



# Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

## Third Sunday of Advent

17<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Year B, Psalter Week 3

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

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



## Third Sunday of Advent

**First Reading:** Reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 61:1-2.10-11

*I exult for joy in the Lord.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps Lk 1:46-50.53-54

*R/. My soul rejoices in my God.*

**Second Reading:** Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 1 Th 5:16-24

*May you all be kept safe, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of the Lord.*

**Gospel:** Gospel according to John Jn 1:6-8.19-28

*There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.*

## Anniversary List

**Please pray for** Raymond McAreavey, Kieran Dynan and Joseph Houghton recently deceased, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mona McDonnell, Emmie Delaney, Jack Lavery, Brigid Monahan, Sarah Murton, Margaret McCarthy, Robert Bunting, John Gibbons, Vera O'Hara, Annette McCourt, Carol Walls, Philip O'Brien, Bretta and James Maginn, Paddy Kerr, Arthur Davey, Margery Gilligan, Deirdre O'Kane

**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

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

### Eucharistic Adoration

**Monday:** 7.30 pm – 8.00 pm

## PARISH OFFERTORY COLLECTION

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

**Weekly Collection 10<sup>th</sup> December:** £5926.66



*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](#)

## Advent Programme

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent** (17<sup>th</sup> December)

- **Bambinelli Sunday** (Blessing of Christ Child Crib Figures) at the 9.30am Mass (*see bulletin notice*)
- **Parish Penitential Service:** 4pm – 5pm (see Bulletin Notice)
- **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – St Brides Primary School Penitential Service



### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent** (24<sup>th</sup> December)

- Normal Sunday Mass times

**Christmas Eve Vigil:** 6.00 pm (*Outdoor in Carpark, standing only, come prepared for the weather*)

**Christmas Eve Midnight Mass:** 9.00 pm

**Christmas Day Mass:** 9.30am and 12 Noon

During **Christmas Week:** Tuesday – Saturday Mass will be at 12 Noon



## Parish Penitential Service

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 4.00pm

Nine 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**

## Money transfer to the only Catholic Parish in Gaza

Many parishioners very kindly included a donation with the November List of the Dead. This year these donations amounted to **£2315**, and are used at the Parish Priest’s discretion. Given the tragic situation in Israel and Gaza, this year those funds have been transferred in total to Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa of Jerusalem, who is the Apostolic Administrator of the Holy Land, including Gaza. Sincere thanks to all who made a donation in November.

*Fr Eddie O’Donnell*

## Bring Baby Jesus from your Nativity Crib for a special blessing on Sunday 17th December at 9.30am Mass

Bambinelli Sunday was a tradition started by St John Paul II. Bambinelli is the Italian word that means, “Little Baby Jesus”. Pope John Paul II invited all the Romans to come to St Peter’s Square with the Christ Jesus from their home crib, everyone held up their baby Jesus and he blessed them. The children especially enjoy this tradition, which both Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have continued.



During 9.30am Mass, Fr O’Donnell will bless the Bambinelli that you have brought from your home. Following the blessing, take your Bambinelli home, gift wrap it, place it under your tree and save it for Christmas Day. Let this be the first gift your family opens on Christmas, then you place your Baby Jesus in the crib. A gift of the presence of Christ in your home this Christmas. The celebration will be especially enjoyable for the children of the Parish, young and old!

We hope that you can join us for this beautiful tradition.

### ***DON’T FORGET YOUR BABY JESUS ON 17th DECEMBER!***

A limited number of baby Jesus’ figurines will be available to buy from the GIFT group before Mass at £5.00 each.

## **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**

## Parish Office Closure over Christmas

The Parish Office will be closed from 1.00pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December and reopen Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January at 9.00am

*Wishing everyone a Wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!*