



# Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

## The Ascension of the Lord

12<sup>th</sup> May 2024, Year B, Psalter Week 2

**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

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

**Livestream/Webcam:** [youtube.com/@stbrigidsparishbelfast](https://youtube.com/@stbrigidsparishbelfast)



## The Ascension of the Lord

**First Reading:** Reading from the Acts of the Apostles Acts 1:1-11  
*He was lifted up while they looked on.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 46:2-3.6-9

*R/. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

**Second Reading:** Reading from letter of St Paul to the Ephesians Eph 4:1-13  
*Fully mature with the fullness of Christ.*

**Gospel:** Gospel according to Mark 16:15-20

*He was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place.*

### Anniversary List

**Please pray for** Mary Killen (nee Rutter) recently deceased, Edward Callaghan whose month's mind it is and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Brian Lockhart, Maura Thompson, John Merrick, Fr Joseph Houston, Rita Fahey, Aideen McAlinden, Benny Smith, Tom Donnelly, Tom Donnelly Jnr, Eamon MacSorley, Emma MacSorley-Reed, Owen O'Gorman, Elizabeth McGurk, Vincent Brannigan

**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

### Eucharistic Adoration

**Monday:** 7.30 pm – 8.00 pm

### Baptisms

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

### PARISH OFFERTORY COLLECTION

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

**Weekly Collection 5<sup>th</sup> May:** £6796.99

**Monthly Collection 5<sup>th</sup> May:** £4559.10



*Thank you for your continued support*



### 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](#)*

### MORNING PRAYER

Every Monday morning in the Side Chapel at 7.30 am

### MEN'S PRAYER

Each Friday morning in 40 Derryvolgie Avenue at 7.30 am

### WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Next Meetings are: 15<sup>th</sup> May and 19<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm in No40 Derryvolgie Ave



## REMINDER!!

### Eye Surgery in Rwanda

Everyone is warmly invited to hear about the experience of 3 of our parishioners Doctors **Olivia Earley, Noemi Lois and Augusto Blanco** who recently spent time in the Eye Unit in Kabgayi Hospital in Rwanda teaching doctors to perform cataract and other eye surgery techniques.



Tea and coffee from 7.30pm

**13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre**

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May and Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

Please remember in your prayers the boys and girls of the parish who will be making their First Holy Communion this month and will receive the Eucharist for the first time.



## Children's Liturgy Coffee Morning



We kindly invite all parishioners to join us on **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May** as we are hosting a Children's Liturgy coffee morning immediately **after the 9.30am mass**. We particularly welcome all children and their families who celebrated First Holy Communion this weekend.

## St Brigid's Laudato Si'

Great news - St Brigid's are setting up their own Laudato Si' group focused on caring for our environment and for those most impacted by climate change. Are you interested in this important work and in joining others who care? If Yes - Please contact Anne Marie [am.duffy@icloud.com](mailto:am.duffy@icloud.com)



## Divine Mercy

You are warmly invited to join us in St Brigid's Church each Friday at 3.00pm as we pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

## Down and Connor Diocesan Pilgrimage to Fatima 2024

Led by Bishop Alan McGuckian S.J Spiritual Directors Fr G McCloskey, Fr M Graham, Canon S Gilmore 20 Aug 2024. 7 Nights £799 per person sharing direct return flights from Dublin to Lisbon afternoon flights. 20KG bags included. Return airport transfers in Fatima. 7 Nights Hotel Avenida. Full board: breakfast, lunch & dinner. For further information please contact: Joe Catney 07776425631 / 02890714001

## St Brigid's Church

### Organ Renovation

The new church of St Brigid's marks its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in December 2024. The organ was installed when the church opened in 1994, but is now overdue a full service.

It will be dismantled in the first week of June; work will continue over the summer months; and it will be re-assembled during September.

This service will preserve this remarkable instrument for another thirty years. We look forward to hearing the organ's renewed voice in September.



## St Brigid's Parish, Financial Report 2023

Dear Parishioner,

Transparency and accountability are important aspects of our parish financial affairs. Parishioners rightly expect and must have confidence that the financial administration of parish funds is of the highest standard, and fit to stand up to external scrutiny. It is my obligation as Parish Priest, advised and assisted by the Parish Finance Committee, to meet this standard. I cannot thank sufficiently the members of the Parish Finance Committee for giving of their professional expertise and considerable time in this service to the Parish.

The finance Committee has prepared the Accounts for the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. These will now be published in the Parish Bulletin and on the Parish Website.

**Very Reverend Edward O'Donnell**  
Parish Priest

**St Brigid's Finance Committee**  
Edward O'Donnell (Parish Priest)  
Terry McDaid (Chairman)  
Nicky McKeague  
Angela Reavey  
Patricia Crossin  
Seamus Corrigan  
(Recording Secretary) Lisa O'Kane

Dear Parishioner,

We are pleased to present the Parish Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Our objectives remain the same, to meet parish costs, manage finances and maintain parish assets in good order.

You will note that in the year just ended that parish expenditure recorded a surplus of £206,514 (year ended 2022 surplus £128,433)

As in previous years School Receipts represent Dept of Education Grants in respect of capital expenditure on behalf of St Bride's Primary School. The Parish acts on behalf of the Trustees of The Diocese to collect the grant aid and thereafter make payments to contractors on behalf of the Diocese and School. There is no cost to the Parish.

Many parishioners avail of the opportunity to make contributions via Standing Order from their Bank. This has been a considerable help in the smooth operation of the Parish finances. We would encourage Parishioners to use standing orders as a means of contributing to the Parish. Standing Order forms are available from the Parish Office.

With the decline in use of cash, the Parish has introduced a Digital Collection Plate in the Church foyer to make contactless payments via debit/credit card or smart phone device (NFC), this option is also available online through the parish website.

Fr O'Donnell and the Parish Finance Committee remain grateful for the continued generosity of Parishioners in supporting the smooth operation of our Parish.

**Terry McDaid**  
Chair Finance Committee

St Brigid's Parish

Financial Report

Year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>		
Church collections	289,939	235,359
Gift aid returns	69,870	68,577
Donations and Bequests	5,417	3,797
Sale of book and papers	3,046	2,884
Rental income	11,500	19,145
Solidarity Interest received	13,550	1,693
Parish centre	53,938	30,271
	<b>447,260</b>	<b>361,726</b>
Priests' Stipend and Welfare Collection	66,128	58,882
Non-Parish Collection	30,636	69,718
School receipts	172,064	56,113
Pilgrimage Fundraising/ Youth Foundation	38,607	50,182
Insurance Claim – Covid	67,328	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>822,023</b>	<b>596,621</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Church supplies	16,434	14,594
Diocesan payments	50,876	47,890
Salaries and wages	60,000	83,877
Parish running costs	101,170	134,308
Pilgrimage costs	53,428	-
Parish centre	64,772	2,806
	<b>346,680</b>	<b>283,475</b>
Priests' Stipend and Welfare Collection	66,128	58,882
Non- Parish collections	30,637	69,718
School payments	172,064	56,113
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>615,509</b>	<b>468,188</b>
<b>Net surplus</b>	<b>206,514</b>	<b>128,433</b>

The Financial Report for the years to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 have been prepared on a cash receipts basis.

Balance Sheet	2023	2022
Fixed assets (£)	1,564,456	1,601,329
Bank	674,915	482,883
Net Creditors	(14,672)	(18,224)
<b>Net assets (£)</b>	<b>2,224,699</b>	<b>2,065,988</b>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>	<b>2,224,699</b>	<b>2,065,988</b>

The funds in Bank are held in a solidarity account managed by the Diocese, which assists those parishes that are less financially stable.