



FAITHFUL SERVICE

We have come quite a journey in our idea of Mission. From going out there – to it being much more local. Perhaps we strayed a bit into presenting our Faith as some religious ideology or lofty ethical teaching. Today we understand it more as presenting the person of Jesus Christ – if necessary with words as well as witness. Nothing else but that friendship with Christ could explain the heroism that individuals have shown. Pope Francis in his letter for Mission

Sunday 2017 remembers a student from the Dinka tribe in Southern Sudan who, at the cost of his own life, protected a student from the enemy Nuer tribe who was about to be killed. He recalls a missionary praying aloud with a weeping grieving people in Kitgum, Uganda, whose loved ones had been massacred by a rebel group, the words of Jesus on the Cross: 'My God, My God, why have you deserted me?'

Only faith can explain in this 21st century of martyrs how the Gospel constantly overcomes narrowness, conflict, racism, tribalism, and promotes everywhere, and among all, reconciliation, fraternity, and sharing.

Next Sunday's Readings



Exodus 22:20-26
Psalm 17:2-4, 47:51
1 Thessalonians 1:5-10
Matthew 22:34-40

People such as Brother Richie Fernando who was a fun-loving 26-year-old Jesuit seminarian from the Philippines: in 1996 he died protecting his Cambodian students from a hand grenade that a troubled student and ex-soldier had intended to kill classmates. Richie used his own body to take the blast. His path to canonisation has begun.

He had also once written about death in a retreat diary, in which he said: 'I wish, when I die, people remember not how great, powerful, or talented I was, but that I served and spoke for the truth, I gave witness to what is right, I was sincere in all my works and actions, in other words, I loved and followed Christ.'

The mission is always ongoing as Pope Francis reminds us. It's like the Church

is on 'constant pilgrimage across the various deserts of life, through the different experiences of hunger and thirst for truth and justice.'

Maybe we need to think a bit about what Church is for. It was never meant to be an end in itself 'but a humble instrument and mediation of the Kingdom' (Pope Francis). It's meant to be a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security.

Mission Sunday reminds us that there is more at stake than our narrow concerns – it's about faith in the person of Jesus Christ.

– Tom Cox



Reflection

Feel within yourself the three movements of Sanctification: downwards, upwards and outwards.



Lesson

Jesus prays that we are sanctified and consecrated for the mission in the world.



Prayer

Father, consecrate them in the truth: your word is truth. As You sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world (Jn 17:17-18).



This Week (19–25 October)

- 19 M** Ss John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues and Comp.
- 20 T** St Irene of Portugal
- 21 W** St Hilarion, St Celina
- 22 T** St John Paul II, pope
- 23 F** St John of Capestrano, priest
- 24 S** St Anthony Mary Claret, bishop
- 25 S** 30th 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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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



29th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

*"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar
and to God what belongs to God."*

*Did Caesar create the stars? Hurl them to the ends of the universe?
Can he make blood course through our veins?
Or craft a hummingbird or a Gerbera daisy?*

No? Then his coins can't buy what we really need.

*God, Creator, you are the one whose face we seek.
The domain of love that you give in grace and peace.
We are in your image. Please take us as your own.*

Anne Osdieck

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Sr Mairead Bradley CP, Joe Mulligan (father of Fr Declan), Maureen McCann (aunt of Fr Henry, requiem mass Tues 13th Oct at 8pm), Tony Richardson

Anniversaries: Frances Matthews, James Curran, Peggy Wilson, Patsy Mackin (2nd Anniv), Catherine Patricia Lord, Peggy Wilson, Gerard Wilson, Fr Des Wilson, Liam Wilson, Raymond Matthews (Sun 18th Oct at 11:30am), Michael Matthews (Sun 25th Oct at 11:30am), Nancy Groogan (Sun 8th Nov at 11:30am), Minnie Tanney (Sun 15th Nov at 11:30am)

COLLECTIONS: New boxes of envelopes are available. Many thanks for your generosity to last weekend's collections: Weekly Collection £575

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).

Mission Sunday 18th October 2020. Mission Sunday is a day set aside for the Catholic Church throughout the world to publicly renew its commitment to the missionary movement. This October, World Mission Sunday will take place over the weekend of 18th. Worryingly it is in jeopardy. The pandemic will mean fewer offerings for this vital collection. The implications for overseas missionaries and communities in the months ahead will be devastating. Please, if you are in a position to help, do so right now. Support overseas missionaries in the Collection.

Some General Points on the Update of Diocesan Guidelines for attending Masses in the Church: The guidelines published on 26th June 2020: <https://www.downandconnor.org/blog/2020/06/26/26-june-2020-guidance-on-re-opening-of-churches-for-public-worship/>, WERE FURTHER UPDATED (underlined) on 16th October in an email to clergy.

• Of course if someone has an underlying vulnerable disability, as the obligation to attend mass is still suspended, they should be encouraged not to attend and/or view mass online. If they are 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.

• USE OF FACE-COVERINGS (Obligatory). As per previous guidance the wearing of face coverings is NOW MANDATORY at all Masses and all other liturgical celebrations in church, along with the ongoing maintenance of 2 metre physical distancing. Some people are exempted from the wearing of face

coverings, as outlined at <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-face-coverings>.

• CHOIRS, INSTRUMENTS AND CONGREGATIONAL SINGING (Obligatory). The current recommendation of "one cantor and one instrumentalist" included in the Irish Episcopal Conference Framework Document issued on 9th June 2020 remains unchanged for now. Parts of the Mass which may ordinarily be sung by members of a congregation should be recited. Until advised otherwise congregations are not permitted to sing.

• Churches will remain open and liturgy may continue subject to the guidance in place and informed by your risk assessment. In addition, it will now be mandatory for face covering to be worn when entering and exiting the church. This is in addition to the Church leaders' recommendation endorsed by the Diocese, that face covering be worn at all times while in the Church.

• Attendance at funerals is to be limited to 25 persons, with no pre- or post-funeral gatherings

• From Monday 19th October 2020, Attendance at Weddings is to be limited to 25 persons. Please note that parties to a marriage are not required to wear face coverings when entering and exiting the church.

• In our Pastoral Area, the local agreement is to remain seated throughout the Mass, and to receive Holy Communion on the Hand. But if a parishioner insists on receiving on the tongue, then the priest/eucharist minister must sanitize his hand with alcohol gel before continuing.

• Please 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>

Rosary for the Month of October. Archbishop Eamonn Martin is asking families to pray the Rosary together for the month of October in what is called the Family Rosary Crusade against the effects of Covid-19.

Safeguarding Sunday This year, as Bishop of the Diocese, I have designated Sunday 25th October as 'Safeguarding Sunday'. This will be an opportunity for all the parishes to pray together and acknowledge the dedication of hundreds of Volunteers in our parishes who serve in the ministry of Safeguarding across the Diocese. During the celebration of the Sunday liturgy we will also renew our commitment to the pastoral care of victims of abuse of every kind as well as young people and adults in our parishes. On Sunday 25th October, 7pm, parishioners are invited to join online the celebration of Evening Prayer, led by Bishop Noel Treanor, from St. Peter's Cathedral, Belfast. To join, kindly follow the links to the Cathedral webcam: <http://www.churchservices.tv/speterscathedral>

Dromantine Retreat Centre Events in November 2020. (the centre plans to re-open on 1st November)

'BROKEN OPEN': How difficult times can help us grow. Fr. Hugh Lagan SMA, 2nd November (9.30am) – 3rd November (5.00pm). This workshop will explore the potential for discovering courage, compassion and wisdom even in the most painful of life circumstances. Full cost £115 or £125.

'Loss and Recovery'. Fr. Jim Cogley, 14th November (9.30am – 5.00pm). This seminar will explore loss in its many facets and how it is also an invitation to wholeness. "While the heart grieves for what it has lost, the Spirit dances for that which it has found." Full cost £35.

For more information contact Dromantine Retreat And Conference Centre, Newry, Co Down, N. Ireland, BT34 1RH. Tel: +44 2830 821964, email: admin@dromantineconference.com

Congregation of the Sisters of the Cross and Passion is celebrating the bicentenary of the birth of Elizabeth Prout, their founder. Drumalis is hosting a series on Zoom lectures during the academic year 2020-2021 to mark that.

The first of the series is on October 22 at 7 pm with Dr Sr Gemma Simmonds who will be speaking on the subject 'Hope in a Time of Pandemic'.

The second is on January 14 with Amy-Jill Levine, Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at the Vanderbilt University, Tennessee on the subject 'Understanding Jesus means Understanding Judaism'.

The third is on March 4 with Dom Christopher Jamison (subject to be confirmed). Contact Drumalis to register. www.drumalis.co.uk, 02828272196 or 02828276455

The Irish Catholic Newspaper. Baroness Nuala O'Loan 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

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.