



Celebrating the Liturgy

Mass Times

Vigil Mass: Saturday 6 pm

Sunday

9 am; 10.30 am; 12 noon

Weekday Masses

Mon to Fri: 9.30 am Sat: 12 noon

Evening Masses

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 7 pm

Reconciliation

Friday 6.30 pm – 6.55 pm

Saturday Confessions

12.30 pm – 1 pm

5.30 pm – 5.55 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday 7.30- 8 pm

Friday 10 am – 12 noon

Marriages

6 months notice required.
Please contact Fr O'Donnell

Parish Baptisms held 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month at 2 pm

One month's notice required. Please contact the Parish Office.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY DEVELOPMENT DAY

A limited number of places are still available on the **Development Day** for leaders of Children's Liturgy of the Word, which the **Living Church Office** is hosting on the **Saturday 16th February from 9.30am-4pm in our new offices at, 120, Cliftonville Road, Belfast BT14 6LA**. The aim of the day is to nourish, encourage, support and resource, all those involved in leading Children's Liturgy of the Word in parishes. To register, please email c.collins@downandconnor.org or ring the Living Church Office on 028 9069 0920. Lunch and all necessary resources will be provided, free. Registration will close on Wednesday 13th February.

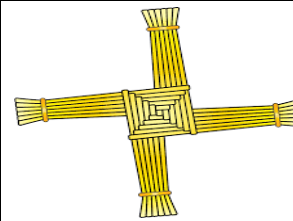
SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

St Brigid's conference extends sincere thanks to all in the parish who contributed so generously to this year's Christmas Collection and Toy Appeal. The total amount collected in the 3 weeks from 9th December 2018 was £38,583.68, £26,800 of this was eligible for Gift Aid. Your generous response to the toy appeal meant we were able to help 53 families, including 136 children. We also provided 48 food hampers, warm clothing, help with purchasing extra food and fuel. All of this was greatly received.

We also extend our thanks to the Parish Gift Group who provided warm items of clothing and to St Brigid's GAA club who donated over 100 shoe boxes filled with essential items for the homeless. The people YOU help are in genuine need and many of them have asked us to convey our thanks to you. All of them greatly appreciate the help given to them by our volunteers who visit them.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Society of St Vincent de Paul, please contact Maeve Fee, tel: 028 9066 5038 or Aine Lockhart, tel: 028 9066 2994.

The Holy Sacrifice of Mass will be offered for all



Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

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

Parish Office: Tel: 028 9066 5409; 9 am -1 pm Week Days

Email: stbrigids@downandconnor.org

Parish Website: www.stbrigidsparishbelfast.org

5TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, Year C

10th February 2019 Psalter Week 1

First Reading: Prophet Isaiah Is 6:1-8

Here I am, send me.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 137:1-5.7-8

R/. Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.

Second Reading: First letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

1 Cor 15:1-11

I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.

Gospel: Gospel according to Luke Lk 5:1-11

They left everything and followed him.

Philip McGarrity and Fiona O'Hare who died recently. Kathleen Boyle, Paula Haughey, Betty McCourt, Kevin Ballentine, Gerard Kiely, Brigid Heagney, Mary Heagney, Brian Mullally, Fr Hugh Crossin, William McBurney, Peter Carty, Jim & Anne Aiken, Barry Copeland, Rosalie Magtaas, Canon Patrick McAlister, James Murphy, John J McDermott, William Dolan Senior, Gerry McGlinchey, May Greene and Fr Fred MacSorley whose anniversaries are at this time.

May they rest in peace.

PARISH OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Weekly Collection 3rd February £4,335.70

Monthly Offering 3rd February £3,040.00

Sale of St Brigid's Crosses £1,428

Thank you for your continued support.

**EXTRACT FROM THE MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS FOR
WORLD DAY OF THE SICK**

Caring for the sick requires professionalism, tenderness, straightforward and simple gestures freely given, like a caress that makes others feel loved.

Life is a gift from God. Saint Paul asks: "What do you have that you did not receive?" (1 Cor 4:7). Precisely because it is a gift, human life cannot be reduced to a personal possession or private property, especially in the light of medical and biotechnological advances that could tempt us to manipulate the "tree of life" (cf. Gen 3:24).

Amid today's culture of waste and indifference, I would point out that "gift" is the category best suited to challenging today's individualism and social fragmentation.....Each of us is poor, needy and destitute. When we are born, we require the care of our parents to survive, and at every stage of life we remain in some way dependent on the help of others. We will always be conscious of our limitations, as "creatures", before other individuals and situations. A frank acknowledgement of this truth keeps us humble and spurs us to practice solidarity as an essential virtue in life... We should not be afraid to regard ourselves as needy or reliant on others, because individually and by our own efforts we cannot overcome our limitations. So we should not fear, then, to acknowledge those limitations, for God himself, in Jesus, has humbly stooped down to us (cf. Phil 2:8) and continues to do so; in our poverty, he comes to our aid and grants us gifts beyond our imagining.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be on **Tuesday 12th February**.

**A PASSION FOR SCRABBLE? A WANDERLUST FOR WALKING?
A YEN FOR SOCIAL CONTACT?**

Building upon the success of the Coffee and Poems and the Short Book Club, the Pastoral Council wants to expand upon the range of activities to support greater opportunities for Parish services and support - particularly for those who may be feeling isolated.

We're looking for ideas (and expertise) to get more things going. If you have ideas to put forward - or want to hear about them - we're holding a meeting **after morning Mass** on **Wednesday 13 February** in **St Bride's Hall**. So come along and contribute to the discussion.

SHORT BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Book Club will be **after morning Mass** on **Wednesday 20th February**. This month's book is the classic – *Catcher in the Rye* by **J D Salinger**. Come along and bring a friend.

HOLY ROSARY PARISH SUNDAY NIGHT BINGO

Starting in the new Parish Centre on **Sunday 10th February**. The weekly event, run on behalf of Good Shepherd Church by members of Youth Football Club and Bredagh GAC, will raise much needed funds to help pay off the remaining debt for the new Centre and be a great opportunity to meet people and maybe win a few pounds. **Doors open at 6.45pm**. Light refreshments available.

DIOCESAN VOCATION WEEKEND

"Ask Jesus what he wants from you and be brave!" (Pope Francis). Why not take time to explore and reflect on becoming a priest. Join us at the Vocations Weekend in Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne from **Friday 15th to Sunday 17th February 2019**. If you wish to attend this weekend or would like further information please contact: Fr. Kevin Tel: 028 9061 4567; Email: vocations@downandconnor.org

DOWN AND CONNOR DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2019

7 nights 9th – 16th July £725; 5 nights 10th – 15th July £650
5 nights 10th – 15th July for pilgrims needing care - staying in the Accueil Notre-Dame £550
YOUTH TEAM 7TH – 16TH July £590 - Closing date for Youth Applications 16th March

Fares per person sharing, inclusive of return flights from Belfast, transfers, full-board accommodation, insurance and courier services.

Application forms available from the Parish Office or contact Lourdes Pilgrimage Office 028 9077 0162 or e-mail lourdes@downandconnor.org

GIFT GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

Thanks to all our enthusiastic year 8s (55 of them!) who have so faithfully attended GIFT 1. You have been brilliant. They will all be coming together for Mass at 10.30 on Sunday 17th February. After this Mass there will be a BUN SALE to raise funds for the GIFT 5 Pilgrimage in July to Rome and Assisi. **There will also be a collection at each Mass on that day**. There are 27 Pilgrims this year who are all self-funding. The money raised on the 17th will be used to buy T shirts for the young people. From a safeguarding point of view it allows us to identify them easily whilst away. We have found this invaluable in the past.

Dates for your diary GIFT 4 begins on Sunday 10th March and GIFT 3 on Sunday 5th May. We look forward to welcoming all our young people back.

If you haven't attended GIFT before and would like to join the fun please don't hesitate to get in touch. Mary Carson 07718263019 mary-carson@hotmail.com

THE CHURCH IN TURMOIL. DISPUTES ABOUT RULES. ATTACKS FROM WITHOUT.

2019? No - 40AD. The Parish will be running a set of workshops/discussions on the **Acts of the Apostles** coming up to and during Lent this year. Come and see how the Church weathered its early storms and began its mission. Further details will be released **soon**.

"WELCOME TO ST BRIGID'S PARISH"

A big thank you to all those parishioners who volunteered to deliver our updated booklet; over 2,100 were distributed to the homes in the Parish. If you did not get a booklet, copies are available in the Church porch or the Parish Office. This may be because you are not yet registered with the Parish or your details are incorrect. You may sort this out by calling into the Parish Office or phoning 028 9066 5409.

ST BRIGID'S ALTAR SOCIETY

New volunteers, men and women, to assist with the floral arrangements in the Church being sought. Volunteering, even for a short period, would be greatly appreciated. Requirements: interest and commitment. Contact Fr O'Donnell through the Parish Office 028 9066 5409 or e-mail: stbrigids@downandconnor.org

AN OFFICE OF IMMENSE LOVE

Ministers of the Word: Ministers of Holy Communion

A ministry is not just doing something for others; it is not just a job to do or a function to perform; it must never be just a routine. Each occasion requires preparation and lives that are in conformity to the Gospel. Ministers of the Word and Holy Communion are a very important and valuable presence in the Parish; they by their lives make flesh, make real, the Word they read, and the Sacrament they distribute. Would you consider offering to serve in one or other of these important roles? Please contact Fr O'Donnell 028 9066 5409 or e-mail: stbrigids@downandconnor.org **Training will be provided.**

BULLETIN NOTICES

Notices for the bulletin must be with the Parish Office by **12 noon on Wednesday** to be included in the weekend bulletin. Thank you.