

Parish Newsletter

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 8 SEPTEMBER 2019
Cycle C | Issue 41

RELIABLE DISCIPLES

It is great to find a reliable plumber, electrician, hairdresser, or somebody else who provides prompt, efficient and competent service. They know what they are about and they instil confidence in the people availing of their services.

Jesus attracted huge crowds wherever he went and many professed a desire to follow him. He saw that some of these had no idea of what it would

mean to become a disciple. They had not weighed up the cost and could not be relied upon to stay the course, like a builder who started to build a house without seeing if he had the resources to finish the project.

It is a great privilege to be a follower of Jesus but it is a challenge to be a reliable follower of Jesus and an effective witness to the Good News that he revealed.

Today's Readings



Wisdom 9:13-18
Psalm 89:3-6, 12-14, 17
Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Luke 14:25-33

Next Sunday's Readings



Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14
Psalm 50:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-32

Being a follower of Jesus means taking on the attitudes of Jesus as our own. It means

- trusting God as Jesus did,
- making his project of teaching people to live in right relationships with themselves and with one another our own
- being a compassionate presence in the world as he was

That's a tall order!

Developing a belief that God is always with us is something that will not happen overnight. It is the fruit of time spent in prayer, reflecting on the word of God and meditating on the lessons life teaches us. It needs what might be called a 'contemplative' approach to life. Do we give ourselves the time and the space to acquire this?

Jesus promoted the reign of God, a social project to make the world a better place. We are here to make

a difference. In making our own contribution to a better world we also bring out the best in ourselves. As Pope Francis said: 'We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves!' (The Joy of the Gospel). And again: 'Those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of communicating life to others.' (ibid)

One way in which we do this is when we view others with the same compassion that Jesus showed in his life, reaching out to the hurt, forgiving those who have offended us or encouraging those who are afraid. As Christ put a human face on God's love for us, we also can do this for others whom we meet.

Becoming Christ-like is the task of a lifetime and there is no project more worthy of a Christian. ■

– John Byrne, OSA



Reflection

When have you been inspired by the perseverance in helping others that you have seen in another?



Lesson

If we want to grow physically, mentally, or spiritually we will plan how this can be done.



Prayer

'Make us know the shortness of our life, that we may gain wisdom of heart.'
(Ps 90)



This Week (9-15 September)

- 9 Mon** St Ciaran, abbot; St Peter Claver, priest
- 10 Tue** St Nicholas of Tolentino, monk
- 11 Wed** St Deiniol, bishop
- 12 Thur** The Most Holy Name of Mary
- 13 Fri** St John Chrysostom, bishop and doctor
- 14 Sat** THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
- 15 Sun** 24TH 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)



23rd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Luke 14:25-33

1. The passage is a call to both radical and practical discipleship. When have you found that in order to achieve a certain objective you had to make it a priority, and then take the practical steps necessary to reach your goal? What were the benefits to you when you did this?

2. 'Hate' is prophetic exaggeration for the uncompromising loyalty Jesus seeks in disciples. There may be times when people make demands in conflict with fidelity to another relationship. This can be painful. When have you found that being clear about your priorities helped you in that situation?

3. Jesus uses parables here to tell us that in important human affairs we do not settle for vague aspirations. When have you found that some element of practical planning has been necessary to make progress with a project? What has this taught you about making the most of your life and of your time?

John Byrne OSA. Email jbbyrneosa@gmail.com

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Fenton Lyons (father of Fr Gabriel), Eilish O'Brien (mother of Fr Francis), Fr Sammy Kerr

Anniversaries: Thomas & Isobel McGiffin, Vincent Crilly, Brenda Gunn, Kathleen Laverty, Fr Dan Meenagh (Sun 8th Sept at 11:30am), Ann McGreevy (Thurs 12 Sept at 9:30am), Dennis Carr (Sun 15th Sept at 11:30am), Kitty Gibney (Sun 22nd Sept at 11:30am), James Curran (Sun 29th at 11:30am)

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sun 8th Sept

READERS:

Easter Vigil Mass: Clodagh Doyle

Morning Mass: Martina McCrory & Margaret Woods

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Frank Doherty

Morning Mass: Séamus Monaghan

Sun 15th Sept

READERS:

Vigil Mass: Anthony Clifford

Morning Mass: Suzanne Hopkins & Kathryn Curran

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Vigil Mass: Sean Rafferty

Morning Mass: Louis Corscadden

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your contribution to last week's collections: Monthly Stipend €615.79, Shrines €77.26

Food Bank. It is suggested that since a lot of the recipients are of Asian extraction, that less pasta should be donated and more rice donated.

Faith and Life Convention.. Online bookings for this year's Faith and Life Convention are now open. We hope that you will be able to us on Saturday 28th September 2019. This year our theme for the convention is Faith in a Better World and our Keynote Speaker will be Michel Camdessus. Michel is the former director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and a member of the Pontifical Council on Justice and Peace. We look forward to welcoming Michel and his wife Brigitte to Belfast. Our keynote speech will be followed by a panel discussion where together we can reflect on the variety of issues that we face in society today. Dr Nicola Brady, from the Irish Council of Churches will moderate our panel and we can look forward to responses from Dymphna Mallon (Laity Co-ordinator for SMA), Prof Thomas Bremer, (University of Münster, Germany) and Mrs Eileen Gallagher (Clogher Diocese and Northern Ireland Catholic Council on Social Affairs). The highlight of the day for many people is the variety of workshops on offer and this year we have an impressive line-up of local and international speakers. Application forms can be found in the Sacristy, or you can book on www.faithandlifeconvention.org

Silent Retreat. Theme: "If you but knew the gift of God...", preached by Fr. Kilian Byrne in Drumantine Retreat Centre, Newry, Co. Down, October 14th to 20th. Cost: £410stg full board. Contact: Helen : 00353 86 1678027/ hellywilliams@gmail.com, www.focycrofcharity.ie. A privileged time to come

away from noise and distractions, and listen to the Spirit of God, - Who is Love. Silence, prayer, teachings & liturgy of the Church

"Get Together", a community of bereaved families, invites you to our "From Inside Out" conference on Thursday, 19th Sep 2019, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Riddell Hall, Belfast. The most frequently voiced fear by those wanting to support bereaved children is "What if I say the wrong thing?" Want to know more about helping families find community in the midst of trauma and grief? Come to the 'From Inside Out' Conference on 19-9-19 to learn directly from bereaved children and families what they need: <https://www.cruse.org.uk/from-inside-out-conference> or contact maria.mcintee@cruse.org.uk or 02890792419 for more information. Cost-£99 full day £50 half day

Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living, Drumalis, Larne - commencing Monday, 16 September from 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm. Taking place at Drumalis over 30 evenings from September 2019 - May 2020, this new programme in association with the Ignatian Spirituality Centre, Glasgow and led by a team of trained Spiritual Directors, is a journey for those who want a closer relationship with God, who struggle with prayer or perhaps even struggle with God or who seek to make choices which are in tune with God's desires. This course is open to all, no previous experience necessary. Sessions include team input, guided experiences of prayer, time for quiet personal prayer and opportunities for listening and sharing. For further information, please contact 028 28276455/28272196 during office hours (Mon-Fri, 9 am - 5 pm) or email drumalis@btconnect.com

Annual Pioneer Mass. The Belfast Pioneer Region are holding their Annual Mass on Wednesday 18th September 2019 in St Agnes' Church, 141 Andersonstown Rd. Belfast 11 beginning at 7pm. If anyone wishes to be presented with gold, silver or other Pioneer emblems /certificates, please contact Pat 9262 9959, Roisin 9064 6957, Josephine 9061 7116 or Mary 9442 3956 as soon as possible. All Pioneers and friends are welcome. Light refreshments afterwards.

Step 4 Step for Mary's Meals. Many thanks to all who supported Suzanne & Dessie Hopkins and Margaret Sheppard on the Annual Walking Fundraiser for Mary's Meals. They raised £800 in sponsorships as well as other Bucket Collections still to be counted.

Theology of the Body - Down and Connor. Invitation to an introduction to Pope John Paul II catechesis on the Theology of the Body starting on Wednesday, 4 September 2019 running for 7 sessions until Wednesday, 16 October 2019. Venue: St Patrick's Church, Downpatrick BT30 6DN - in the Crypt of the Church "Patrick's Place". Once in the carpark travel to the right around the side of St Patrick's Church. Light refreshments provided. Time: 8.10pm - 9.30pm - Over 18s - Contact Maureen T:077 1928 4747 or Geraldine T: 077 1928 4738 or Email: tbteam@yahoo.com for more information.

The West Belfast Historical Society is meeting on Friday the 13th of September at 7.30pm in St. Michael's Parish Centre on Finaghy Road North (Access via Church Gateway on Finaghy Road North, just before the garage opposite the Church at junction with Andersonstown Road). The September talk is entitled "The Life And Times Of Fr. Gerry Reynolds CSSR. The guest speaker will be "Dr Gladys Ganiel". All are Welcome to Attend and Refreshments will be provided

SMA Retreat & Conference Centre, Drumantine, Newry, Days of Prayer / Workshops, 9.30am - 5.00pm (with lunch):

Sat. 28th Sept. 'Lectio Divina' led by Fr. Joseph Ralph OP - £25/€30

Sat. 19th Oct. 'The Green Platform' led by Mr Declan Coyle - £45/€50

Sat. 9th Nov. 'Finding God in the Mass' Fr. B. Mc Manus SJ & Jim Deeds £30/€35

Family Care Adoption Services (1969 - 2019) - Celebrating 50 years of adoption. Family Care Adoption Services is presently seeking adoptive families for babies, young children aged 2 years and older, and brothers and sisters. To find out more information please contact us at Family Care Adoption Services: Telephone: 028 71 368592 or 028 90 691133, Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Email: anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org Website: www.familycaresociety.co.uk

Pathways - Adult Faith Development Programme at Drumalis - Enrol now for 2019-2021 intake. Pathways is a broad-based adult faith development course which explores spirituality, theology and prayer. Now in its fourteenth year, Pathways is geared towards those who want to reflect about life, faith and relationships with God and others. The course takes place in the beautiful surroundings of Drumalis in Larne. No academic qualifications are necessary and there is no coursework attached.

This two-year programme supported by the Diocese of Down and Connor runs from October to June each year and will be held on nine Saturdays from 10:00 am - 4:30 pm. For further information and booking form, please contact Drumalis - 028 2827 2196/2827 6455 (during office hours, Mon-Fri, 9 am - 5 pm), email maura@drumalis.co.uk or see the Drumalis website: <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>

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.