

### 5th National Collection for the World Meeting of Families:

National Collection for the World Meeting of Families 2018

Please support the Fifth National Collection for WMOF2018 which will be taken up in our parish next weekend (10 & 11 November 2018).

Thank you for your generosity to date.

**Suspension of the Sign of Peace and other Hygiene suggestions.** The Diocese, having received advice from health authorities, requests that the practice of the 'sign of peace' during the celebration of Mass, be suspended with immediate effect and for the remainder of the winter flu season. Good hand hygiene is a very effective way of preventing the spread of colds and flus. It is encouraged that parishioners be encouraged to TAKE HOME THE COPY OF THE MISSALETTE AND/OR BULLETIN that they use during Mass, as the sharing or reuse of these could also provide a path for transmission of the cold/flu viruses. And finally it is encouraged the use of the hand gel sanitisers at the entrances of the church on entry and exit of the celebrations be used, to remind parishioners of good hand hygiene.

November Lists of Deceased and envelopes are available in the Porch. Please fill in, place in envelopes and leave in the collection baskets. These names will be remembered in Masses during November.

**Annual Mass for Deceased** on Friday 23rd Nov at the 7pm Novena Mass to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Parishioners are asked to bring a flower to remember their loved ones and place it in the garden of remembrance at the baptismal font.

**Parish Pastoral Council.** Next meeting is on Wednesday 7th November at 7.30pm in John Paul II room.

**Pilgrimage to Rome and San Giovanni Easter 2019** (last remaining seats) with Papal Ceremonies in Saint Peter's Square in Rome for the 7 nights Ex Dublin €995 pps Payments can be made in instalments contact James Treacy on 061921470 or 0860572216.

**St John's Winter Craft Fair** at St John's Parish Hall, 444 Falls Road, Belfast, Saturday 17th November 2016 10.30am-4.30pm. Table Hire £15. If you are interested in hiring a table please contact Conor on 07835833039 or [stjohnspshevents@icloud.com](mailto:stjohnspshevents@icloud.com).

**Trócaire's Annual Remembrance Mass** for deceased supporters takes place this year on Saturday, 10th November 2018 at 6pm in St Malachy's Church, Belfast, BT2 8EN. The Mass will be concelebrated by The Most Reverend Bishop Noel Treanor and by Fr Michael McGinny. We warmly invite you to attend and help celebrate the lives and lasting legacy of these wonderful people.

**Advent Prayer.** The season of Advent runs for 4 weeks and offer us all an opportunity to pray our way to Christmas. For Advent 2018, the Living Church Office are offering a training night for those interested in delivering a weekly Advent prayer session in their parish. The training will cover the content of each of the 4 sessions as well as guidance on how to deliver the sessions. Each participant will get a PowerPoint presentation and handouts for each of the 4 sessions. The topics of the 4 sessions we will cover are:

Advent Week One- Stay Awake      Advent Week 2- The Wilderness  
Advent Week 3- Joy      Advent Week 4- Saying Yes to God

The training night will be on 14th November from 6.30pm-9pm in the Good Shepherd Centre, 511 Ormeau Road, Belfast, BT7 3GS and is free of charge. There will be refreshments on arrival at 6.30pm with our work beginning at 7 pm. Places will be limited to those people who commit to running the programme in their parish or pastoral community and who have contacted/been contacted by their parish priest prior to the training night. If you are interested in leading your parish community in prayerful reflection this Advent, please email [livingchurch@downandconnor.org](mailto:livingchurch@downandconnor.org) to reserve a place. "Advent is a time given to us to welcome the Lord who comes to meet us, to verify our desire for God, to look ahead and prepare ourselves for the return of Christ." Pope Francis, December 2017

**Concentio Chamber Choir** Mon 5th November @ 8.00pm. St Colmcille's Church, Belfast. The highly acclaimed Concentio Chamber Choir returns to St Colmcille's for another concert in support of the SOS Bus which promises to be every bit as wonderful as the memorable performances in the Church just 12 months ago. Free Admission. There will be an opportunity to make a donation to the SOS during the evening.

**Alcohol Awareness Week 19th-25th November.** Alcohol misuse has been identified as a significant public health and social issue in Northern Ireland over many years. The latest statistics suggest 12,000 people are admitted to hospital each year with alcohol related problems in N.I. with 170,000 people drinking hazardly and 47,000 drinking harmfully. Al-Anon Family Groups is there for families and friends of Problem Drinkers. Our Information Office in Belfast is opened Monday - Friday 10am - 1.00pm. Contact number 02890682368 and our helpline is operated from 6pm - 11pm 365 days per year. Al-Anon Family Groups UK & Eire is launching a new campaign "The Untold Story" during Alcohol Awareness Week 19th - 25th November 2018 to encourage more people living with problem drinkers to find their local Al-Anon meetings which run weekly throughout Northern Ireland. Contact us on 02890682368 for a list of your nearest meeting or National Helpline 02074030888 email for more information [al-anon@btconnect.com](mailto:al-anon@btconnect.com) or visit our website [www.al-anonuk.org.uk](http://www.al-anonuk.org.uk)

**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.