



# Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

## Second Sunday of Lent

25<sup>th</sup> February 2024, Year B, Psalter Week 2

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

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



## Second Sunday of Lent

**First Reading:** Reading from book of Genesis Gen 22:1-2.9-13.15-18

*The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 115:10.15-19

*R/. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

**Second Reading:** Reading from first letter of St Peter Rm 8:31-34

*God did not spare his own Son.*

**Gospel:** Gospel according to Mark Mk 9:2-10

*This is my Son, the Beloved.*

### Anniversary List

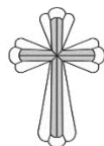
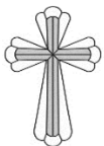
**Please pray for** Gloria O'Kane, Michael D Carty and John O'Brien recently deceased, Paul Tanney and Anne Howie whose months mind it is and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: John Cassidy, Jim Kearns, Mary McMahan, Rose Murphy, Thomas and Annie Theresa Reynolds, George McGrath, David McKenna

*May they rest in peace*

### Welcome into the Church and Parish Family

Charlie Cadogan and Daniel Hargan

who were Baptised this month in St Brigid's.



## 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 18<sup>th</sup> February:** £4853.67

**Sick and Retired Priests Collection:** £2152.85



*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](#)*

### Bishop Alan McGuckian

In mid-March Bishop Alan McGuckian will formally assumes his role as Bishop of Down and Connor. Remember to pray for him – a prayer card is available in the Church entrance

## ST BRIGID'S LENTEN PROGRAMME



**Morning Prayer:** Monday to Friday at 7.30am in the Church. *Our focus is on the Morning Office and reflecting on the gospel for the Sunday following and also the gospel of the day.*

**Women walking together through Lent:** Each Wednesday at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, beginning Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February. *It is a gentle hour of prayer and discussion in preparation for Easter; a quiet space away from the noise of daily life to really connect with God. Open to women of all ages. Please come along.*

**Divine Mercy:** Join us in St Brigid's Church each Friday during Lent at 3.00pm as we pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy

**Inter Church Lenten Series:** 4 Tuesday evenings in Lent at 7.30pm in The Conference Centre – See Bulletin Notice: [Caring for our Common Home](#)

## GIFT 4 – Growing in Faith Together

**GIFT 4** programme (Year 11's) will start back on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February** from **6.30pm – 8.00pm in the Parish Hall**. The programme will run for 4 weeks finishing on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024 (There will be no meeting on St Patrick's Day 17<sup>th</sup> March).

Parents who have registered their child been contacted with further details by email.

**The theme for GIFT 4 is:**

*How can I look after "me" and make good choices?*



The four-week programme will explore the theme above by inspiring and engaging the young people through a series of workshops and reflection.

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 meeting our new GIFT members and parents in the new year!

## Divine Mercy

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

**"You will prepare the world for my final coming"**



Following the first evening, the presentation slides are available on the parish website under '[NEWS](#)'

**Caring for Our Common Home –  
An Inter-Church Initiative**

Join us through Lent to explore what is happening in our world, to listen to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor, and to explore our local response.

**Venue: The Conference Centre,  
18b Newforge Lane, Belfast**

**When: Tuesdays, 7.30pm to 8.30pm**

**20th Feb: "What is happening to Our common Home?"  
27th Feb: Eco-Spirituality  
12th March: An Integral Ecology  
19th March: Action and commitment: Where to, now,  
for our communities in Belfast?**

## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The Permanent Deacon responds to the call of Jesus and his Church in three specific ways: through the ministry of Charity, the ministry of the Word and the ministry of the Altar with a particular focus on the ministry of charity. The Diocese invites expressions of interest from men, (married or single), who feel called to the Diaconate.

Further relevant information can be found on the Diocesan website <https://www.downandconnor.org/living-church/diaconate/>

Additionally, it is proposed to hold **three information evenings in St Patrick's Downpatrick, All Saints Ballymena, and St Brigid's Belfast on 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March**. This will provide an opportunity to meet Permanent Deacons and their wives and discover more about this vocation.

It is hoped to commence a propaedeutic year of discernment in September 2024. Expressions of Interest forms will be issued by email to those who have responded to this announcement and the formal application and interview process will commence, with a view to completion in June 2024.

# A Big THANK YOU



## Food Bank Collection

Nonperishable food items can be donated after all Masses on the **2nd /3rd March 2024**. The food weighed in at 246.15 kgs for February collection.

Your donations make a big difference to local people in crisis.

**List of items currently most needed:** *Tinned tomatoes; Instant potato; Tinned vegetables; Tinned fruit; Jam; Coffee; Tea; Rice; Long life fruit juice; UHT milk; Cooking Sauces; Biscuits; Household cleaning items.*

## Volunteers – Safeguarding Training Dates

Diocesan Safeguarding Level 2 Training dates – for volunteers working with children and young people in our parish. Suitable for Group Leaders/Supervisors

**Child Level 2 Training in St John's Parish on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm (must attend both evenings)** Register online [HERE](#)

Diocesan Safeguarding Level 1 Training – suitable for new & current Volunteers.  
(Training needs renewed every 3 years)

**Child Level 1 training on 21<sup>st</sup> March 6.30pm (Virtual)** Register online [HERE](#)

Visit for more info: [downandconnorsafeguarding.com/available-training/](https://downandconnorsafeguarding.com/available-training/)

## DIOCESAN VOCATION WEEKEND

*Have you ever considered the possibility that God is calling you to the priesthood?* If so, take this opportunity to gather with other men who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood. This retreat will create the time and space to help you discern God's calling in your life.

The retreat will take place in Drumalis Retreat Centre, from Friday 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024. If you wish to attend this retreat or would like further information contact: Fr Conor McGrath, [c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org](mailto:c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org) or 02890654157.

## TOO MUCH AND TOO LITTLE WATER: THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN MALAWI



**WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 7:30PM**

**SOUTH BELFAST QUAKER MEETING HOUSE, 22 MARLBOROUGH PARK NORTH, BELFAST BT9 6JH**

Join us for a special event taking a closer look at life on the frontlines of climate change. We will be hearing from Salome Mumba who is Irrigation and Natural Resource Management Officer for Trócaire, based in Malawi. She will present us with the situation facing Malawi, including the challenges presented by too much and too little water.

Climate change in Malawi has led to an increase in extreme, intense rainfall and flooding and an increase in hot days and dry periods. The country is currently on track for five degrees of global warming this century without a radical reduction in carbon emissions, despite Malawi's emissions being around eighty times lower than Ireland's. We will discuss how the affected communities are responding and the lessons we can learn from their response.

We will also have opportunity to discuss the importance of water here in Northern Ireland as we deal with our own challenges related to flooding and the pollution of Lough Neagh.

RSVP to: Nicholas Hanrahan, Campaigns Events and Outreach Officer at Trócaire:  
[nicholas.hanrahan@trocaire.org](mailto:nicholas.hanrahan@trocaire.org)