

# Parish Newsletter



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 3 SEPTEMBER 2017  
Year A | Issue 41

## TAKE UP YOUR CROSS AND FOLLOW ME



“If any want to become my followers, let them take up their cross and follow me.” This has been a very misunderstood saying. It has been interpreted in the sense that the more crosses we have the more closely we are following Jesus. So we have had a spirituality of multiple works of penance, and at times we seem to think that suffering is good in itself. The objective is to follow Jesus more closely, Jesus who gave his life that we might have life; Jesus who

came to serve and not to be served. Following Jesus means that we in our turn give our lives in service to others that they may have a better life. To put it in another way, we follow Jesus when our lives are dedicated to love as was his. If love is the dominant motivation of our lives, we do not need to seek additional voluntary penances. Love brings its own crosses. Any parent with small children can testify to that. All loving relationships take us beyond our comfort zone but because of love we

### Today's Readings



Jeremiah 20:7-9  
Psalm 62:2-6.8-9  
Romans 12:1-2  
Matthew 16:21-27

### Next Sunday's Readings



Ezekiel 33:7-9  
Psalm 94:1-2.6-9  
Romans 13:8-10  
Matthew 18:15-20

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are willing to disturb ourselves to be there for others with encouragement, support, acceptance, forgiveness, help and the myriad forms that love takes in daily life. We do this in order that the other may have a better life.

In doing so we also benefit. "It is in giving that we receive", as the Prayer of St Francis says. In *Evangelii Gaudium*, "The Joy of the Gospel", Pope Francis asserts: "We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves... Those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of communicating life to others" (EG 8, 10). It is a tremendous privilege and gift to have the opportunity of being a positive

influence in the life of another human being, and this is a chance that in one way or another comes to each of us. Think of the truth of this in your own life. Remember and give thanks for the people who have helped, supported and encouraged you. In your memories I am sure there are occasions when you can see that they "took up their cross" to be there for you. Recall also when you have done that for others and thank God that you were able to do so.

**"It is in giving  
that we receive"**

There will be times when we see no visible results: a child with a disability, or an adult with dementia may be incapable of a response. Our efforts may seem like a waste of time. So it must have seemed to Jesus. Yet his life, given in love, was to have awesome fruits. Our lives, given in love, will not be barren. ■

– John Byrne, OSA

### Reflection

Who are the people who have inspired you by their generous love of others?

### Lesson

It is in giving that we receive.

### Prayer

Lord, grant that I may never want so much to be consoled as to console.

### This Week (4–10 September)

- 4 **Mon** St Cuthbert; St Mac Nissi
- 5 **Tue** St Lawrence Giustiniani; St Teresa of Kolkata
- 6 **Wed** St Bega, abbess; St Eleutherius, abbot
- 7 **Thur** St Cloud, priest
- 8 **Fri** THE NATIVITY OF THE BVM
- 9 **Sat** St Ciaran, abbot; St Peter Claver
- 10 **Sun** TWENTY-THIRD 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)



## 22nd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Matthew 16:21-27

1. Short-term loss is sometimes necessary for long-term gain, as a student studying, or an athlete training, can testify. When have you found that denying yourself proved to be worthwhile because of what you gained afterwards?
2. Jesus was teaching his followers that the path of discipleship would involve pain and suffering. Peter would have none of it. When have you found that taking up your cross brought you life, even though at the time it may have been difficult?
3. Jesus knew that because his good news message was not acceptable to the authorities he would suffer and die. In spite of this he trusted that the power of God would overcome evil. Have you seen a good news message survive even though opponents tried to stifle it?
4. Jesus promised that those who suffer for the kingdom would be rewarded. Perhaps, even in this earthly life, you have experienced reward for faithful discipleship. What have these rewards been?

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

### WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Sr Celestine Clifford, Thomas Murphy, Patricia Watson

Anniversaries: Dan Gallagher, Robert (Bobbie) McParland, Vincent Crilly, Brenda Gunn, Carol McGreevy (Sat 2nd Sept at 6:30pm), Thomas & Isobel McGiffin (Sun 3rd at 11:30am)

### READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 3rd September

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Maria Murphy & Anthony Clifford  
Morning Mass: Tracey Mallon & Margaret Sheppard

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Wright  
Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

Sun 10th September

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Eamon Blaney & Carmel Blaney  
Morning Mass: Sarah Corscadden & Kathryn Curran

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Stephen Murphy  
Morning Mass: James Henderson

**COLLECTIONS:** Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Weekly £328.99, Cathedral Fund £5, Monthly Stipend £5, Shrines £69.89. 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.

**The 5th Annual Round-Table Gathering** will be held in The Parish Centre, All Saints Church, Ballymena on Saturday 9 September from 1.00 - 4.30 pm. This year's theme, by popular request, is Faith in the Family. Everyone is welcome. Bairbre Cahill, wife, mother of four children, author, speaker and Pastoral Development Worker will help us explore ways in which we can all, young and old, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, Godparents, work to grow faith within our own hearts, our families, and the community in which we live. Other speakers are Baroness Nuala O'Loan and Fr Paddy Delargy, and the Round Table will be facilitated by Janice McKeith. To register or for further information contact All Saints Parish Centre at 028 2563 1236, [allsaintspe@outlook.com](mailto:allsaintspe@outlook.com), Janice McKeith at 07927089125 or Nuala O' Loan at 07769974970. If you would like to come please let us know so that we can make enough tray bakes!

**Course for Ministers of the Word.** You may recall in previous bulletins that the information meeting re In-Service training programme for Ministers of the Word, will take place at St. Malachy's Parish Centre, Alfred Street, on Monday 11th September. (7-8.30pm). 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. (Car parking will be available in the grounds of the Church. It would help greatly if people could travel together as we have a limited number of car spaces - approach Alfred Street from the Ormeau Avenue end as the street is now one-way for traffic). Further paid parking is available on Ormeau Avenue, beside the Fire Station. This programme (10 sessions), will take place on Monday evenings, 7-9.30pm, (including 30minutes 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. To assist in preparation, could ministers of the word please confirm in the sacristy by the end of this Sunday. A sheet is available to sign with your name and telephone number.

**The Annual Pioneer Mass for the Belfast Region** will be celebrated in Corpus Christi Church, Springhill Grove, Whitelock Rd Belfast BT12 7SL on Wednesday 27th September 2017 at 7 pm. Persons wishing to be presented with any of the following - Gold, Silver, Young Pioneer or other emblems/ certificates please contact Pat 9262 9959; Josephine 9061 7116; Ian 9061 6601. Light refreshments afterwards, everyone welcome.

**Belfast Community Gospel Choir.** St Mary's on the Hill Parish, Glengormley, have arranged that this acclaimed choir shall give a presentation of music and hymns in praise of God at St Bernard's Church, on Friday 6th October at 8pm. Tickets are £10 per adult and £5 per child and can be bought from the Repository, the parish office or online at [bcgsmoth.eventbrite.co.uk](http://bcgsmoth.eventbrite.co.uk), email [bcgsmoth@gmail.com](mailto:bcgsmoth@gmail.com) or call 07377 098094. See poster in porch

**Fatima Conference for Northern Ireland** on September 8th and 9th - in conjunction with World Apostolate of Fatima (Ireland), the Pontifical Marian Academy, the Marian Institute and the Mariological Society of Ireland. This two day event will explore in detail the events of Fatima, its message to todays world and its call. In the Drummond Hotel, Ballykelly. See poster in Church Porch.

**Grandparents National Annual Pilgrimage - 10th September 2017, Knock Shrine at 2.30pm.** Everybody welcome to honour & thank Grandparents alive & dead for all they have done for us down through the ages. Chief Celebrant Archbishop Eamon Martin - Ballina School Choir - Dana sings 'Our Lady of Knock'. See poster in the Porch.

**4th Diocesan Faith and Life Convention.** Bishop Treanor invites you to attend our fourth Faith and Life Convention on Saturday 30th September 2017 in Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock, Belfast beginning at 10am.

This year we are delighted to welcome Cardinal Kevin Farrell as our keynote speaker. He will speak to us on the theme: Faith in the Family. In the afternoon each participant will have the opportunity to take part in two workshops from a range of twenty seven. The workshops fill up quickly so it's best to book now!

Perhaps the best part of the day is the pleasure of meeting up with a great crowd of committed people from all over the diocese and beyond! Online booking is available at: [www.faithandlifeconvention.org](http://www.faithandlifeconvention.org) Booking forms are also available from the Sacristy. We look forward to seeing you in September.

**Precious Life: MASSIVE PRAYER RALLY FOR IRELAND** - On Saturday 9th September at 1pm, join thousands of people gathering at Nuts Corner, Co. Antrim, to pray for the healing, restoration and transformation of our land. For more information, contact Precious Life on 028 9027 8484 or [info@preciouslife.com](mailto:info@preciouslife.com)

**Viatore Cristì (VC):** Always wanted to volunteer overseas? Want to do a course on global social injustice? Learn more at the Viatore Cristì (VC) - Information & Recruitment Session in BELFAST on Wednesday 6th September 2017 at 7.30pm in St John's Parochial House, Falls Road, Belfast BT12 6EN OR Tel. 01 8689986 [apply@viatorecristi.com](mailto:apply@viatorecristi.com) [www.viatorecristi.com](http://www.viatorecristi.com) ALL WELCOME!

**Training for Informal Caregivers** is a free course for friends or family members who are caring for a person with dementia. The course provides information about dementia, legal and financial issues, communication and available services. Please find attached a list of courses taking place throughout Belfast from September-December. See poster in Church Porch.

**Preparatory Group on the Parish Pastoral Council.** The next meeting will be on Thurs 7th September at 7pm in the Pope John Paul II hall behind the church.

**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.