

The Liturgy

Sunday Mass

Saturday: 6.00 pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 9.30 am
12.00 noon

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

1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month at 1.30pm
Please contact the Parish Office to book
(One month's notice required)

Marriages

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

PARISH OFFERTORY COLLECTION

(Total includes Basket Collections, Standing Orders and Dona Donations)

Weekly Collection 2nd November: £5086.40

Monthly Collection 2nd November: £4541.60

GIFT – Growing in Faith Together

GIFT 2 programme (Year 9) will start back on **Sunday 16th November, from 6.30pm – 8.00pm in the Parish Hall**. The programme will run for 4 consecutive weeks finishing on Sunday 7th December.

The first week will be an opportunity for our wonderful young people to reconnect with each other. We have a fun-filled evening planned, playing games and enjoying delicious pizza.

If you have not been involved in the GIFT programme and would like to join, please get in touch with the Parish Office. We look forward to welcoming all our young people back and meeting our new GIFT members.



Saint Brigid's Parish

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
9th November 2025, Year C

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

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

Address: 40 Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast, BT9 6FP

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Livestream/Webcam: youtube.com/@stbrigidsparishbelfast



The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

First Reading: Reading from the prophet Ezekiel Ezk 47:1-2.8-9-12

I saw a stream of water coming from the Temple, bringing life to all wherever it flowed

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 45:2-3.5-6.8-9

The waters of a river give joy to God's city, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

Second Reading: Reading from the letter of St Paul to Corinthians 1 Cor 3:9-11.16-17

You are the temple of God.

Gospel: According to John Jn 2:13-22

He was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body.

Anniversary List

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Anne Marie Doherty, Hugh O'Neill, Zita O'Doherty, Donal McGettigan, Bill and Kathleen Heaney, Noel Eastwood, Jack, Mary Margaret and Michael Creighton, Vincent D'Agostino, Sylvia Vieira de Souza, Monsignor Ambrose Macauley, Ann Murray, Gerard Caher

May they rest in peace

Mass Intentions for week ahead:

Mon 10th Nov 7pm: *Annual Mass for the Faithful Departed*

Tues 11th Nov 9.30am: *Sheila Kennedy (RD)*

Wed 12th Nov 9.30am: *Donal McGettigan (A)*

Fri 14th Nov 7pm: *Margaret Chesser (Months Mind)*

Sat 15th Nov 12noon: *Liam McKenna (A)*

ADVENT REFLECTION DAY

Date: Saturday November 29th, 2025

Venue: St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Avenue

Time: 2.00pm – 4.30 pm

Facilitator: Rev Dr Ruth Patterson

ALL ARE WELCOME

Title: The Wayless Way

As people of faith, how can we live with hope and integrity in these times of uncertainty and chaos? On the cusp of Advent 2025 we will reflect together on the direction we might take. Where is the guiding star?

Women of St Brigid's Walking Together

Would you like some peaceful time away from the hustle and bustle, particularly at this time of the year? It is easy to lose sight of our little Lord and the true meaning of Christmas.

In true preparation our Women's Prayer Group will meet the four Wednesday's (dates below) to make our Advent journey, to the manger, together.

We will meet on Wednesday 12th November and then again for our Advent Programme on the 26th Nov, 3rd, 10th, 17th Dec. Where: **40 Derryvolgie Avenue** Time: **7.30pm**
Please do join us. Everyone is most welcome and if you already attend why not bring a friend!

St. Brigid's Apostolic Work

We would like to thank all parishioners who gave generously to the collection on Mission Sunday. The Apostolic Work continues to support those in need during this difficult time. Last year St Brigid's apostolic collection amounted to £15,033.06.

If you are in a position to help you can donate by a single payment or set up a standing order and credit Apostolic Work, **Account no: 00067017 at A.I.B Sort code: 93-80-92**

If you are a tax payer and wish to gift aid your donation please insert your name house number and post code in the reference box when making your payment.
Cheques made payable to Apostolic Work.

Further information available from Thérèse O'Reilly through the parish office.
Thank you for your continued support and God Bless you all.

Receiving Holy Communion – a reflection.

The custom of receiving Holy Communion on the tongue was the practice in the Church for almost a thousand years. But for a thousand years before that, in other words, the first thousand years of the history of the Church, the practice was to receive the Body of the Lord in the hand. Many of the faithful, perhaps even the majority, have now returned to this more ancient manner of receiving Holy Communion, doing that which one of the Fathers of the Church instructed: "When you approach Holy Communion, make your left hand a throne for your right hand, which is to receive the King" (*St Cyril of Jerusalem*).

There are no grounds for claiming that one way is, in itself, better than the other; both are equally devout, and neither one is more reverent than the other. What is of the utmost importance is the faith, devotion, and reverence with which Our Lord is received. As we look at the Sacred Host, and hear the words, "*The Body of Christ*", our "**Amen**" must be the true expression of the reverence in our hearts – it is our "yes" to the one who comes to us as our Lord and Saviour".

Receiving Holy Communion in the hand reveals important aspects of the mystery of the Holy Eucharist. It is a sign of our bodily contact with the Risen and Glorified Body of the Lord. That which the Lord said to the Apostle Thomas, we can hear said to us, "*give me your hand, doubt no longer but believe*" (*John 20:27*). Also, in Baptism our bodies were consecrated, made holy, and became "temples of the Holy Spirit" - holy enough to touch and hold the Body of Christ. Finally, holding out empty hands to receive the Blessed Eucharist, reminds us that "with empty hands we come before the Lord" to have our emptiness filled with his fullness, our poverty filled with his generosity, our lovelessness filled with his love.

A point to note: in St Brigid's Church we do not have Altar rails, therefore, we stand to receive Holy Communion. In our situation, falling on knees before the person distributing the Blessed Sacrament, is not only awkward, but in fact it also creates a trip hazard for those coming behind – reverence always includes consideration for others. Receiving Holy Communion in the hand can also be seen, particularly in this season of colds and flu, as a form of reverent care for one another.

Annual Mass for Recently Departed Parishioners

(November 2024 – November 2025)

Monday 10th November at 7.00 pm

Relatives and friends of those who have died since 1st November 2024 are particularly invited to this Mass. Also remembered are all the departed Priests and parishioners of the parish, as well as relatives of parishioners who have died in other parishes during the year. Candles will be available for those who wish to bring a lighted candle to the altar in memory of a loved one. Tea/Coffee will be served after in the Parish Hall.