



Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

Second Sunday of Advent

4th December 2022, Year A, Psalter Week 2

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

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Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 11:1-10
He judges the wretched with integrity.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 71:1-2.7-8.12-13.17

R/. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moons fails

Second Reading: Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans Rm 15:4-9
Christ is the saviour of all.

Gospel: Gospel according to Matthew Mt 3:1-12
Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

Anniversary List

Please pray for Ann Brennan, Maurice Reid and Paul Galvin recently deceased, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Patrick Boyle, Jennifer McCaughan, Deirdre Smyth, Maurice Hale, William Creen, Paud and Sheila Toner, Patrick Murphy, Seamus Murphy, John Smith, Mary and John McKay, Desmond Canavan, Rita Laverty, Patrick Mullaney, Brigid Ramsey, Rita Marshall, Marie Louise Lavery, Susan Martin

May they rest in peace

The Liturgy

Sunday Mass

Saturday: 6.00 pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 9.30 am
12.00 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

Baptisms

1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month at 1.30pm
Please contact the Parish Office to book

Marriages

At least 6 months' notice required prior to date of Marriage.
Please contact Fr O'Donnell

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday: 7.30 pm – 8.00 pm

PARISH OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Weekly Collection 27th November: £3717.77



Thank you for your continued support

Bulletin Notices and Anniversaries

Bulletin Notices should be with the Parish Office by **12 noon on Thursday** to be included in the weekend bulletin.



Sunday Homily

Fr O'Donnell's Homily is available to read and listen to each Sunday morning on our Parish Website. *Please visit the link > [Sunday Homilies](#)*

Lay Dominican Meeting

The next meeting of the Lay Dominicans will be on **Monday 5th December** in the **Parish Centre at 7.45 pm.** (Reflection: the Sacrament of Reconciliation)
New members welcome!



Society of St. Vincent de Paul



Annual Christmas Collection

The annual Collection for St Vincent de Paul will be held on Saturday 3rd/Sunday 4th December 2022 after all masses.

Gift Aid will add a significant amount to what you contribute at no cost to you. Gift Aid Envelopes will be available and distributed along with Standing Order forms this weekend and the coming weeks before Christmas

You can also **donate** online through your bank to **SVP St Brigid's Conference**. **DANSKE BANK** Account No: **41024701** Sort Code: **950132**



Toy Voucher Collection

Further to our earlier notice and building on last year's success of giving toy vouchers to families. We would like to remind you, that in order to give families time to buy the toys they require we need to **collect toy vouchers at the latest at the Masses on 3rd/4th December**. Vouchers will be distributed to families the week commencing 5th December.

Heating Donations

We have in the past also collected money for Heating and if you wish to provide for this purpose please put your donation, cash or cheques made payable to St Brigid's SVP and placed in an envelope marked Heating, to provide heat for a family over the winter. The rapid increases in cost of heating will leave many families unable to heat their homes, so any amount towards this would be most welcome

SVP Christmas Cards will be available from THIS WEEKEND

Thank you sincerely for your continued support.

Food Bank Collection

Non perishable food items can be donated after all Masses this weekend. The food weighed in at **310kg for November** collection. There will be no foodbank collection on the 1st of January 2023.

Thank you for your support.

List of **items currently most needed**: Tinned fish; Tinned meat; Tinned vegetables; Tinned fruit; Pulses; Long life juice; Instant potato; Jam; Coffee; Long life milk; Toiletries.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Thursday 8th December

Mass Times: 9.30am and 7.00pm (Thursday)

Advent Programme



- **Advent Morning Prayer:** Monday – Friday during Advent at 7.30am in the Church
- **Woman walking through Advent together:** Wednesdays of Advent, 30th Nov, 7th, 14th, 21st Dec at 7.45pm in 40 Derryvolgie Avenue
- **Day for Life:** 12 noon Saturday 10th December – 12 Noon Sunday 11th December (*see bulletin notice*)
- **Christmas Shoe Box appeal**
Items to be left in The Catholic Chaplaincy by 12th December (*see bulletin notice*)

2nd Sunday of Advent

- New setting of "The Lord is my Shepherd," composed by Niall Leonard and sung for the first time at the 12 Noon mass.
- Food Bank Sunday (*see bulletin notice*)

3rd Sunday of Advent

- Day for Life (*see bulletin notice for Schedule*)

4th Sunday of Advent

- Bambinelli Sunday (Blessing of Christ Child Crib Figures) at the 12 Noon Mass
- Penitential Service: 4pm – 5pm



Coffee and Poems

The next Parish Community Association's Coffee and Poems meeting will be on **Wednesday 7th December after morning Mass in St. Bride's Parish Centre**. *All are welcome to come along and join.*



ADVENT MORNING PRAYER



Join us for morning prayer each weekday morning (Mon-Fri) in St Brigid's Church throughout Advent. Together we will pray the Psalms in the morning office and reflect on the readings for Advent. This is an excellent way of preparing together for the Christmas season.

St Brigid's One World Group



Christmas Gift Cards now available

Make a donation in lieu of a present to a friend or relation at Christmas time this year.

Your gift will provide food for some of the poorest people in the world whose suffering has been made even worse as a result of the rocketing prices of basic commodities

Please text/ring Kevin on 07525634440

Donations can be made to Account No 68825172 Sort Code 90-22-07

Day for Life Schedule

Day for Life will begin at 12 Noon Mass on Saturday 10th December and end with 12 Noon Mass on Sunday 11th December

Saturday 10th December

12 Noon: Mass

12.30pm: Confession and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

1pm & 2pm: Rosary on the hour

3pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary

4pm & 5pm: Rosary on the hour

6pm: Mass, focussed homily, prayers of intercession & Speaker for Life



Sunday 11th December

9.30am: Mass, focussed homily, prayers of intercession & Speaker for Life

10.30am – 12 Noon: Silent Prayer and Reflection

12Noon: Mass, focussed homily, prayers of intercession & Speaker for Life

Women walking through Advent together

Our **Women's Prayer Group** will be meeting in the **Parish Hall this Wednesday (7th Dec)** and return to No 40 Derryvolgie for the last 2 weeks.

Everyone is welcome and please don't worry if you can't come every week, you will be remembered in our prayers. For more info contact Mary – 07718263019

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols –Catholic Chaplaincy QUB

The students of Queen's University Catholic Chaplaincy warmly invite you to join them for their annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols with music and song provided by the Chaplaincy Choir, Canticle. The service takes place in the **Catholic Chaplaincy QUB**, 28 Elmwood Avenue, on **Sunday 11 December at 5pm**. Retiring collection in aid of the Order of Malta's Appeal for the Holy Family Maternity Hospital in Bethlehem. Festive refreshments to follow.

Short Book Club

Our next face to face session has been brought forward by one week to avoid being too close to Christmas. It will now take place on **Wednesday 14 December** in **St Bride's Hall** at **10:10 am** after morning Mass. The book for this month is **The Human Factor** by **Graham Greene**. All are welcome to come and join the craic. To join our circulation list please email mmmikemoran@aol.com

St Brides Primary School Enrolment Day

Come and join us for our **P1 Open Enrolment Day** on Friday 16th December at 2.15pm in the Ashleigh Hall (Windsor Avenue)

For more information please contact the School or visit www.stbridesps.org.uk

A Legion of Mary event

Holy Hour and Candlelight Procession For the Feast Of the Immaculate Conception Saint Mary's, Chapel Lane, Belfast. **Thursday 8th December commencing at 6.30pm**. Light refreshments available following the procession. All are welcome!

Stranmillis Primary School

Stranmillis PS PTA invite you to join them for their **Christmas Fair on Saturday 10th December at Malone House, BT9 5PB from 1pm – 4pm**. Come along for an afternoon of festive family fun including, Santa's Grotto, Crafts, Food, Activities and Games and much more. (Entrance £1)

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 10th December and ending at the noon Mass on Sunday 11th 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 Joseph, 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.**

Since **the introduction of abortion in 1967**, a staggering **9,900,961 preborn babies have lost their lives to abortion across England, Wales, and Scotland.** In **2020**, more than **one baby was lost to abortion every two and a half minutes; 25 lives were ended every hour.**

Over 1 in 4 pregnancies in England and Wales now end in abortion.

By the end of **2021**, the number displaced by war, violence, persecution and human rights abuses stood at **89.3 million.**

49.6 million people were living in **modern slavery in 2021**, of which **27.6 million** were in **forced labour** and **22 million** in **forced marriage.**

Legal abortions in the **Republic of Ireland: 15 in 2017, 32 in 2018, 6,666 in 2019, 6577 in 2020, 4,577 in 2021.**

In **Northern Ireland**, 4th May 2022: **2,550 abortions** since March 2020.

More than **350 million people** around the world have a **legal right to die.**

Bills which aim to legalise assisted dying have been introduced both in Westminster and the Dail.

Parish Penitential Service

Sunday 18th December at 4.00pm

Eight Confessors available

"Let us place the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the centre once more in such a way that it will enable people to touch the grandeur of God's mercy with their own hands. For every penitent, it will be a source of true interior peace".

Pope Francis