

# Parish Newsletter

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 28 October 2018  
Cycle B | Issue 48



## NEW EYES FOR NEW LIFE

**F**or as long as I can remember I have had corrected vision with spectacles. At this stage, it's part of me and a few times when I was walking around without glasses people took a while to figure out it was me!

Sometimes we get used to seeing people in a fixed or particular way. We talked in one recent Campaign of people being in "echo-chambers," debating, interacting with people who shared their views in a "group-think"

manner and in some cases blocking opposing voices online. It's a risk for any group of people and we so need people to expand our limited perspective on things. I once had gotten so used to a certain type of people showing up at events, I nearly didn't notice the lack of young people at what I thought was a "well attended" event – until a parent pointed out the glaringly obvious. So we worked harder at personally inviting and involving this group.

### Today's Readings



Jeremiah 31:7-9  
Psalm 125:1-6  
Hebrews 5:1-6  
Mark 10:46-52

### Next Sunday's Readings



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

(Continued on back page)

Don't we all have inner vision that becomes blurry, unfocused and in some senses rendering us blind? Physical vision can be short sighted or long sighted. I am the former and can run the risk of seeing only what serves me and failing to see the needs of those beyond my reach.

But I'm not alone, others choose what is short-term and handy, at the expense of what is ultimately for everyone's good – longer-term. Somebody once said that a politician can think of the next election while a Statesman (or woman) thinks of the next generation.

I remember reading many years ago of a man with zero vision ended up on a journey with a driver who got hopelessly lost... Now, this was before Sat-Nav and smart phone maps. When the blind man suggested to the driver

that he look for a signpost, the driver admitted that he couldn't read. So there was nothing for it, but to have the driver, hoist his unseeing but reading passenger up the nearest signpost to read it by tracing with his fingers the raised letters that were on old Irish signposts!

Have we lost the ability to read the signs of the times? Has our vision become impaired by looking too long into the "screens" of our times that we've lost sight of what is true and eternal? Maybe my way of thinking has become impaired by listening to and reading only what I agree with, only what fits my own idea of what is "true" – contributions from those who match my opinions coming to shape my own ideas and choices.

We should bring this vision problem before the Lord... "What do you want me to do for you," is not just a past statement, it's a present-day offer to help.

– Tom Cox

## Reflection

Imagine Jesus looking at me, when I do not see him, and let me hear him ask me, "What do you want me to do for you?"

## Lesson

Bartimaeus believes; his faith saves him.

## Prayer

O Lord, comfort all who suffer, especially those who have lost hope, for whom every new day is a new ordeal. Console them, Lord, and give them hope. Amen.

## This Week (29 Oct – 4 Nov)

- 29 **Mon** St Colman, bishop; St Abraham of Rostor
- 30 **Tue** St Alphonsus Rodriguez
- 31 **Wed** St Wolfgang, bishop
- 1 **Thur** ALL SAINTS
- 2 **Fri** ALL SOULS
- 3 **Sat** St Malachy, bishop
- 4 **Sun** 31st 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)



## 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time—Year B

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Mark 10:46-52

1. In this story Jesus cures the blind man, Bartimaeus. Recovery of sight in the Bible is often a metaphor for coming to faith. Perhaps during your life you have had moments of insight, of deeper understanding, of appreciating who Jesus is for you. What was it that helped you to see more clearly?

2. Who has the 'Jesus person' who helped you to see more clearly? Perhaps, as a parent, a teacher, or a friend, you have also been a 'Jesus person' for another and helped her or him to a clearer understanding of the meaning of life, love, and faith.

3. To get to Jesus, Bartimaeus threw aside his cloak so that he would not be impeded. What have you had to discard in order to be able to see more clearly (e.g., an assumption, a prejudice, a rigid opinion)?

4. 'Your faith has saved you' Jesus said to Bartimaeus. Recall situations in which you have been grateful for the faith that is yours because in some way it saved you.

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

### WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Brother Columba Pheilm O'Neill OCSO (Our Lady of Bethlehem Abbey, Portlengone), Briege Mulhall (mother of Fr Brendan CSSR), Patrick Lundy

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

### READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 28th October

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Eamon Blaney & Carmel Blaney

Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard & Eileen Dunn

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Wright

Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

Sun 4th November

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Anthony Clifford & Shauna Mullen

Morning Mass: Sarah Corscadden & Kay Dunn

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Stephen Murphy

Morning Mass: James Henderson

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections; Propagation of the Faith £476.28, Weekly Collection £69.62, Shrines £100.81.

5th National Collection for the World Meeting of Families:



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.

Feast of All Saints 1st Nov Times of Masses:

Vigil Mass (31st Oct) at 7pm (English) Day Mass (1st Nov) 9:30am (English); 7pm (Polish)

Feast of All Souls 2nd Nov Times of Masses:

7pm (English); 8pm (Polish)

80th Anniversary of St Anthony's. The display by Dessie Crilly on the Parish History display will be on view in the front Porch this final week. It is hoped to compile this information into a History of the Parish book next year and we would be appreciative of any further pictures or personal stories that anyone would wish to be included. If interested please contact Dessie Crilly or Fr McCann as soon as possible.

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 [stjohnsphevents@icloud.com](mailto:stjohnsphevents@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 McGinnity. We warmly invite you to attend and help celebrate the lives and lasting legacy of these wonderful people.

The Priests Unexpected Journey. Join "The Priests" to mark the beginning of their 10th Anniversary Year at The Europa Hotel, Belfast, Sunday 28th October at 7.30pm where you'll hear and see video footage and exclusive pictures of how their Unexpected Journey began, where it went and where it's going AND songs as well. Tickets £25 available at the door or online from [www.ticketmaster.ie](http://www.ticketmaster.ie) Tel: 0844 277 4455 or [www.visitbelfast.com](http://www.visitbelfast.com) Tel: 028 9024 6609.

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.

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.