



Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

The Baptism of the Lord

10th January 2021, Year B, Psalter Week 3

Parish Priest: Fr Edward O'Donnell Tel: 028 9066 5409

Parish Office: Tel: 028 9066 5409; (9 am - 1 pm Weekdays)



Email: stbrigids@downandconnor.org **Website:** www.stbrigidsparishbelfast.org

Mass Times

Sunday Mass

Saturday: 6 pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 9.30 am & 12 noon

Weekday Mass

Monday: 7:00 pm

Tuesday: 9.30 am

Wednesday: 9.30 am

Thursday: 9.30 am

Friday: 7:00 pm

Saturday: 12 noon

Confession

Monday: 7.30 pm – 8.00 pm

Friday: 6.30 pm – 7.00 pm

Saturday: 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm &

5.30 pm – 6:00 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday 7.30 pm – 8.00 pm

Baptisms

1 months' notice required

Please contact the Parish Office

Marriages

6 months' notice required.

Please contact Fr O'Donnell

Bulletin Notices

Bulletin Notices must be with the Parish Office by **12 noon on**

Thursday to be included in the weekend bulletin. Thank you.

Sign up to our
Electronic
Mailing List
[Click HERE](#)

The Parish Office will be **closed to the public** during the Lockdown period from **Thursday 7th January until Saturday 6th February**.

If you need to get in touch, please contact the parish office by phone or email during this time.

The Baptism of the Lord

First Reading: Reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 55:1-11

Come to the Water. Listen, and your soul will live.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps Is 12:2-6

R/. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

Second Reading: Reading from the first letter of St John 1 Jn 5:1-9

The Spirit and water and blood.

Gospel: Gospel according to Mark Mk 1:7-11

You are my son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.

Anniversary List

Please pray for Anne-Marie McCrum and Hazel McIlroy recently deceased, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary Young, Bridget Lawson, Josephine McCann, Rosemary Giffen, Edward Kelly, Mary O'Gorman, Brian McGurk, Brian McGurk (Jnr), Bernard Jackson, Richard Sadlier, Patrick Wildy, Arthur Davey, Martin Davey, Simon Benedict Murphy, Anne Josephine Murphy, Dick Carr, Conor Delargy, Darragh Delargy, Geraldine McAnulty, Ricky Muldoon, John and May Hopkins

May they rest in peace

LOCKDOWN

Suspension of Public Mass from midnight Thursday 7th January until Saturday 6th February 2021

Mass will continue to be Live streamed from St Brigid's Church

Link: stbrigidsparishbelfast.org/links

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 9.30 am

Saturday: 12 noon

Sunday: 12 noon

Mass will be Live Streamed on **Tuesday and Thursday at 5pm** in the Catholic **Chaplaincy at Queens** (Available to watch on Facebook & YouTube)

When the lockdown restrictions are lifted, mass will return to normal times.

Funerals, Weddings and baptisms can continue under the current restrictions.

No provisions for Private Prayer at this time.

Thanks from St Brigid's Third World Group



We are most grateful for all the generous donations received during Advent and for Christmas Gift Cards.

We also appreciate those who set up new Standing Orders. These provide an on-going regular source of income and allow us to plan ahead in our continuing support for those living in poverty in developing countries.

Christmas Gift Cards raised £1,500 and we were able to top this up to £5,000 for the work of the Daughters of Charity to help provide food and a small income for poor families in Kenya.

So far this financial year, we have been able to send out £80,000, thanks to the generosity of all our donors and our beneficiaries have sent many messages of gratitude.

For example, £5,000 went to Sister Ruth who runs a feeding programme in Wonji, Ethiopia where the pandemic has created even greater need than already existed.

She wrote:

"The programme reached out to 578 members of different communities. Your support arrived at a time of food catastrophe and over 200 households had been displaced. High protein food was also provided for children with malnutrition - this has been a pearl to many mothers as their children get hope of being healthier.

We wish to extend our sincere gratitude to St Brigid's Third World Group for your continuous support towards establishing and sustaining good health and well-being of our community."



Chaplaincy QUB will Live Stream Mass during Lockdown

From 7th January until 6th February

Tuesday and Thursday: 5.00 pm

Sunday Mass: 8.00 pm

PARISH OFFERINGS

Christmas Collection: £8636.50

Weekly Collection 3rd January: £3709.00

Monthly Collection 3rd January: £2811.50

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

4 Corners Festival Belfast

This inter-denominational arts festival aimed at promoting reconciliation runs from **January 31 to February 7**.

Because of the pandemic it is a purely on-line project with all events being available in the comfort of your home via "live" video streaming services such as Facebook and YouTube.

The theme is Breathe... The Hebrew word Ruach means 'breath' or 'spirit' – the source of life. And the festival aims to breathe hope and creativity into Belfast and further afield at a very difficult time.

The keynote speaker is Prof John Paul Lederach, the internationally renowned author and conflict transformation expert from the University of Notre Dame in the United States.

Morning and Night Prayer will be streamed throughout the festival. Night Prayer will be led by Jim Deeds, a pastoral worker in Down and Connor and his colleague, Paula McKeown, director of the diocesan Living Church Office will facilitate a workshop on resilience.

There will be discussions on topics such as domestic abuse and racism and one of the moderators will be Seamus McKee..

Due to the lack of social contact the organisers cannot spread word about the festival as they normally do and must rely heavily on social media. So, they would appreciate if you could follow them on Facebook and Twitter and share their posts whenever you can.

The Festival was co-founded in 2012 by Falls Road priest, Fr Martin Magill and Presbyterian minister, Rev Steve Stockman.

Further details can be found at the website: www.4cornersfestival.com

New Year's Message 2021

World Day of Peace

Each year, Pope Francis publishes a Peace Message drawing attention to the project of reconciliation and justice at the heart of Catholic Social Teaching. In his 2021 Message entitled "A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace", Pope Francis encourages us all to recalibrate our 'compass of social principles'. Realigning our values to the values of the Gospel draws us closer to Christ and his people. Recognising the dignity of the human person and caring for the other is the beating heart of all Catholic Social Teaching.

2020 has been an extremely difficult year as we have faced together the Covid-19 crisis. This global pandemic has revealed how interconnected we and the entire human family are. The virus has indiscriminately affected persons across all territorial borders and all sectors of society. This health crisis has also aggravated already existent inequalities, poverty, migration, and economic adversity. Many have experienced hardship and suffering. We especially remember all those who have lost family members or loved ones.

The experience of the past year has made it clear, sometimes painfully, that the decisions and actions of individuals affect the lives of everyone. It is not possible to fully anticipate the legacy of this global pandemic upon society at large and upon families and individuals, businesses and charitable agencies closer to home.

On behalf of the local Church, I pay tribute to all the medical personnel, doctors and nurses, pharmacists, chaplains and all frontline workers who have sacrificed much to alleviate suffering and to save lives. While we are still in the midst of a global pandemic and need to remain ever vigilant to the contagious threat of the virus, the seedlings of hope are emerging with the roll out of vaccination programmes.

The resilience of the human spirit, grounded in our ability to adapt and respond to the changing circumstances of our time and supported by those who love us, provides the foundations to move forward with hope and a greater sense of security.

The year ahead 2021 in Northern Ireland will also be marked by tremendous uncertainty as we withdraw from the European Union and as we reflect upon the Centenary foundations of the Partition of Ireland. This context generates discussion and reflection on identity and identities, on cultural heritage and on the foundations and societal structures of Northern Ireland. We are all aware that the combination of such circumstances creates uncertainty. Fuelled by fear, this uncertainty can also amplify fault lines and create tension across communities.

For these reasons, more than ever, a culture of care as a pathway to peace is necessary. All of us, political leaders, educators, citizens and faith leaders should make a concerted effort to build upon the legacy of peace, achieved through sacrifice and constructive dialogue. The path of peace and reconciliation will require new acts of courage and prophetic witness to help us navigate the residual undercurrent of fear that continues to influence our society.

I extend my heartfelt blessing to all across the Diocese of Down and Connor and beyond and I pray that the coming year may build upon and nurture the foundations of peace and reconciliation.

+Noel Treanor
Bishop of Down and Connor