

THE ADVENTURE OF LIFE

In a poem called 'The Summer Day', Mary Oliver describes how she had spent a day out in the sunshine, observing nature, drinking in the wonders of creation and concludes with the challenging question

*Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?*

For me, that is the question posed by today's parable of the talents. Our creator God has given us the gift of life, a gift given to us in love. What do

we plan to do with this gift? God has not dictated to us the details of how we should live our life. That is our free choice. The parable makes a contrast between those who trust God and



FEED YOUR LOVE

Without food we die! Our wedding promise was to nourish each other so that we bring life to our marriage. We feed each other in all the little countless ways, but particularly in our tender lovemaking, our talking and listening, support and encouragement, particularly in times of doubt and uncertainty. In these ways our marriage will grow and shine.

- *Marriage Matters*

www.twainoneflesh.org.uk

Next Sunday's Readings



Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17

Psalms 22:1-3,5-6

1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28

Matthew 25:31-46

those who live in fear of God. When we believe that the God who gave us life is a loving God, and use our freedom creatively, we enrich the world in some way. It is not that everything we do will work out well. We will take some risks, and have our share of failures as well, but overall a life lived wholeheartedly will be a blessing for ourselves and for others. This is much more a question of attitude than external achievements. There are people, whose circumstances are apparently very limited, who can radiate contentment and happiness that uplifts others.

In contrast is the servant who buried the talent in the ground for safety sake. One translation of this parable puts the rebuke of the master in this way: 'That's a terrible way to live! It's criminal to live cautiously like that!' It is a terrible way to live. If we believe in

a God of love, we believe that the gifts he gives us are for our enjoyment and for the benefit of others. We can see life as an adventure, as we discover by trial and error how to make the most of our life and the opportunities that come our way. Elsewhere Jesus said that his purpose on earth was that we might have life and have it abundantly. Our task is to make choices that will help us to grow physically, mentally and spiritually.

That does not mean living the life of a compulsive action person. We need to be active but also, like Mary Oliver, we need time to sit in the sun, admire nature and take in the beauty of creation and the wonder of the creator behind it all. As we welcome the gift of this day, what is it that we plan to do with this gift? ■

– John Byrne, OSA



Reflection

What decisions have you made that helped to improve your quality of life?



Lesson

The choices we make influence how our life works out.



Prayer

Show me, Lord, your way so that I may walk in your truth.

Guide my heart to revere your name.
(Ps 86)



This Week (16–22 November)

- 16 M** St Margaret of Scotland
- 17 T** St Elizabeth of Hungary, religious
- 18 W** Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss Peter and Paul
- 19 T** St Mechtilde, religious
- 20 F** St Edmund, martyr
- 21 S** The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 22 S** OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



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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PUBLIC MASS TIMES IN THE COVID-19 ERA

(will be under assessment and review)

Saturday Evening at 6.30pm. (English Parish Mass)

Sunday Morning (in Polish): 9am, & 7pm. (English Parish Mass): 11.30am

Weekdays: Tues & Thurs at 9.30am, Fri at 7.00pm. **All Public English Masses on Facebook.**

Polish Weekday Masses: Tues & Thurs 7pm, Sat 9am

Private Mass (on Facebook Mon 9:30am) Confessions: By Arrangement. **Baptisms:** By Appointment



33rd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

World Day of the Poor

A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. Matthew 25:14-30)

Father, of the Universe, you have entrusted this planet to us. Now let us use all the talents you have given us to bring it to its fullness.

No shirking. No burying the talents.

Let each and every one of us do our part to bring healing, and sow beauty in all creation and so share in your joy.

Anne Osdieck

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Tony Richardson, Shiela Bradshaw, Ann McGann (Willowfield Drive, Funeral service Thursday 19th Nov)

Anniversaries: Peggy Wilson, Gerard Wilson, Fr Des Wilson, Liam Wilson, Raymond Matthews, Paul & Ita Hetherington, Alice McDonnell, Nancy Groogan, Joe McDonnell (Sat 14th Nov at 6:30pm), Minnie Tanney (Sun 15th Nov at 11:30am), James Murray (Thurs 19th Nov at 9:30am), Joseph McDonnell, (Sun 22nd Nov at 11:30am), Dan McDonnell (Sun 29th Nov at 11:30am), Bro Peter Gallagher (Sun 6th Dec at 11:30am), Marie Matthews (Sun 13th Dec at 11:30am), Terence & Sarah McCartan (Sun 20th Dec at 11:30am)

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your generosity to weekend 25th Oct collections: Monthly Stipend £437.79 Weekly Collection £398.36, Shrines £88.13, Donate £0. Please note Monthly Stipend and Weekly Collections this weekend!!!

We would appreciate that if you send in a cheque to pay for a number of different donations, that you itemise what amount should go to each collection.

DONATE button for donations to parish available, where you may wish to donate using a credit/debit card. See link at www.saintanthony.co.uk

Use of Standing Orders for Collections. Forms for diocesan, non-diocesan, weekly and monthly collections are available in the sacristy.

Diocesan Masses and Services on webcams/online. See list at: www.downandconnor.org including link to **Parish of St Anthony, Belfast Facebook page** for Live broadcasting of Mass.

Times of Masses at St Anthony's Church: The public Mass times for Weekend and Weekday are: **English: Sat vigil 6:30pm, Sun 11:30am, Tues & Thurs 9:30am, Friday 7pm (Facebook Live)**

Polish: Sun 9am & 7pm, Tues & Thurs 7pm, Sat 9am

Monday Mass in English at 9:30am will still be celebrated in private (also broadcast on Facebook).

Coronavirus Regulations (Summary)

- The obligation to attend Mass is still suspended.
- Anyone with an underlying vulnerable disability should be encouraged not to attend and/or view mass online.
- Anyone showing symptoms of a temperature, and/or a new persistent cough, and/or loss of taste or smell, they should also stay at home and book a test using the NHS Number 111 or contact their GP clinic by phone to organise this.
- **Face Coverings.** Now mandatory when entering or exiting the church. This is in addition to the Diocesan recommendations that face coverings be worn at all times while in the church.
- **Track and trace.** StopCOVID-19 NI APP (Highly recommended). Once someone has a positive test, manual contact tracing will be initiated. It will operate in parallel, encouraging 'high risk' contacts that might have been missed otherwise, to get tested. The app is one way of helping to control the spread of COVID-19.
- **Funerals and Weddings.** Attendance at funerals is limited to 25 persons with no pre- or post- funeral gatherings. Attendance at

weddings is limited to 25 persons, though the bridal party is not obligated to wear face coverings.

- Remain seated throughout the Mass, and to receive Holy Communion on the Hand.
- Follow directions from our Stewards to assign you to your place, and guide you for Holy Communion.
- At weekend masses, congregation for Holy Communion starts from the back and moves forward row by row. Full list of measure can be found in the Executive Office statement at: <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/news/executive-tightens-restrictions-curb-covid-19>

November Lists of Deceased Lists with envelopes are available in the church porch. Names of our loved-ones who have died can be written on the sheets, and placed into the envelope provided. A donation is welcome but not necessary. These can be placed in the collection basket or in the Collection Box in the sanctuary. These will be opened and the sheets placed on the altar and remembered at masses during November.

Diocesan Mass of Deceased. Bishop Noel will celebrate Mass in Saint Peter's Cathedral for all who have died in the Diocese this year, on Wednesday 18th November at 7pm. This Mass will be streamed on the Cathedral webcam, <https://www.churchservices.tv/stpeterscathedral>. We are asking each parish in the Diocese to send in a list of all those who died in their parishes from 1st January 2020 to novena@downandconnor.org so we can place the names of those who died in 2020 in front of the altar during this Mass.

Northern Pastoral Network—November A Month To Remember. The Northern Pastoral Network (a group of clergy and laity from across the Northern Dioceses) has prepared a simple resource for prayer at home during the month of November, highlighting a time to remember and pray for our dearly departed. It marks out the feast days, provides a family prayer service and some additional prayers for this time. May it bring comfort, solace and the light of Christ to many people during the coming days and weeks.

United Celebration of Columbanus, Sunday 15th November. Watch the stream live at: [Facebook.com/columbanwayni](https://www.facebook.com/columbanwayni), 7pm - 8pm. On behalf of the Friends of Columbanus, Bangor you are invited to join this cross-community church service to celebrate the life and legacy of Columbanus. The recorded service has been filmed in St Columbanus Church, Bangor, Co. Down, with the support of the Church of Ireland, Catholic, Presbyterian and Methodist churches. Beautiful sermons, readings and music will bring you peace, comfort and joy during these difficult and unprecedented times.

The Irish Catholic Newspaper. Baroness Nuala O'Lea has written to all dioceses in Ireland to remind parishioners of the need to keep up to date in matters concerning the Church. She has strongly encouraged that parishioners should subscribe to the Irish Catholic Newspaper. During the Lockdown the paper was discontinued to be sent. But with "normalisation" we encourage you to subscribe. Anyone interested is asked to contact Fr McCann ASAP.

Mary's Meals - Double the Love. At Mary's Meals we are inspired by the courageous 'yes' of Mary. Her total trust in God in the face of numerous challenges gave the World the most precious gift of all - Jesus. Throughout this year of many challenges we have continued to say yes, with the help of our generous supporters, to feeding children their daily meal in a place of education even when obstacles arose. Now we are delighted to share with you a new opportunity to say yes and provide hope to 43,000 children in Bong County, Liberia. From 2nd November until 31st January 2021, any donations made to the Double The Love campaign will be matched by the UK government, up to £2 million. Each little act of love will provide double the support for families in Liberia and the hope of a better future for their children. More information can be found at www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove

Drumalis Advent Day of Reflection. Saturday, 19 December 2020, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Led by Sr Pam Thimmes OSC and hosted by Drumalis via Zoom. For most of us 2020 has been an unprecedented time - a time of change, loss and grief, confusion, discovery, wonder and uncertainty. In some ways it has been an extended advent (arrival, emergence). The cost of the Day of Reflection is £20 per person or £30 per household. Payment in full is required to secure your place. If you would like to book a place, please email drumalis@btconnect.com We welcome credit and debit card payments during office hours - tel 028 28272196/ 28276455 (Mon-Fri, 9 am-5 pm). See poster in porch.

Christmas Cards. The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is offering Christmas cards to the congregation after masses in November. Contributions would be accepted at people's discretion, into a separate red box. Change cannot be given as a precaution against Covid, so any amount large or small is good. It will all help towards supporting local families during the Christmas period.

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.