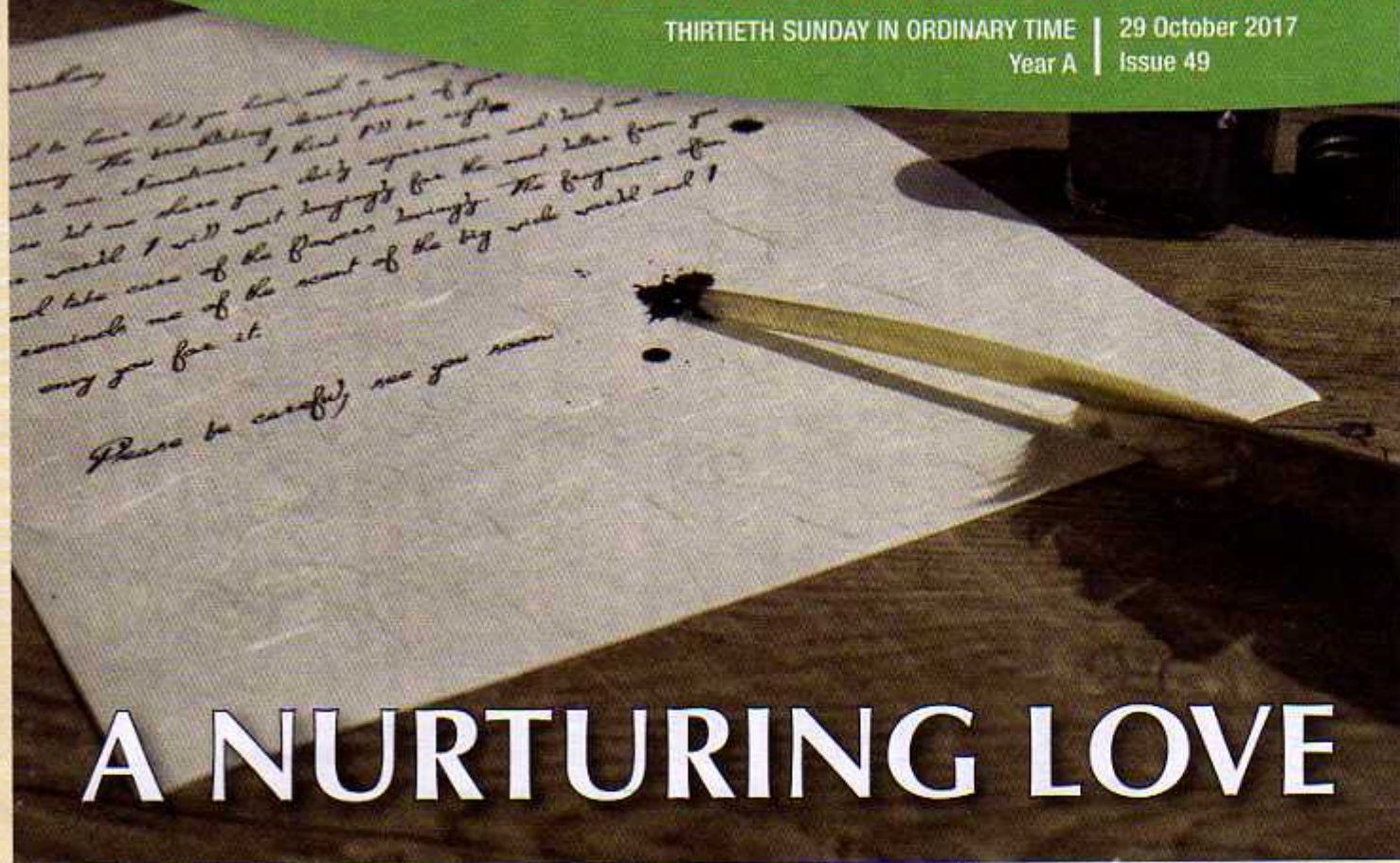


Parish Newsletter



THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 29 October 2017
Year A | Issue 49



A NURTURING LOVE

Perhaps the saddest letters you can receive as a priest are anonymous letters of restitution/apology. They're usually for some past wrongdoing or offence and the sender has a need to somehow make amends for what they did. It's not that the wrong was personally done to you, it could be way back in the past. Usually, it is done for personal, private reasons, but making amends is also a principle step to recovery in the 12-Step

Programme of Alcoholics Anonymous and it's a general rule of life. Step 8 and 9 encourage you to make a list of persons you have wronged and where possible to make direct amends. Sometimes a letter may be the only way for a person to attempt this step. A step which is meant to provide you with peace of mind, relief and liberation from the chains of regret.

Some letters on this topic can be filled

Today's Readings



Exodus 22:20-26
Psalm 17:2-4.47-51
1 Thessalonians 1:5-10
Matthew 22:34-40

Next Sunday's Readings



Malachi 1:14-2:2.8-10
Psalm 130:1-3
1 Thessalonians 2:7-9.13
Matthew 23:1-12

with such self-loathing that you wonder about how possible it is for people to even succeed in love and appreciation of "self" in what Jesus summarises as the heart of the law to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind... and to love your neighbour as yourself." To all authors of such letters reading this, you have my deepest regard, love and admiration for your courage.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind... and to love your neighbour as yourself."

Many people we meet seem to walk around constantly flogging themselves for their flaws. I remember one set of

Reflection

In which ways do you love God and your neighbour as you love yourself?

Lesson

God's will - love - is summarised in the double commandment of love: love of God and love of neighbour.

Prayer

God of love, enable us to recognise that the whole law and prophets depend on this love - Jesus.

parents being mesmerised to hear their child tearfully recall a time she was unkind to Grandad who had just died. The parents didn't recall it. They were sure Grandad had never mentioned it. The child herself had never forgotten or forgiven herself. You know, we live in a society that is litigious and violent. Maybe we have inverted the Jesus command. We are "loving" our neighbours and society - but in the exact same unkind way as we "love" ourselves. If you get my meaning?

Maybe we need to focus, each day, on recognising and forgiving ourselves. How can we view others kindly if we don't give ourselves the same treatment? We are here to help each other; and sometimes to do that you need firstly to mind yourself. It's not meant to be a cliché or to be insulting/condescending. You simply cannot hate - if you love; and we are all extensions of one another. We're all connected. ■

- Tom Cox



This Week (30 October-5 November)

- 30 **Mon** St Alphonsus Rodriguez
- 31 **Tue** St Wolfgang, bishop
- 1 **Wed** ALL SAINTS
- 2 **Thur** ALL SOULS
- 3 **Fri** St Malachy
- 4 **Sat** St Charles Borromeo, bishop
- 5 **Sun** THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





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)



29th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Matthew 22:34-40

1. You may feel some sympathy with the Jews struggling to cope with 613 laws and wondering which were the important ones. But have you ever felt overwhelmed by the rules and regulations of your own tradition? And have you ever been blessed by meeting someone, or reading something, that was able to cut through all the layers and point out to you what is essential in life? Who was that person? What did they say or do? Is there some phrase or text that encapsulates such wisdom for you?

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?

John Byrne OSA. Email jbyrneosa@gmail.com

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Mary Cunningham, Ethna Heaney (Kay Curran's sister)

Anniversaries: Marie Rose McPhillips, Patricia McDonnell Nwoga, Mary Jane McGreevy (Sat 28th Oct at 6:30pm), Manuel Simão Antonio DaSilva (1st Anniv Sun 29th Oct at 11:30am), Sally Watson (Sat 27th Nov at 6:30pm)

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 29th October

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Maria Murphy & Ann Flanagan
Morning Mass: Loretta Watson & Kay Dunn

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Wright
Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

Sun 5th November

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Eamon Blaney & Carmel Blaney
Morning Mass: Tracey Mallon & Eileen Dunn

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Stephen Murphy
Morning Mass: James Henderson

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Propagation of the Faith £698.71, Weekly Collection £336.31, Shrines £63.15. 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 been away and 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.

PLEASE NOTE: THE OLD ONE POUND COIN IS NOW NOT LEGAL TENDER, BUT FOR THE NEXT MONTH THE BANKS MAY ACCEPT THE COIN IN OUR COLLECTIONS / SHRINES. BY THE END OF NOVEMBER THE NEW COIN WILL ON LY BE ACCEPTED!

MASSES FOR FEAST OF ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS

All Saints: (Wed 1st Nov) 9:30am—English 7pm—Polish
All Souls: (Thurs 2nd Nov) 9:30am—English

All Souls Indulgences. An indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted to the faithful, who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, even if only mentally, for the departed. The indulgence is plenary each day from the first to the eighth of November; on other days of the year it is partial.

A plenary indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted to the faithful, who on the day dedicated to the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed [November 2 (as well as on the Sunday preceding or following, and on All Saints' Day)] piously visit a church. In visiting the church it is required that one Our

Father and the Creed be recited. To acquire a plenary indulgence it is necessary also to fulfill the following three conditions: sacramental Confession, Eucharistic communion, and prayer for the intention of the Holy Father. The three conditions may be fulfilled several days before or after the performance of the visit; it is, however, fitting that communion be received and the prayer for the intention of the Holy Father be said on the same day as the visit. The condition of praying for the intention of the Holy Father is fully satisfied by reciting one Our Father and one Hail Mary. A plenary indulgence can be acquired only once in the course of the day.

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 23rd Oct) available in the sacristy.

Light from the Life and Work of Luther. To mark 500 years since the Reformation you are invited to an evening of prayer, friendship and reflection with Lutheran scholar Rev Dr Hubertus Blaumeiser. On Thurs 2nd Nov at 7pm in Fitzroy Presbyterian Church, 77 University Street, Belfast. The talk will be followed by dialogue and refreshment.

St. Agnes' Choral Society presents: The Gift of Music, Saturday 11th November 2017 at 7.30pm, St. Joseph's Parish Centre, Carryduff. Ticket - £12.50 (includes light refreshments). Tickets available from Charlie on 07850203835, Eamon on 07802354799 or Parish Office on 028 90812238 option 2. Proceeds in aid of St. Bernadette's Church Restoration Fund and the The Lighthouse Charity. Organised by the Knights of St Columbanus CK29.

Mary's Meals are Cake Sale Many thanks to all who supported the cake sale last Sunday. Well over £300 was collected. A more accurate total will be relayed later.

A member of Shalom World Northern Ireland will be speaking of the work of Shalom World, including Shalom Tidings Magazine, and a video presentation, at the Masses of Weekend 28/29th October.

Down & Connor Pioneer Association: November- Month of the Holy Souls. Many people choose to abstain from alcohol for the month of November and offer this sacrifice up for their deceased loved ones. **YOU CAN DO LIKEWISE.** Take the Short Term Pledge for November. Pledge 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 November."

50th. Anniversary of St. Bernadette's Church. The 50th. Anniversary Mass to celebrate the opening and dedication of St. Bernadette's Church will take place on Sunday 29th. October at 3p.m.. Bishop Anthony Farquhar will preside. All Parishioners, our former Parishioners, and friends are most welcome to attend. Many of the priests who served here over the years will also be present. Everyone attending the Anniversary Mass will be invited to enjoy a Buffet meal afterwards in the Parish Centre. Admission is free by ticket only! Tickets are available from the St Bernadette's Sacristy.

Downe Travel Pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo, Loreto & Montecassino, 18th-25th May 2018 ex Belfast. (50th anniversary of Padre Pio's death plus stigmata 100th anniversary). Spiritual Director Very Rev Canon Sean Rogan PE, Kilcoo. 7 Nights - 4* Hotel. Price £1090 pp (single room supp. £245). Deposit £250 - includes meals, fully escorted guided tours and all taxes. Contact Marie or Paul Downe Travel. Tel : 028 4461 3288. Email : maric@downetravel.co.uk

Cruse Information Meeting. Cruse is a well-established and highly respected support service for people who are bereaved, to help them understand their grief and to learn how to cope with their loss. We are delighted a Cruse representative is coming to St. Colmille's to give a presentation on "Understanding Grief". We welcome everyone including our neighbouring churches to come along so we can understand a little more and learn about the various stages of grief that many people experience. Recognising these can often be a comfort in itself. Tuesday 7th November 2017, at 7.15 pm, St Colmille's Parochial Hall. There is no charge for this event and no prior booking required.

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.