



Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
20th November 2022, Year C, 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 **Website:** stbrigidsparishbelfast.org

Livestream/Webcam: youtube.com/channel/StBrigidsParishBelfast

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

First Reading: Reading from the book of Samuel 2 Sm 5:1-3
They anointed David king of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 121:1-5

R/. I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to the God's house'

Second Reading: Reading from the letter of St Paul to Colossians. Col 1:12-20
He has created a place for us in the kingdom of the son that he loves.

Gospel: Gospel according to Luke Lk 23:35-43
Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Anniversary List

Please pray for Éamon Phoenix and Patrick McKenna recently deceased and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Judith Bergin, Eileen Green, Elizabeth Thompson, Robert and Mary Copeland, Una Donaghy, Liam McKenna, Maureen McKiernan, John McKiernan, Vincent Jamison, Dolly McDaid, Deirdre Kennedy, Joseph Shevlin, Maura Fitzpatrick

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 13th November: £4015.31



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 21st November** in the Parish Centre at **7.45 pm**. *New members welcome!* (Reflection: Purgatory)

ST BRIGID'S ONE WORLD GROUP

Our Parish Third World Group has been in existence now for more than 32 years. The name has served us well with most people associating the term Third World with developing countries in Africa, South America and Asia.



However his term has become outdated and can be construed as being insensitive – indeed a number of parishioners and others have made this point to us and we have listened to their views.

*We have therefore decided to change our name to **Saint Brigid's One World Group***

We will adopt our new name with immediate effect although it will not formally change until April 2023 to allow us time to take the necessary regulatory and administrative steps. *Until then cheques should continue to be made payable to St Brigid's Third World Group and electronic donations to Account No: 68825172 Sort Code: 90-22-07.*

Thank you for your continuing generous support for our beneficiaries.

Advent Day of Reflection

Advent Day of Reflection: Facilitator Rev Ruth Patterson

Title: Adventuring into God. (Reflection on Luke 1 v26-56)

Date: Saturday 26th November 2022

Time: 2.00pm – 4.30pm

Venue: St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Ave, Belfast.

All are Welcome!

ADVENT MORNING PRAYER



After a break of 3 years we can now recommence morning prayer during Advent. Everyone is invited to journey through the Advent season commencing on **Monday 28th November at 7.30am each weekday morning.**

We will, once again, pray the Psalms in the morning office and reflect on the readings for Advent. We will meet in the church and probably in the side chapel, depending on numbers. This has proved to be an excellent way of preparing together for the Christmas season.

St Brigid's One World Group **Bread and Soup Lunch Sunday 20th November**



We warmly invite you to join us in the Parish Hall for a simple bread and soup lunch

Tea, coffee and scones served after 9.30am Mass

Make a donation to help people living in abject poverty in developing countries

Christmas Gift cards will be available

Children's Liturgy Meeting



A Children's Liturgy meeting will take place on **Monday 21st November, at 8pm**, in No.40 Derryvolgie Avenue.

The agenda will include operational, safeguarding and planning matters.

We particularly reach out to anyone interested in becoming a new volunteer - you would be most welcome to come along on the evening.

Thank you. Eileen Mooney & Mary Carson

Women walking through Advent together

Our **Women's Prayer Group** meets the last Wednesday of each month but for **Advent we will meet weekly for 4 weeks, on 30th November, 7th, 14th and 21st December, at 7.45pm** in No 40 Derryvolgie Ave.



This time of year can be particularly busy and stressful for women so why not come and join us for some quiet, prayerful preparation for Christmas. A time for you to just stop and find space to welcome our blessed Lord and to listen to what He has to say to us.

Everyone is welcome and please don't worry if you can't come every week, you will be remembered in our prayers.

Mary Carson 07718263019

SVP Toy Voucher Appeal

Dear parishioners, as Christmas approaches, we are reaching out to you once again for your support with our Toy Voucher Appeal. We are asking for donations of vouchers such as Smyths, One-for-All vouchers or similar.

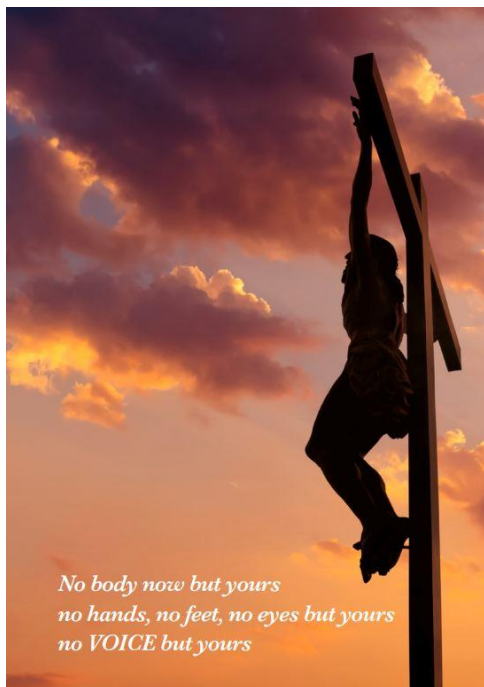
We will be distributing these in the coming weeks to families known to us, who are experiencing financial difficulty and the related stress that comes with the pressures of providing at Christmas.

Please leave vouchers with any member of the SVP, drop them in the offertory baskets or leave them into the Parish Office with Lisa (Secretary).

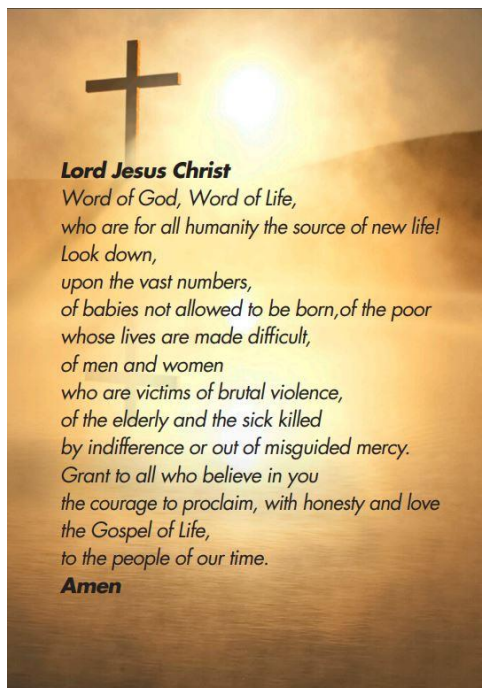
Vouchers need to be left in by the weekend of 3rd/4th December to allow us to distribute these to families before Christmas.

Thank you sincerely for your continued support

St Brigid's Conference of S.V.P



*No body now but yours
no hands, no feet, no eyes but yours
no VOICE but yours*



Lord Jesus Christ

*Word of God, Word of Life,
who are for all humanity the source of new life!
Look down,
upon the vast numbers,
of babies not allowed to be born, of the poor
whose lives are made difficult,
of men and women
who are victims of brutal violence,
of the elderly and the sick killed
by indifference or out of misguided mercy.
Grant to all who believe in you
the courage to proclaim, with honesty and love
the Gospel of Life,
to the people of our time.*

Amen

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.

The Re-introduction of The Sign of Peace:

This is one of the most ancient gestures in the liturgy going right back to the early Church. By the Sign of Peace we publicly reverence Christ's presence in our neighbour before approaching the Altar, where we acknowledge Christ's presence in Holy Communion. Since Vatican 11 the Sign of Peace has been to exchange a "Hand-shake" with one's immediate neighbour, but since the outbreak of the pandemic that gesture has been suspended. However, as the importance of Sign of Peace cannot be overlooked, and it is essential that we have some gesture that signifies our union with Christ in the Eucharist and our respect for our neighbour. Therefore, **from the 1st Sunday in Advent (27th November) we shall re-introduce the Sign of Peace to the Mass**, but it will take a different form – It will not be expressed as a "Handshake", thus respecting health guidance. **The Sign of Peace will be exchanged by a simple bow towards the person closest to you** - it is not necessary to bow to everyone around you in the Church as the immediate neighbour represents all.

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 - especially if you haven't been before.

To join our circulation list please email mmmikemoran@aol.com

A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

The Southern Trust is hosting a special service of remembrance and thanksgiving for parents and families who have been bereaved through pregnancy loss or the death of a baby, child or young person in Daisy Hill Hospital or the wider community.

The service will take place on **Sunday 27 November at 3.00pm in Newry Town Hall**. For more information please contact Laura on 02837560085

Academic Fish

Academic Fish is a **free** app to support **students** and **parents** with maths terms and definition, currently in English, Irish and Chinese. It has been developed by mathematicians so is curriculum based, learner friendly and correct! Download on IOS and Android -more info- www.academicfish.com

Annual Mass for Deceased Clergy & Religious

There will be a Mass for Deceased Clergy and Religious who have died during the last three years. All Parishioners, Clergy and Religious throughout the Diocese are invited to join the families of the deceased to offer Mass together with Bishop Noel.

On: **Monday 28th November 2022**

In: **St Peter's Cathedral (Belfast)**

At: **7:00 pm**

The Mass will also be broadcast online at: churchservices.tv/stpeterscathedral

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL 2022

The Order of Malta QUB and the Catholic Chaplaincy QUB invite you to support this year's Christmas Shoebox Appeal in support of Belfast Homeless Services.

Suggested items for male and female include: **Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Soap, Shampoo, Body wash, Sanitary products, Sweets, Chocolate, Gloves, Scarves, Hats, Deodorant**

Please place your items in a wrapped box or in a bag and leave it under the Christmas tree in the Catholic Chaplaincy **by Monday 12th December**. Thank you for your kindness and support. For more info, contact QUB@orderofmalta.ie



How might you be preparing for Christmas this year?

This Advent, we invite you to join with us for a time of discussion, reflection and praying with the Gospels through Lectio Divina (Divine Reading) as we prepare our hearts and minds to welcome the child Jesus this Christmas. The sessions will run for 4 weeks online via zoom and will be facilitated by Fr Paul Byrne and Aishling Steen from the Living Church Office.

We have 2 options for you to join in: **Beginning Monday 21st November at 7:30 pm or Tuesday 22nd November at 11:30 am for 4 weeks.**

To book your place please contact Claire at livingchurch@downandconnor.org or telephone 02890690920. We look forward to welcoming you!