



Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7th November 2021, Year B, Psalter Week 4

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

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Livestream/Webcam: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCECKga_N93kdxngxRJMuvUw

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Reading from the book of Kings 1 Kings 17:10-16
The widow made a little scone from her meal and brought it to Elijah.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145:7-10
R/. My Soul, give praise to the Lord.

Second Reading: Reading from the letter of the Hebrews Heb 9:24-28
Christ offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself.

Gospel: Gospel according to Mark Mk 12:38-44
This poor widow has put in more than all.

Anniversary List

Please pray for Gemma Conroy, Sean McNally and Michael Flanagan recently deceased, Tim Lynch whose month's mind it is and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Olivia Theresa Finegan, Eileen Green, Denise Moyes, Patrick Doherty, Josephine McGuigan, Hugh O'Neill, Donal McGettigan, Matthew Salters, Monsignor Ambrose Macaulay, Joan Keating, James Keating, Joseph Fulonna, Noel Eastwood, Vincent D'Agostino, Patricia Henry, John Edward and May McNally, Francis Hamilton, John O'Hagan

May they rest in peace

Bulletin Notices

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

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

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday 7.30 pm – 8.00 pm

Baptisms

Please contact the Parish Office
stbrigids@downandconnor.org

Marriages

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

PARISH OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Weekly Collection 31st October: £3522.40

Thank you for your continued support.

GIFT PROGRAMME

A huge thank you to the large number of volunteers who turned up last night to our Volunteers information evening! Very encouraging to see so many wanting to get involved.

The programme dates are:

GIFT 5: 7th and 14th November. (2 weeks only). We will be hosted for the first session by the Youth Faith group. There will be games and pizza!

GIFT 2: 21st November - 12th December (4 weeks)

GIFT 1: 30th January - 20th February (4 weeks)

GIFT 4: 20th March - 10th April (4 weeks)

GIFT 3: 8th May - 29th May (4 weeks)



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Advances notices regarding Christmas

Virtual Christmas

Last years' experience of giving out toy vouchers to families in need was such a great success, as it give them the opportunity to buy toys for their children. We are going to do the same this year. This means that in order to give families time to buy the toys we intend to **collect toy vouchers at Masses on 4/5 December**.

Gift Aid Envelopes will also be available on these dates.

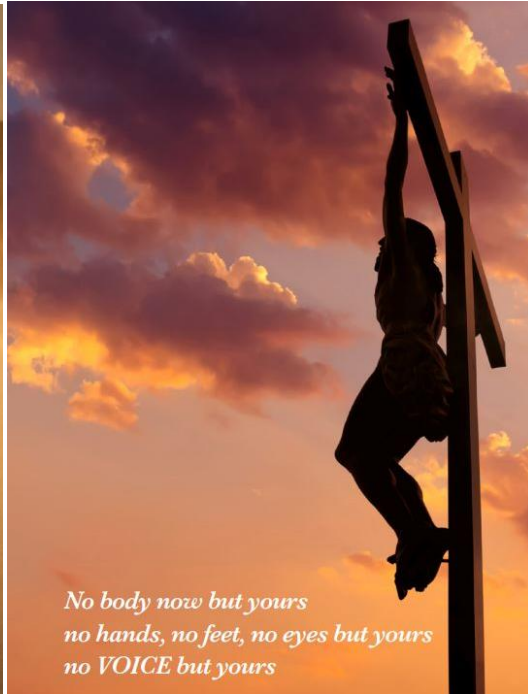
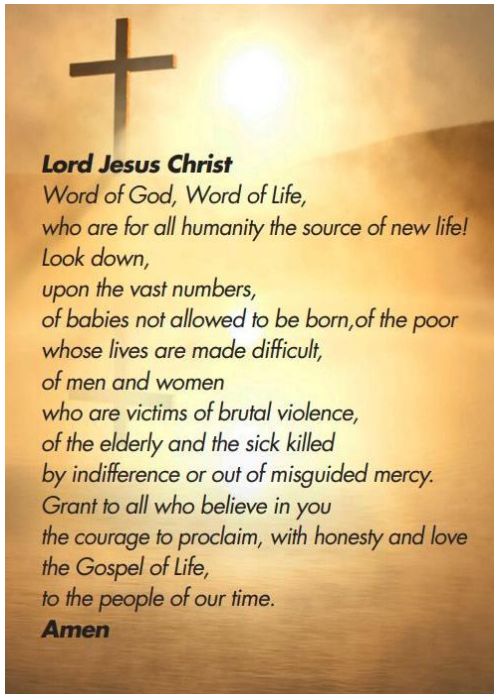
Christmas Cards will be available from **27/28 November**

Volunteers Needed

Vincent's SVP shop on the Ormeau Rd is in desperate need of help. So if you are 18 or over (16 or 17 with parental consent) and could offer a few hours a week please contact Gerry the shop manager on 02890325885.

Voluntary work for a non-profit organisation is a great addition to any CV!

Day for Life Prayer Card



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 4th December and ending at the noon Mass on Sunday 5th 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**.

Wednesday 27th October 2021, 54th anniversary of the 1967 Abortion Act. Since then 9,789,238 babies aborted in England, Wales and Scotland – in 2020 more than one baby lost to abortion every two and a half minutes.

At the end of 2020, there were 82.4 million forcibly displaced people in the world, double the 2010 figure.

Among them are **26.4 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, 6,666 in 2019, 6577 in 2020

In Northern Ireland, 1345 abortions have taken place since March 31, 2020.

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

A Christian funeral is a journey with three stations

By Father Jeffrey Kirby

As we enter into the month of November, the month traditionally dedicated to the dead, the Church points us to the afterlife and reminds us of eternal things. As such, it might be a good time to review the Mass of Christian Burial, popularly called the Funeral Mass.

What is it? Why is it important? How should it be celebrated?

First, it's good to start with the most important thing. The Funeral Mass is about the worship of God. In colloquial language, "it's God's show." It's the celebration of God's life. After the focus on God, the Funeral Mass is then about the deceased. Contrary to the claims, "The funeral is for the living," the Funeral Mass is for the person who has died.

The Catholic funeral is the solemn prayer and supplication of the Church on earth, as a portion of the Body of Christ, for its member who has died. The funeral petitions the mercy of God and begs eternal rest and peace for the one who has experienced temporal death.

In Christ, the funeral's purpose is to assist in the Christian's transition from this life to the next: from the Church on earth, hopefully through the Church in purgatory, and then to the Church in heaven.

As the Body of Christ, we pray that the deceased Christian will rest in Abraham's bosom and know the joys of paradise forever. Certainly, the family and loved ones of the deceased Christian have a special place in this prayerful action of the whole church. While this special place is a favored participation in the communal prayer of the whole body, it does not of itself define or shape the Church's prayer.

The funeral is best understood as a process of three stations, which are meant to order and guide both the prayer for the dead and the grief and sorrow of loved ones.

The first station is called the vigil, popularly known as the wake, and was traditionally celebrated in the family's home. Perhaps celebrated in a funeral parlor now, it is still a casual and deeply family-centered time of prayer and is meant as an opportunity for eulogies, stories, and common sharing. The vigil begins the liturgical prayer for the deceased Christian.

The second station, and the central act of the Body of Christ, is the Mass of Christian Burial; what most people think of as the funeral. There is an option for this prayer to be celebrated outside of Mass, but it is only to be used for serious pastoral reasons because of the power of the Eucharist in assisting the repose of the soul. This station has the Eucharistic offering as its heart, and it is the focus of the entire funeral process.

The Mass expands the prayer of the family and places it within the overall prayer of the universal Body of Christ. The family is now participates in the sacrifice for the deceased with all their brothers and sisters in Christ.

For this reason, the family, loved ones, funeral directors, or even priests cannot alter or change, modify or accommodate the Mass to any personal or esoteric desires. Eulogies are not preferred because the focus is on the resurrection and the person's eternal life in God.

The music for the funeral is to be from within the Church's tradition and not from popular fads or cultural trends, even if favored by the deceased. Photo displays, ostentatious flower arrangements, or anything that might take away from the focus of the Mass should be tempered.

This is the prayer of the Church, and not of any one person, family, or congregation. It is meant to unite the whole body and serve the deceased person's spiritual good.

The third station is the rite of committal, commonly called the graveside service. This is when the Church accompanies the family to the place of burial, blesses the place of rest, and offers further prayers for the deceased Christian.

The Catholic funeral process is a time of intercession and supplication. Through these traditional ritual acts, God's grace is given, the departed Christian receives spiritual help, and loved ones can find consolation.

The funeral is for the departed, and that emphasis should not be lost. In general, the supernatural focus and ancient beauty of the Catholic funeral must be cherished and preserved at all costs. The spiritual opportunity offered by the Funeral Mass should be eagerly sought out by the family and loved ones of the departed Christian and should be solemnly celebrated and prayed by the local parish community.

Follow Father Jeffrey Kirby on Twitter: @fatherkirby

Annual Mass for the recently departed

Each November, in St Brigid's Parish, we celebrate a Mass for those who departed this life in the last year. However, due to Covid-19, we were not able to do this last November, and it appears we will be restricted this November also. Nevertheless, we have decided to have a number of masses in the **week beginning 8th November 2021**, and to invite the relatives and friends of those who have died since 1st November 2019 – 31st October 2021.

Letters have been sent to the relatives this week **The time of Masses will be 7pm.**

Monday 8th November

James McDonald
Maura Donaghy
Dermot Byrnes
Aileen McGeown
Patrick Mullaney
Deirdre Lavery
Mary McLaughlin
Kathleen Mageean
Marie Nicholas
Joseph Fahey
Tony Doran
Richard Carr
Mary Young
Sarah Smith
Lil McDermott
Raymond McDermott
Ursula Burns
Una MacRandal
Thamina Kurit
Edward Yoong
Kathleen O'Neill
Patrick O'Neill
Marguerite Egan
Aidan Langan
Desmond Keating
Joan Kerr
Sheila Magennis
Margaret Brannigan
Bernard Brannigan
Margaret Brannigan
Leo Mooney
Josie Cassidy
Gerry McVeigh
Lena Jackson

Tuesday 9th November

James Shaughnessy
Kathleen Shaughnessy
Anne McGivern
Anna Patterson
Mary Donnelly
Jeanette Ann Robinson
Pauline McCormick
Clio Griffin
Gerard Marshall
Maura Camplisson
Damien Brennan
Hugh O'Kane
Teresa Quinn
Kevin Leonard
John O'Connell
Patrick McAreavey
Charlie Grant
Joseph McKnight
Jo Cullen
Matthew Salters
Catherine McGeown
Patrick O'Neill
Marie Wilson
Bernie Flanagan
Bernadette Gyax
Robert Bunting
Annette McCourt
Sarah Mellon
Margaret Hannon
Francis Mulholland
Patrick Flynn
Anne-Marie McCrum
Hazel McIlroy
Hugh O'Neill
Sean Gribben

Wednesday 10th November

Liam Daly
Maureen Nolan
Jim McEvoy
Francis McErlean
John McCrystal
Brendan Trainor
Kris Toner
Aidan Gallagher
James Mullan
John O'Sullivan
Robert Mullally
Francis McNally
Henry Gerald Burns
Angela Thompson
James Muldoon
Brian Howard Murray
Sean O'Doherty
Sarah Brennan
Tom Esmonde
Gerry Quinn
Joan Cronin
Philomena McKenna
Kate Burns
Sally Matthews
Michael McKeever
Joseph Murtagh
Mark Pettigrew
Rita Gordon
Ciaran Crawford
Therese Graham
Tim Lynch
Ellen Murray
Ann Rosbotham
Colm McGoldrick