

Parish Newsletter



26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 30 September 2018
Cycle B | Issue 44



A FAMILY OF "US"

They say that the difference between confidence and arrogance is that the confident person will say, "I can do it," whereas the arrogant person will say, "Only I can do it." It would seem that both the disciples of the Gospel and in the First Reading had strayed into the latter – arrogance. Perhaps it could be our story as well?

It's also a very dangerous day when we learn the words "them" and "us". It's happening in Europe with the rise of the far right. Sometimes a change of perspective helps – to literally walk in the others' shoes. I was reading a true but bizarre story of the far-right Hungarian politician Csanád Szegedi whose discovery that his grandmother had been a Holocaust survivor prompted a radical about-turn in his

Today's Readings



Numbers 11:25-29
Psalm 18:8,10,12-14
James 5:1-6
Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

Next Sunday's Readings



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

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thinking. He has since renounced his anti-semitism and works to teach people from his experience. And yet, something in our DNA has hard-wired us to see the world not as one big "us" but as an innocent "us" versus a guilty "them".

It's strange how we struggle to acquire and hold onto things, even with God. We can be so jealous of our patch, our area of responsibility, no matter how small, and we guard it so carefully. We all too easily pit ourselves against others also: we versus they, ours versus theirs, labelling others as strangers or with the chilling put-down "a blow-in".

At the root of such behaviour are envy and jealousy. At their heart is sadness, when you wallow in sadness at another's joys and God-given abilities.

Reflection

Think a little of times you may have harmed the faith of others by what you did or failed to do.

Lesson

Salt without taste is useless. Faith that does not touch one's life is equally useless.

Prayer

Lord, may my life be filled with your light. May I bring your light to others, especially those living in the darkness of depression, doubt, anxiety or despair. Amen.

It's not just a modern reality. In the First Reading, Moses shows himself to be great in mind as well as in action. A lesser person could have felt threatened if they weren't the sole agent of God's word. But unlike others, Moses is secure in his knowledge that all gifts come from above and God's arm is not shortened. In the Gospel, an unperturbed Jesus faces the young disciple John who is disturbed because people other than disciples were casting out demons. Jesus' advice is to take a wider view – "...he that is not against us is for us." The temptation to exclude is no more legitimate within the Church than outside it. We are all so different and at varying points on the path. No one has the right to discount or despise anybody else. God's family is broad for God isn't choosy – we are. ■

– Tom Cox

There is no such thing as low-cost Christianity. Following Jesus means swimming against the tide, renouncing evil and selfishness.

– Pope Francis

This Week (1-7 October)

- 1 Mon** St Thérèse of the Child Jesus
- 2 Tue** The Guardian Angels
- 3 Wed** St Columba Marmion
- 4 Thur** St Francis of Assisi
- 5 Fri** St Faustina, religious
- 6 Sat** St Bruno, priest
- 7 Sun** 27th 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)



26th Sunday of Ordinary Time—Year B

SEEKING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS
 Mark 9:38-43, 45,47-48

1. John objected when a person, who was not in their group, cast out demons in Jesus' name. Jesus himself had no problems with this. Jealousy can poison our outlook even when what is done by another is good. 'They are invading my patch.' Perhaps you have seen, in yourself or in others, the negative effect of jealousy and the contrasting positive effect of being able to rejoice that good is being done, irrespective of the person doing it.
 2. In strong terms Jesus condemns those who are destructive of the life of others, particularly the 'little ones'. Just as Jesus came that we might have life and have it to the full, we likewise are here to make a positive difference to others. What was it like for you when you were able to do something that was helpful to another?
 3. Rather dramatically Jesus tells us to cut off a hand, or tear out an eye, rather than harm another. It is not to be taken literally but it does mean that we should not be casual about our efforts to live a good life. When have you experienced the benefits of an element of seriousness in your approach to life?
- John Byrne OSA. Email jpbyrneosa@gmail.com

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES
Anniversaries: Jim & Kaathleen Laverty, Thomas & Isobel McGiffin, Kathleen Lambert (nee Magee), Kitty Gibney, James Curran (Sun 30th Sept at 11:30am), Catherine Patricia Lord (Sun 7th Oct at 11:30am)

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 30th September
READERS:

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

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Ann Wright
 Morning Mass: Margaret Sheppard

Sun 7th October
READERS:

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

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Stephen Murphy
 Morning Mass: James Henderson

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Weekly Collection £637.40, Autumn Voluntary £70, Cathedral Fund £5, Shrines £109.89.
 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. Anniversary Committee next meeting will take place on Tues 9th October at 7:30pm in SVP hall/John Paul II hall behind the church.

Youth Alpha. If you are aged 16-19 and have questions about faith, or just want to know more about Christianity, then you have the perfect opportunity to do so over a free dinner in the upcoming Youth Alpha course. Each evening is based around food, a short video and discussion with peers. The series will run for 10 weeks (September 30th - November 11th in St Brides hall and November 18th - December 9th in Saint Joseph's Parish Centre). The course runs every Sunday evening from 7pm until 9pm. Transport from non-host parishes will be provided. There is no charge for the course, simply sign up by emailing your interest to s.farrell@downandconnor.org or visit <https://alpha.org/alpha-youth-series/>

Doubleband Films Documentary - "Born in '21" for BBC NI to mark the centenary of the creation of Northern Ireland in 2021. The film will tell the story of the state through the lives of ordinary people, born at the time of it's foundation in 1921. Conversation will focus on their own families, their work, and how their lives changed over the decades. These personal stories will then be weaved through interviews with historians, who will talk about the key moments and events in the history of Northern Ireland, from it's birth to the present day. So far we've met some fantastic characters but are still on the lookout for more individuals with a range of life experiences, from across the country and who were born in 1921. At this stage it's just a chat over a cup of tea for research purposes. This project will run well into 2019 and possibly beyond, but more information can be found on the poster in the porch. For more information contact Sharon Whittaker, Doubleband Films, 02890243331/07547535119, or email swittaker@doublebandfilms.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 tobtcream@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.

The Introduction of the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Down and Connor. With the ordination of 8 men on Sunday 14th October in St Peter's Cathedral, PLEASE TAKE HOME WITH YOU a copy of the diocesan leaflet which explains what the permanent diaconate is. The candidates are: 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. On Sunday the 7th of October 2018, The Annual Legion of Mary Rosary Procession will take place. The procession 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.

First Saturdays Devotion of Reparation as requested by Our Lady of Fatima will take place in the Church of Christ the Redeemer, Lagmore, Belfast, BT17 0TG on Saturday 6th October: Sacrament of Reconciliation from 8.30am; Rosary at 8.45am; Meditation on the Mysteries of the Rosary at 9.10am (for fifteen minutes) Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 9.30am

Back on Track 'early intervention initiative for primary school children'. Calling retired primary and secondary teachers: "Unique volunteering opportunities for Retired Teachers to provide 1:1 support to children with additional educational needs in primary schools in your area. One morning per week (2/3 hours) is required for a minimum of 15 weeks. Full induction will be provided. Please contact Kate at Sólás on 02890 247600, or email progs@solasbt7.com for further details and information pack".

Precious Life Rosary on the Coast. On Sunday October 7th Ireland together with the UK, the USA, Poland and other countries will form a Holy League of Nations. 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.

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.