

# Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

## Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

15<sup>th</sup> November 2020, Year A, Psalter Week 1

**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](mailto:stbrigids@downandconnor.org) **Website:** [www.stbrigidsparishbelfast.org](http://www.stbrigidsparishbelfast.org)

### Mass Times

#### Sunday Mass

Saturday: 6 pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 9.30am & 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](#)

### Anniversary List

**Please pray for** Patrick O'Neill and Marie Wilson recently deceased, Miriam (Minnie) Carney whose month's mind it is and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Una Donaghy, Elizabeth McGrath Elizabeth Irvine, James and Agatha Smyth, Eileen Kelly, Brendan Matthews, Séamus Murphy, Patrick McAuley, Teresa Curran, Mary and Robert Copeland, Micky Lennon

*May they rest in peace*

## Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading:** Reading from the book of Proverbs Pr 31:10-13.19-20.30-31  
*A perfect wife – who can find her?*

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 127:1-5  
*R/. Oh blessed are those who fear the Lord.*

**Second Reading:** First letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 1 Th 5:1-6  
*Let not the Day of the Lord overtake you like a thief.*

**Gospel:** Gospel according to Matthew Mt 25:14-30  
*You have been faithful in small things; come and join in your master's happiness.*

### PARISH OFFERINGS

**Weekly Offering 8<sup>th</sup> November:** £5467.49

*Thank you for your continued generosity and support.*

### Diocesan Mass for the Deceased

This **Wednesday 18th November at 7 pm**, Bishop Noel will celebrate Mass in **St Peter's Cathedral**, remembering all those who have died this year in the Diocese. This Mass will be streamed on the Cathedral webcam: <https://www.churchservices.tv/stpeterscathedral>

### St Brigids Parish Streaming Service (Webcam)

Our streaming service is now available for St Brigid's Parish! All regular Mass times will be streamed (Monday-Sunday). Funerals, Baptisms, Weddings, and other liturgical celebrations can also be streamed on request from families.



The service will be streamed on YouTube and the link is available on the Parish Website (<https://stbrigidsparishbelfast.org/>) or by typing 'St Brigid's Parish Belfast' into YouTube ([www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)). YouTube can be viewed on laptops/desktops, iPads or on any smartphone.

**Click to be redirected to the Webcam page: >> [Webcam & Links](#) <<**

### DIOCESAN PRIVACY POLICY

The Privacy Policy for the Diocese of Down and Connor is available on our website under 'About our Parish' section and click on the Safeguarding page.

## Praying the Mass via Technology

As so many parishioners are joining in live broadcasts of Sunday, and weekday, Mass it might be helpful to consciously think about how we go about participating in them. These suggestions for praying the Mass via technology may be helpful:

- *Dress as you would for Mass*
- *Have your technology ready and be on time.*
- *Turn off any technology that might distract you during the Mass.*
- *If possible, join in the Mass as a family and have a member light a candle before Mass begins, perhaps beside a cross or another sacred image.*
- *Share in the responses, prayers, and gestures of the Mass.*
- *Stand for the Gospel and Our Father; kneel as appropriate if you can; share some sign of peace if you are with others.*
- *Join in the singing.*
- *At the time of Holy Communion, make an act of spiritual communion.*
- *And finally, when Mass is ended go in peace from this prayer to live what you have prayed.*

In these darkest of days, our keeping of Sunday can give us exactly the light, sustenance, and grace we need to carry us through the rest of our week. Sunday is God's gift to us. It is up to us to do the unwrapping.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The last 7 months, since the worldwide Pandemic of COVID-19 came to our shores, has been a challenging and difficult time for everyone and has brought great sadness and restrictions to many. We are conscious in SVP that many people have been affected by ill-health, job loss, reduced hours and significantly reduced income. The talk of Christmas is all around us and our Christmas requests will be outlined in the coming weeks.

Before we do that, we want to make a plea to those who are struggling to make ends meet, to heat their homes, to put food on the table or are facing other financial challenges. Please ask for our assistance, or to be included on the Christmas toy list.

The generous parishioners of St. Brigid's have given us the means to help you at this time. You may have been a donor in the past but are currently in a difficult situation. Your request for help will be considered sympathetically and most important confidentially.

If you require assistance, please contact us on 02890351561.

## Support our Food Bank with funds this Christmas

**St. Brigid's is part of the South Belfast Trussell Trust Foodbank.** Unfortunately, as the Coronavirus pandemic continues, we are unable to have our monthly collection of food. The South Belfast Foodbank still continues to operate. The number of people referred are on the rise. The Food bank relies on donations to help support people facing a crisis within communities. Without your goodwill, the food bank would really struggle to operate.

As we cannot collect food at present, we are making a money collection this Christmas.

**Envelopes will be available after all Masses this weekend and to be returned next weekend.** For more information and to donate online go to:

[www.southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money](http://www.southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money)

If you are a taxpayer and wish to gift aid your donation, please insert your name house number and post code in the reference box when making your payment.

This is your chance to make a difference in your local community. Your support is needed more than ever.

## Help your Church

The number attending Mass continues to steadily increase, thankfully. The existing stewards/welcomers have been very generous in offering their time and energy at the weekend Masses. **The role will entail seating parishioners in a safe manner. Please consider this as we need additional volunteers.**

A huge thanks to all present for their help and support. If you would like to help out contact Lisa or Thérèse through the Parish office.

*Thank you in advance!*

## PERMANENT DIACONATE: THIRD COHORT OF STUDENTS

The Diocese is preparing to start work with a third group of students for the Permanent Diaconate. The programme will commence in September 2021. For more information about the ministry of Deacons, the formation programme and information on how to register your interest in applying, please speak to your parish priest or visit the Diocesan website:

[www.downandconnor.org/living-church/diaconate](http://www.downandconnor.org/living-church/diaconate)

## Day for Life

*"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you..."* Jeremiah 1:5

The Parish Pastoral Council have organised a **"Day for Life" in St Brigid's Church, beginning at the noon Mass on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December and ending at the noon Mass on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December.**

It is a day of prayer that our society will respect, protect, love and serve life from the moment of conception until its natural end. Everyone in the parish is invited to make a special effort to play a part in this day.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe, Saint John Paul II, Saint Maximilian Kolbe and Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta intercede for us.**

*"The innocent victim of abortion, children who die of hunger or from bombings, immigrants who drown in the search for a better tomorrow, the elderly or the sick who are considered a burden, the victims of terrorism, wars, violence and drug trafficking, the environment devastated by man's predatory relationship with nature: At stake in all of this is the gift of God, of which we are noble stewards but not masters."*

**Pope Francis**

*"...inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life"*

*"abortion and euthanasia are crimes which no human law can claim to legitimise"*

**Saint John Paul II**

According to World Health Organisation, **every year in the world there are an estimated 40-50 million abortions.** This corresponds to approximately **125,000 abortions per day.**

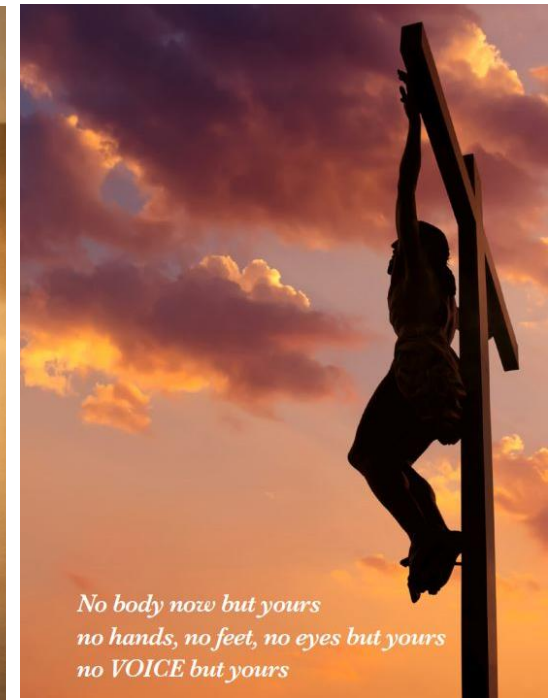
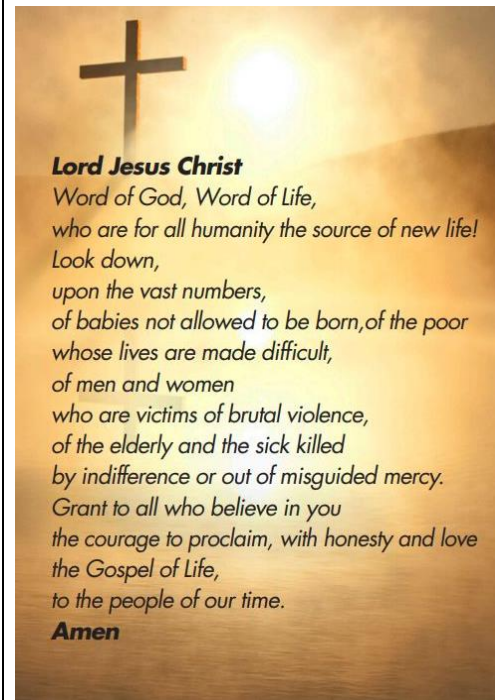
At least **79.5 million** people around the world have been forced to flee their homes. Among them are nearly **26 million refugees** (cross national boundary), around half of whom are **under the age of 18.**

According to the latest report on forced labour by the International Labour Organisation, an estimated **40.3 million** victims are trapped in **modern-day slavery.**

**Legal abortions in the Republic of Ireland:** 15 in 2017, 32 in 2018 and **6,666 in 2019.**

**In Northern Ireland, 664 abortions have taken place since March 31, 2020.**

A new bill which aims to **legalise assisted dying** has passed the first stage at the **Dáil.**



## Mass in St. Brigid's Parish

### **Some things to keep in mind when attending Mass:**

- **FACE COVERINGS** are mandatory when entering and exiting the church and should be worn throughout services.
- The seating capacity of the Church is 120;
- Observe social distancing and use the sanitizer at the Church Entrance;
- The Church doors are closed at one minute before Mass – the Church cannot be entered once Mass begins;
- Take a seat and remain there until the end of Mass; children must remain with their parents, and in the seat, at all times;
- Do not sit beside anyone who is not a member of your household;
- For those who wish to receive Holy Communion, remain in your seat and Holy Communion will be brought to you; Holy Communion is to be received in the hand;
- When leaving the Church follow the instructions and leave according to the indicated "One-way" system;
- Anyone with cold-like symptoms must not enter the Church;
- Those with underlying health issues are advised to remain at home;
- Toilet facilities are not available;
- Holidaymakers returning from other countries should not attend mass for 2 weeks.
- **Numbers attending Funerals and Weddings are currently limited to 25 persons.**