

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



25th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. (Matthew 20:1-16a)

**O, you know us all: each one's wants and needs.
(some more, some less.)**

**Our pay will be your call, to the vineyard, to the locus of grace,
where you hear the fortune of everlasting life and love on us.**

**Thank you for your wonderfully constant call to all to work
there.**

Anne Osdieck

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Teresa Close, Theresa Schulz-Baumgarth, Stacy Shinn, Frances Swift,

Anniversaries: Phil Green, Brenda Gunn, Kathleen & Jim Laverty, John & Brigid Rooney, Denis Carr (Sat 19th Sept at 6:30pm), Kitty Gibney (Sun 20th Sep at 11:30am), Frances Matthews (Sun 27th Sep at 11:30am), James Curran (Sun 4th Oct at 11:30am)

Any further inclusions for Anniversaries in the parish Bulletin can be made via 07740 603643 or stanthonys@downandconnor.org

COLLECTIONS: New boxes of envelopes are available. Many thanks for your generosity to last weekend's collections: Weekly Collection £525.90, DONATE £20

IN THE MEANTIME the diocese has set up a DONATE button for each parish, where you may wish to donate using a credit/debit card. See link at www.saintanthony.co.uk

Use of Standing Orders for Collections The diocese has given information for parishioners to use Standing Orders for Monthly Stipend, Weekly Collections and Diocesan and Non-Diocesan collections. If this interests you then contact Fr Henry 07740 603643

Diocesan Masses and Services A list of webcams can be found on our Diocesan Website: 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

Mon Mass in English at 9:30am will still be celebrated in private (also broadcast on Facebook).

Some General Points on the Update of Diocesan Guidelines for attending Masses in the Church: The guidelines published on 26th June: <https://www.downandconnor.org/blog/2020/06/26/26-june-2020-guidance-on-re-opening-of-churches-for-public-worship/>, were updated on 3rd September in an email to clergy.

- In response to the update of guidelines the Covid-19 Team for St Anthony's met last Tuesday 16th September to discuss the information it contained and seek how to apply it to the ever-changing circumstances of this current Pandemic.
- We have done much in preparation for the opening of the churches to parishioners to attend Public Celebration of Masses. We have marked out the church with signs and floor markings, cordoned off seats to allow social distancing between people, and provided more stations for Alcohol Gel Sanitiser, and we have volunteer stewards and cleaners who are working to make sure that the church is clean and safe for parishioners to attend. And we must thank all who have given of their time to ensure the church can remain open for Public Mass.
- 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.

- With the progression of the circumstances of the Pandemic and the increase in community infection rates, the Diocese has updated its guidelines accordingly in order to make sure that it moves with the changes in circumstances, and in order that the Diocesan Insurers can stand by the protocols in place. These include:
 - USE OF FACE-COVERINGS (Obligatory). As per previous guidance the wearing of face coverings is recommended and encouraged 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.
 - NON-CONTACT INFRA-RED FOREHEAD THERMOMETER (Highly recommended). A parish may wish to obtain a temperature thermometer and ask a volunteer to check the temperature of parishioners and those attending the Church as they arrive for Mass and /or other services. This is not mandatory. If adopted, anyone exhibiting a high temperature should be advised not to attend and to seek the advice of their GP.
 - StopCOVID-19 NI APP (Highly recommended). HSC has developed the StopCOVID NI App (<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/stopcovid-ni-app-explainer-leaflet>) to help stop the spread of the Coronavirus. At present, the app does not link to the contact tracing service directly. Once someone has a positive test, manual contact tracing will be initiated. It will operate in parallel, encouraging 'high risk' contacts that might have been missed otherwise, to get tested. The app is one way of helping to control the spread of COVID-19.
 - There are other steps we should all be taking too. Everyone should continue to:
 - wash hands regularly
 - cover coughs and sneezes
 - practice social distancing
 - follow the latest public health advice.
 The aim of the app is to support the health service, help prevent possible localised lockdown and save lives. Most people spreading the virus don't know they have it. So, the more people using the app, the more lives can be saved.
 - CONTRACT TRACING SERVICE (Highly recommended). In addition to the StopCOVID-19 NI Track and Trace App, contact tracing is an established method to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Many businesses in the hospitality sector are now using this approach to target potential clusters which could spark new outbreaks. Contact tracing works by identifying a confirmed case and asking them who they have been in contact with. Individual contacts are identified as being high risk, low risk or no risk, depending on the time in contact with a confirmed case of Coronavirus. Gathering of the relevant contact information in this manner can only be on a voluntary basis either as "sign in" by individuals or families (in the latter case only one lead name contact would be required) OR facilitated by an appropriately trained volunteer who would record the relevant information. The information will only be retained for a maximum of 21 days. The Contact Tracing Protocol can be found in the Church Porch.
- 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.
- First Holy Communion**
Loughview Integrated Primary and Nursery School: Saturday 26th September at 10am
Polish Community: Saturday 17th October at 10am.

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.