

Parish Newsletter

27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 7 October 2018
Cycle B | Issue 45



MARRIAGE – A GROWING PLACE

Today the first reading and Gospel speak to us of the miracle of marriage. We all love the romantic aspect of the wedding. We also know that marriage is putting the other person first, doing things for each other – keeping that flame of love lit. It's a miracle to realise that of all the people in the world, you have a special place in someone else's heart and they in yours.

It should be give and take for both with respect, loyalty, faith, sharing and caring as major parts of the journey. If your marriage is even reasonably working, it is a miracle – for many are the forces that can work against a healthy marriage. We live in an age that can be poisonous to marriage.

Sometimes we go from ideal to ordeal to a new deal. Many people look for

Today's Readings



Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm 127
Hebrews 2:9-11
Mark 10:2-16

Next Sunday's Readings



Wisdom 7:7-11
Psalm 89:12-17
Hebrews 4:12-13
Mark 10:17-30

(Continued on back page)

marriage to stay in the ideal phase, and if there is any ordeal, they want a new deal. Our culture says if it doesn't work out, opt out. Thus, successful marriages today are a miracle. Likewise, marriages are also a miracle since they are ultimately, a work of God.

It's pretty clear that the disciples had problems with what Jesus was teaching. But Jesus doesn't back down, he intensifies his language and it hits us between the eyes. In basic words, Jesus insists that marriage has a reality beyond what mere human beings can bring to it or even speak of. Marriage is a work of God – not of man.

It's the deepest form of human relationship. Even in day-to-day human interactions, I find that in meeting people at gatherings, you will find people are

usually entering the encounter with goodness, sincerity and dedication. But we don't live in Eden with Adam and Eve before the fall. We all encounter the wounded humanity of each other where we can misunderstand and irritate one another. A stupid comment or a person caught on a bad day can trigger a chill in the whole proceedings. It's part of our wounded human nature.

We need to keep an open, warm, trusting heart even in the face of rotten human nature. It is only what is soft and pliable that can grow, what is hard and brittle breaks apart. Marriage can be a broken place, a humble place, and a place from which we are invited, each day, to make a new beginning. ■

– Tom Cox

Reflection

In which ways do you treat all people with equal human dignity?

Lesson

Lifelong fidelity to each other in marriage becomes part of disciples' response in faith to God's powerful action in the world.

Prayer

Lord, teach me to honour every human being with the dignity born of your image and likeness. Amen.

This is what marriage is all about – Man and woman walking together, wherein the husband helps his wife to become ever more a woman, and wherein the woman has the task of helping her husband to become ever more a man.

– Pope Francis

This Week (8-14 October)

- 8 **Mon** St Keyne
- 9 **Tue** Bl John Henry Newman; St Denis
- 10 **Wed** St Paulinus of York, bishop
- 11 **Thur** St Canice, abbot
- 12 **Fri** St Wilfrid, bishop
- 13 **Sat** St Edward the Confessor
- 14 **Sun** 28th 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

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Henry McCann (and Chaplain to the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald)
3 Willowfield Crescent. BT6 8HP. Tel. 028 90458158. Mobile 07740603643.

Email: h.mccann@downandconnor.org, stanthonys@downandconnor.org,
henrymccann@hotmail.com. Website: www.saintanthony.co.uk

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)



27th Sunday of Ordinary Time—Year B Day for Life

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS
Mark 10:2-16

1. *Marrriages do break down, but in this story Jesus appears as the wise person urging people to seek first the original harmony where possible, rather than seek escape routes when difficulties arise. When have you found that, in marriage or in other relationships, the bonds have been strengthened when you have been prepared to work through difficulties?*
2. *There are other things that we needlessly and wrongly put in opposition: young and old, male and female, people from different cultures, body and soul. Perhaps at times you have discovered the advantages of exploring the richness in combining such apparently exclusive opposites.*
3. *The children in the second story can be taken as representing any group of 'little ones' whose opinion we may be inclined to dismiss. When have you found that you have been taught an important lesson about life, about love, or about faith by people whose views you had been inclined to dismiss?*

John Byrne OSA. Email jphyrneosa@gmail.com

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES
Anniversaries: Kathleen Lambert (nee Magee), Kitty Gibney, James Curran, Catherine Patricia Lord (Sun 7th Oct at 11:30am)

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 7th October
READERS:

Vigil Mass: Eamon Blaney & Carmel Blaney
Morning Mass: Tracey Mallon & Eileen Dunn
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:
Vigil Mass: Stephen Murphy
Morning Mass: James Henderson

Sun 14th October
READERS:

Vigil Mass: Anthony Clifford & Shauna Mullen
Morning Mass: Martina McClory & Margaret Woods
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:
Vigil Mass: Frank Doherty
Morning Mass: Séamus Monaghan

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Weekly Collection £566.78, WMOF2018 £5, Autumn Voluntary £10, Monthly Stipend £15, Cathedral Fund £5, Shrines £91.
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. New boxes of envelopes are available in sacristy. If you would like a box please speak to Fr McCann.

80th Anniversary of St Anthony's Mass with Bishop Noel Treanor on Tues 16th October at 7:30pm, with installation of the Parish Pastoral Council, followed by reception in St Vincent's Centre. We look forward to celebrating this next milestone in our parish history. 80th Anniversary Committee next meeting will take place on Tues 9th October at 7:30pm in SVP hall/John Paul II hall behind the church.

Baptism Team Training for Parish Groups. Volunteers needed 4-parishioners to be trained to present a baptism course in your parish. Training: A one full day, followed by two evening sessions which will take place in the participants own parish. Training will be conducted at the Good Shepherd Centre by the Family Ministry Baptismal Training Team on Saturday 17th November from 9.30am until 4pm, the follow up sessions will be arranged by the parish teams and a member of the Training Team. The cost for the course is £60.00 per person (paid by the parish). If interested, please contact Fr McCann ASAP

Bereavement Retreat. A reflective time to ponder issues around loss and grief, led by Sr Una Boland, L.C.M. (Formerly Director Hospital Chaplaincy Training Cork). 3rd November – 10am registration & refreshment until 4th November 2pm. Cost £80.00/€95.00. Booking essential: email – admin@dromantineconference.com Phone – 028 30821964 (048 from ROI). SMA Dromantine, Newry, Co Down, BT34 1RH. www.dromantineconference.com

Introduction to Theology of the Body. This DVD and group discussion programme for adults will be held in Tobar Mhuire Monastery, Crossgar for 8 consecutive weeks beginning Thursday 11th October 2018 at 7.30pm, lasting 1 hour. For further enquiries contact tobteam@yahoo.com

Cregagh Presbyterian Church PW invite you to "An Evening of Music" featuring Ballyclare Male Choir performing both secular and sacred music, on Friday 26th October 2018 at 7:30pm. Tickets (incl Supper) £10. Proceeds to go to PW Funds (Mission). For tickets please contact Maggi 07887 395372 or 028 90293236 or you can pay at the door on the night. See Poster in church porch.

Book launch: The Beatitudes of Pope Francis: A Manifesto for the Modern Christian, by Aidan Donaldson. Jim Deeds will be the keynote speaker and Brendan Dowd has most kindly agreed to act as facilitator. Wed 17th Oct at 7pm in Holy Family Church, Limestone Road, Belfast. RSVP by Fri 12th Oct to events@veritas.ie.

The Introduction of the Permanent Diaconate a copy of the diocesan leaflet which explains what the permanent diaconate is. The candidates who will be ordained next Sunday 14th Oct in St Peter's Cathedral, at 3pm: Joseph Baxter (Holy Family), Terence Butcher (Portstewart), Brendan Dowd, (Holy Family), Brett Lockhart (St Brigid's), James McAllister (Bangor), Gregory McGuigan (St Brigid's), Patrick McNeill (St Anne's), Kevin Webb (Derriaghy), Martin Whyte (St Malachy's). Keep them in your prayers.

Annual Legion of Mary Rosary Procession, Sunday 7th of October 2018. Leaves St Johns Church, Falls Road, at 3pm and will process to St Michael the Archangel Church where there will be a short service of Benediction. Refreshments will be available afterwards. Rosary beads and leaflets provided. All are welcome. Please gather at Saint Johns church at 245pm.

Precious Life Rosary on the Coast. On Sunday October 7th we will gather on our coasts and borders to pray the Rosary. There will be a Holy Rosary recited at the Waters edge, Titanic Quarter, Belfast@2:30pm. Contact Precious Life on 02890278484 or info@preciouslife.com for more information.

All Night Adoration Vigil of Reparation for family, life and renewal of the catholic faith, St. Oliver Plunkett's Church Toome, Friday 12th to Saturday 13th October commencing at 7 a.m. on Friday morning through to Saturday 10 a.m., 101st anniversary of The Miracle of The Sun in Fatima. Masses Fri 9 a.m., 12 midnight, Saturday 10 a.m. A statue of Our Lady of Fatima blessed by Pope Francis in Fatima on 13 May 2017 and relics of St. Jacinta and St. Francisco present for veneration. Blessing of roses after each mass to bring home or to bring to the sick. All welcome.

Catholic Engaged Encounter. Are you making Wedding plans? Prepare for your future Married life at a Catholic Engaged Encounter Course, 23-24 March 2019 in Our Lady and St. Patrick's Parish Centre, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim. For details/booking: marriageencounter.ie or 028 2763 8512

Anam Cara, the national organisation that provides support services to bereaved parents, are hosting a Bereavement Information Evening in Crowne Plaza Shaw's Bridge (on outer ring near M1) on Wednesday 10th October 2018 from 7:00pm-9:00pm (registration from 6:45). This event gives parents an opportunity to hear an experienced bereavement professional talk about the many challenges families may face after the death of their son or daughter. This is a free event open to all bereaved parents. Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers for room set up, we would appreciate if you could RSVP to info@anamcara.ie before Monday, 8th October 2018 or call us on 02895213120.

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.