



Saint Brigid's Parish

Pastoral Community of South and East Belfast

Anniversary List

Please pray for Rita Hearty (Nee Shevlin), Gerry Marshall recently deceased and for all those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: James and Marie Smyth, Gerard Murtagh, John Carty, Catherine Carty, Edward Carty
May they rest in peace

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5th July 2020, Year A, Psalter Week 1

First Reading: Reading from the prophet Zechariah Zec 9:9-10
See now, your king comes humbly to you.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 144:1-2.8-11.13-14
R/. I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

Second Reading: Letter of St Paul to the Romans Rom 8:9.11-13
If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

Gospel: Gospel according to Matthew Mt 11:25-30
I am gentle and humble of heart.

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.

Great GIFT Chain. Connecting us and connecting others.

A huge huge thank you to all our young people from GIFT and Youth Faith who braved the wind and the rain and took part in last Sunday's fund-raising event. It far exceeded our expectations as we followed you and your human chain from house to house. It went on all day, with GIFT 5 finishing with Father Eddie! There was so much joy and goodness on display it was inspiring for all of us.

Thank you to everyone who donated to our scheme of top up vouchers for asylum seekers. ***We have raised a massive £4,415! Which is absolutely amazing.***

Some of our young people will be taking a cheque to Belfast Friendship Club and meeting some of those whom we have helped.

It's been a difficult time but together our young people have "Made A Difference" and provided a way for people to connect with their loved ones. Well done all of you. You have made us very proud. We hope to share some of our photographs on the Parish Facebook page, so watch out for that.

If it's possible we will be back running the GIFT programme in September/October of this year, beginning with GIFT 5. Wishing you all a safe and happy Summer. Mary and Breige (mary-carson@hotmail.com)

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

Thank you to all those parishioners who have set up Standing orders for the weekly offertory envelopes.

If you did not receive a letter/form or would like to set up a Standing order for the Parish, please get in touch with the Parish Secretary at the email above.

Funerals, Weddings and Baptism

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 – The Diocese is seeking urgent clarification from the Northern Ireland Executive Office in respect of the celebration of Baptisms. As soon as this information is available, it will be shared with Parishes.

If you are waiting to have your baby baptised please contact the Parish Office for a Baptism Form to complete and return to the office to be added to our waiting list. *(If you had previously booked your baby's Baptism in April or May your details have already been added to the waitlist to reschedule.)*



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**.*