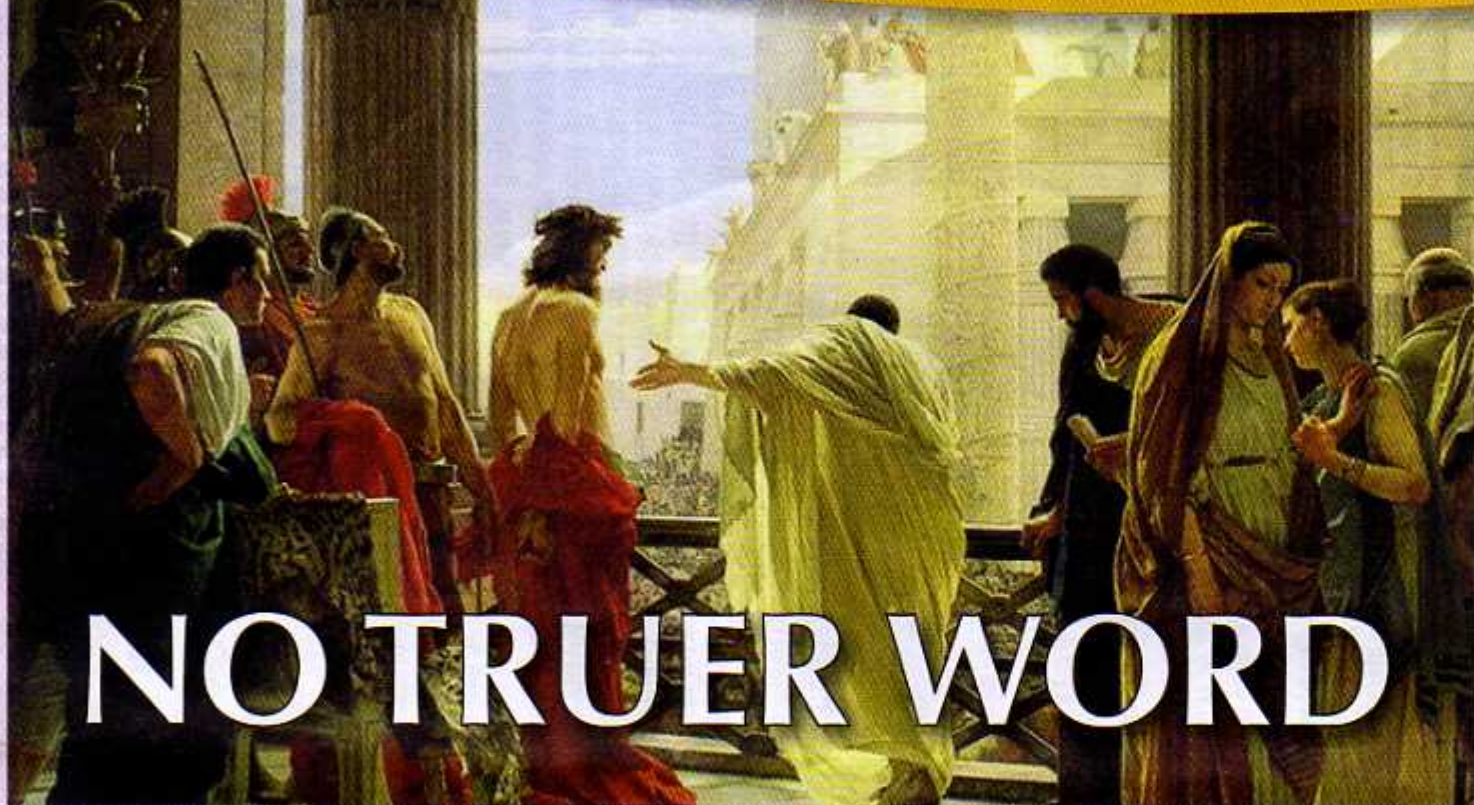


# Parish Newsletter

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE | 25 November 2018  
Cycle B | Issue 52



## NO TRUER WORD

**W**e seem to live in a time of questioning the sources of information. Lobbying influences and media outlets can all contribute to making us wonder. We now have online misinformation and findings that outside influences can literally hack voter details and sway elections. So it's little wonder that at a far more local level, when it comes to an election, we often wonder, 'Is this candidate telling the truth as they see

it – or are they just telling the people what they want to hear?' It's our own version of Pilate's 'truth – what is that?'

In today's Gospel, Jesus and Pilate are engaged in a dialogue on the subject of truth. Jesus is on trial for his life – both he and Pilate know that. Were Jesus a politician, we would probably see an effort to justify himself with a lengthy discourse or fancy rhetoric. He makes no effort to say the things that

### Today's Readings



Daniel 7:13-14  
Psalm 92:1-2.5  
Apocalypse 1:5-8  
John 18:33-37

### Next Sunday's Readings



Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalm 24:4-5.8-10.14  
1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2  
Luke 21:25-28.34-36

(continued on back page)

Pilate wants to hear. In short Jesus is true to who he is – the Son of God – and doesn't seek to make himself into something people would find more palatable. I often wonder at how much time and energy we waste on trying to be something other than who God wants us to be.

In recent months I was interacting with a media person who declared they would like to set up a religion based solely on the teachings of Jesus. When I asked the simple question, would that be ALL the teachings of Jesus, they retreated. Somehow I feel that were it today, and some modern version of Pilate, assessing Jesus, we would have more or less the same result – maybe not as bloody an end – but ultimately of his message being rejected by the

authorities of today. 'All who are on the side of truth, listen to my voice.'

Jesus knew why he came into the world, to tell us the truth – to tell us the truth about ourselves, to tell us who we are and where we are going; to teach us to understand the truth about life and living. All the times we wonder, 'Why was I born?', 'Why am I living?', 'What can I get?', 'What am I giving?' We spend millions trying to explore the universe and hope that some blip from space might speak to us of life beyond on other planets. But we seem very embarrassed, if not cynical, about the possibility of a personal God who just might have something to say to us, if we just step aside from the baying crowds outside the courts of the various Pilates of our time and age who stifle the word of truth. ■

– Tom Cox



## Reflection

In which ways does Jesus exercise his kingship in your life?



## Lesson

Jesus is the beginning and the end, the one who is intertwined with everything we do and think and with every moment of our being.



## Prayer

Lord Jesus, help me to accept your rule in every corner of my life. May I have in me the same values and outlook as are in you. Amen.

Find new ways to spread the word of God to every corner of the world.

– Pope Francis



## This Week (26 Nov – 2 Dec)

- 26 Mon** St Leonard, Bl James Alberione
- 27 Tue** St Fergal, bishop and missionary
- 28 Wed** St Catherine Laboure, religious
- 29 Thur** St Brendan of Birr, abbot
- 30 Fri** ST ANDREW, APOSTLE, PATRON OF SCOTLAND
- 1 Sat** St Eligius, bishop
- 2 Sun** FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (CYCLE C)



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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 henrymccann@hotmail.com, **Website:** www.saintanthony.co.uk  
**MASS TIMES & SERVICES**  
 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 Christ the King—Year B

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS  
 John 18:33-37

1. The feast we have today, and the Gospel, give us an opportunity to reflect on the different ways in which we, and others, exercise influence and leadership. The authority of Pilate came from position and power. The authority of Jesus came from his integrity and what he stood for. Recall leaders you have known whose influence was like that of Jesus.
2. The values of the kingdom of God cannot be imposed. It is never a matter of fighting battles, or forcing others into compliance. Perhaps through experience you have learned the limitations of the use of force, as a parent, a teacher, a group leader. What has been the good news, the learnings for you, in this?
3. Jesus came to bear witness to the truth that we are all created for a purpose. What do you believe is the purpose of your life? Recall times when you have been able to bear witness to this. What fruit has this witness had for yourself and/or others?

John Byrne OSA. Email jpbyrneosa@gmail.com

### WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

**Recently Deceased:** Patrick Lundy, Eileen Adams, Tommy McKendry (great-uncle of Fr McCann), Jimmy McGlone (cousin of Fr McCann), Susan Casey (aunt of Suzanne Hopkins)

**Anniversaries:** Mary Jane McGreevy & Carol McGreevy, Paul & Ita Hetherington, William Kane, James Murray, Canon Hugh Starkey\*, Sarah McCartan, Vincent & Ethna Heaney (Sun 25th Nov at 11:30am), Mary Grogan, Roseanne Meenagh, Brother Peter Gallagher (Sun 2nd Dec at 11:30am), Marie Matthews (Sun 9th Dec at 11:30am), Minnie Tanney (Sat 15th at 6:30pm), Patrick Joseph Greenan (Sun 16th Dec at 11:30am)

### READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 25th November

#### READERS:

Vigil Mass: Eamon Blaney & Carmel Blaney  
 Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard & Kathryn Curran

#### EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Wright  
 Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

Sun 2nd December

#### READERS:

Vigil Mass: Anthony Clifford  
 Morning Mass: Suzanne Hopkins & Kay Dunn

#### EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Stephen Murphy  
 Morning Mass: James Henderson

### New Rotas are available from this weekend

**Please Note:** Due to falling numbers of Ministers of the Word for the Vigil Mass, and the avoidance of Readers not to be on too frequently, there has been the necessity of re-structuring the Rota, so that one reader will read both readings and the psalm and gospel acclamation. This is only temporary until more ministers can be recruited and trained. If you are interested in becoming a Reader please contact Fr McCann

**COLLECTIONS:** Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Bishop's Commissions £487.88, Weekly Collection £315.97, Monthly Stipend £5, Shrines £101.86.

**Suspension of the Sign of Peace and other Hygiene matters.** the following is advised until the end of the flu season:

- A) The 'sign of peace' during the celebration of Mass has been suspended,
- B) the encouragement to TAKE HOME THE COPY OF THE MISSALETTE AND/OR BULLETIN that they use during Mass,
- C) the use of the hand gel sanitiser at the entrances of the church on entry and exit of the celebrations,
- D) to remind parishioners of normal 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. Garden of Remembrance from the Mass

for deceased. These will remain until the end of November. If you would like to add more flowers, you are welcome to do so.

### St Vincent de Paul (St Bernadette's Conference)

a) **Christmas Cards.** Saint Vincent de Paul are selling Christmas cards after masses again this week and are glad of your support.

b) **Christmas Dinner:** SVP invite any interested senior citizens in the parish to a Christmas dinner at the Ivanhoe on Wednesday 12th December. If you are interested, please let Frances know on 07800 562398.

**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.

**Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lisbon ex Dublin** (last remaining seats) for Feast Day of Saint Anthony 9th/14th June 2019. Full Board €675 pps Single supplement €32 Contact James Treacy: 061921470.

**Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages April - Oct 2019:** 7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €279 per person sharing. Book any flight - any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service. Call us for further info and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 01 4434510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com.

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje Group Leader:** James Treacy Accompanied by Spiritual Director. 30 July 2019. 7 nights Half Board in Guesthouse close to St James Church. €725.00 per person, inclusive of Group Travel Insurance. Early booking offer. \* €100 off if paid in full by 10 Dec 2018. Includes full religious programme. Day flights ex - Dublin Airport including return airport transfers to Medjugorje. Joe Walsh Tours Medjugorje Representative: Philip Ryan. For information please contact: James Treacy Tel: 086 0572216. Poster in Church Porch.

**Sign Language Mass:** Each day a BSL NI Sign Language Mass is provided via the webcam from St Vincent de Paul Parish, Ligoniel, Belfast. <https://www.saintvincentdepaulligoniel.com/webcam> You can also watch a recording of the Mass externally at: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQJF\\_QN2zqPzwKx4p6PJ18A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQJF_QN2zqPzwKx4p6PJ18A). This will have subtitles. See poster in porch.

**New Mission Council in Down & Connor Diocese.** If you are interested in being part of a new Mission Council in the diocese to promote and foster mission awareness at home and overseas, please come along and join us for a meeting on Wednesday 28th Nov at 7.00pm in the Good Shepherd Centre, 511 Ormeau Road, Belfast. All are welcome. For further information please contact Fr Conor McGrath on 028 9081 2238 or email c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org

**St Anthony's Parish Statement of Accounts 2017:** The Diocesan Financial Policy (2004) encourages parishes to publicly print a Yearly Income/Expenditure Statement of Accounts. The 2017 statement and 2016 comparison are below. If you have any query please contact Fr H McCann

Income vs Expenditure	Year End:	2016	2017
<b>Income</b> including priest's stipends and collections, missalettes, shrines, other income, etc.		£84,899.08	£86,564.99
<b>Expenditure</b> including rent, rates, repairs, priest's stipends paid out, administration costs, and diocesan collections paid out.		£59,616.22	£66,642.49
<b>Profit / Loss</b>		£25,282.86	£19,642.50

**Suicide Alertness for Everyone (safeTALK).** Would you like to help make this a suicide safer community? A Free of Charge, Suicide Alertness for Everyone (safeTALK) programme is being delivered for anyone over the age of 15 living in the community. You do not need to have a professional background or any additional training. The programme is 3 ½ hrs long and being delivered on 10th December 2018 at 6.30pm-10pm in the New Parish Centre Good Shepherd Church. To register contact: Margaret Woods on 07510514979 or by email woodsm78@aol.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 McCann PP.