



Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

Anniversary List

Please pray for Maura Camplisson recently deceased and for all those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: Eugene Smyth, Breda Dynan, Agatha Waters, John and Bridget Graham, Charles Graham, Joseph Tully
May they rest in peace

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12th July 2020, Year A, Psalter Week 2

First Reading: Reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 55:10-11
The rain makes the earth give growth.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 64:10-14
R/. Some seed fell into rich soil, and produced its crop.

Second Reading: Letter of St Paul to the Romans Rm 8:18-23
The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons.

Gospel: Gospel according to Matthew Mt 13:1-23
A sower went out to sow.

Contact St Brigids Parish

Parish Priest: stbrigids@downandconnor.org or 02890 665409

Parish Secretary: stbrigids@downandconnor.org or through [Facebook](#)

St Brigid's Community Association: stbrigidsra@gmail.com

Please note the Office will be closed Monday & Tuesday (Bank Holiday)



Sunday Homily

Fr O'Donnell's Sunday Homilies are available to read and listen to on our Parish Website. Please go to **The Liturgy > Sunday Homilies**.

Parish Collections - Thank you

A big "thank you" to everyone who has decided to set up a Standing Order with the Parish. This means we are back to a steady inflow for the up-keep of the parish. Also, thanks to all those who have made "back payments" to the parish – this is appreciated greatly.

It was only possible to distribute about half of the boxes of envelopes before "lockdown". The remainder of the boxes will be distributed in the next few days. Of course, if you have set up a Standing Order you will not need to use the envelopes.

Those who wish to continue to use the envelopes can return them as follows: Dropping the envelopes into the "Safe Box" in the Church Entrance – it is available at all weekday Masses. Please note that collections will be no longer taken up during Mass by passing the "basket".

Dropping the envelope into the metal Post Boxes at Number 40 & 42 Derryvolgie Avenue – these boxes are checked several times a day.

Anyone who did not receive a box of envelopes (or a Standing Order form) and wishes to do so, please contact: stbrigids@downandconnor.org or telephone 028 90665409 and leave a message giving your contact details.

Private Prayer in St Brigid's Church

St Brigids Church is open for ONE HOUR from 7.00pm – 8.00pm Monday to Saturday for Private Prayer. Please take personal responsibility for hygiene, read the signs and follow the instructions of our Stewards. More guidelines are listed in last week's bulletin and on the parish website.

We are looking for some more volunteers to Steward for the Summer months – if you are over 18 and can spare 1 hour (fortnightly) please get in touch with the Parish Secretary – stbrigids@downandconnor.org. Thank you!

Announcement About the Re-introduction of Masses

Fr O'Donnell is pleased to announce that some Masses will begin again on **Monday 6 July 2020**. Further details are given under the COVID-19 tab on the Parish website (stbrigidsparishbelfast.org) in the section labelled 'Mass and prayer during the Coronavirus pandemic'.

Fr O'Donnell and the Parish Pastoral Council have been keeping the timings of the change to Stage 4 under active surveillance and have been discussing plans for how St Brigid's will reintroduce public Masses under the regulations. A new announcement about these plans has now been made.

The plans for St Brigid's are as follows:

- Masses will recommence on **Monday 6 July 2020 at 9:30am**. Initially there will be Mass at **9:30am** on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays**,
- The number of Masses each week will be increased as confidence in the smooth and safe running of them is established; there will **not** be any Saturday/Sunday Masses for the present.
- Further announcements will be made on the Parish website when they happen.
- Parishioners are again reminded that the **dispensation** from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays/Holy Days is **still active**.
- Because it will be possible for people to come as individuals or as household groups it is not possible to be precise about the maximum capacity but it is likely to be **about 70 people** at each Mass.
- Places will be available on a '*first come: first served*' basis and when all the seating stations are occupied, no more worshippers will be able to be admitted.
- The opportunity for **Private Prayer** still continues on **Monday to Saturday from 7.00pm – 8.00pm**.
- **FAQs questions** that you may have are under '*Mass under COVID Restrictions*' on the Parish website (below the video).

Attendance Considerations

In order to give as many parishioners as possible the opportunity to attend Mass, **you are asked not to come more than once per week at present**. Also - each of the neighbouring Parishes will be trying to serve their parishioners in a similar way. So please respect that by attending only our own church.

Safety for all concerned - at Mass and in the whole community - is our overriding desire so **please do not come if you have been asked by your doctor to shield** or if **you have any actual or suspected COVID-19 symptoms**. For the present, there is no obligation to wear a mask but please feel free to wear one, if you wish.

Funerals, Weddings and Baptisms

On Wednesday 1st July, the Northern Ireland Executive advised the Diocese of the following guidelines in respect of **FUNERALS** and **WEDDINGS**:

FUNERALS

The Maximum number that can attend a funeral service will be determined by the size and circumstances of the venue, whilst facilitating social distancing and observing safety guidelines. Therefore, the number attending funeral rites in the church may be permitted up to the capacity of the church determined when you carried out the risk assessment for the recommencement of Mass and Sacraments. The Executive guidance indicates that the maximum number who may attend the committal at the graveside or doors of the crematorium is capped to 30 persons.

WEDDINGS

As previously advised, the numbers attending outdoor weddings is capped at 30 persons. For indoor weddings (permitted only where one of the parties has a terminal illness) the number attending has been increased from 10 to 30 persons. These changes have immediate effect.

BAPTISMS

Following the announcement from the NI Executive we are delighted to confirm that baptisms can now resume!

If you are waiting to have your baby baptised in St Brigid's please contact the Parish Secretary for a baptism form and to be added to our waitlist: stbrigids@downandconnor.org



Information:

- There will only be one baby baptised per service.
- We will have baptisms available Saturday and Sunday. (Weekdays can be accommodated also)
- The times will be 2.00pm on Saturday and 1.00pm and 2.30pm on Sundays (These times are currently for July & August but may extend into September).
- Please keep numbers attending small (around 10-12).

(Please note we do have waiting list so it may take a few days before we arrange and confirm a date for you)