

St. Brigid's Blanchardstown. Parish Newsletter, February 12th, 2017. 6th Sunday in Ord Time.

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Our own Fr. John Casey is celebrating a milestone birthday this weekend. You are welcome to a celebration and thanksgiving liturgy on Sunday at 10.30am Mass where we, as the Faith Community, will bless Fr. John in thanks-



giving for his Ministry and continued good wishes for the future. Following the Mass the Hospitality group will have a birthday celebration selection of goodies and tea / coffee in the Pastoral Centre to which we are all invited. Love to see you there.

## **Lenten Movie Nights**

This Lent we are having a number of Movie Nights. The movies will have Scriptural, Spiritual and Pastoral overtones that we will examine through conversation and debate. The first of the Movie Nights will take place on Tuesday February 28th at 7pm in the Pastoral centre.

A reminder that the next collection for our local St. Vincent de Paul conference will take

place this weekend February 11th and 12th. Your generosity is always greatly appreciated.

Monday morning meditation continues in the Pastoral centre. As always, it begins after the 10am Mass and Rosary and you are all most welcome.



The annual collection for ACCORD will take place on the weekend of Catholic Marriage Care Service 18th/19th February. ACCORD works with young people and cou-

ples preparing for Marriage while also providing courses for school children about love and sexuality. As always your generosity to these vital services across the Diocese is gratefully appreciated.

REMEMBER TO TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH YOU AS YOU LEAVE THE CHURCH AND KEEP AN EYE ON THE SPONSORS ON THE BACK.

**Pope Francis invites us to celebrate St. Valentine's Day!** In his document on The Joy of Love (*Amoris Laetitia*), Pope Francis refers directly to Saint Valentine's Day as an opportunity to make the most of traditional religious practices, invite couples to grow in love and help their children to prepare for their future married life. This is why, as part of the preparations for World Meeting of Families in Ireland in August 2018, we invite you to mark this St. Valentine's Day in a special way.

The WMOF2018 office has prepared flyers with ideas on how to mark this special day and gift tokens that you can give to your loved ones this 14<sup>th</sup> February. These are available in each Cathedral across Ireland, Veritas Shops and Accord centres and can also be downloaded from the WMOF2018 website: <a href="https://www.worldmeeting2018.ie">www.worldmeeting2018.ie</a> The tokens include: a technology-free evening to do an activity of your choice; set aside time for prayer, go for a hand-in-hand walk together; a special dinner, loads of tender hugs; a journey down memory lane: take time to remember how we met and have grown together; pray together.

We also invite you to subscribe to the WMOF2018 newsletter to receive the latest updates on preparations for World Meeting of Families 2018 by email <a href="http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/contact">http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/contact</a> and follow us on social media: Facebook <a href="http://www.twitter.com/wmof2018">www.facebook.com/wmof2018</a> and Twitter <a href="http://www.twitter.com/wmof2018">www.twitter.com/wmof2018</a>

## St. Brigid's Child Safeguarding policy



The Archdiocese of Dublin recognises and upholds the dignity and rights of all children, is committed to ensuring their safety and well being and will work in partnership with parents/guardians to do this. The Archdiocese recognises each child as a gift from God, and values and encourages the participation of children in all activities that enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual and social development. All diocesan personnel (including clergy, religious, staff and volunteers) have a responsibility to safeguard children through promoting their welfare, health and development in a safe and caring environment that supports their best interests and prevents abuse. Your Parish Safeguarding Representatives are contactable through the parish office.

If you have a concern about child abuse, please contact either Diocesan Child Safeguarding & Protection Service (CSPS) / Designated Liaison Person Mr. Andrew Fagan, Director, Child Safeguarding and Protection Service, Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe College, Dublin 3. Tel. 01-8360314. (Mon-Fri: 09:00-17:00) Deputy Designated Liaison Person Ms. Julie McCullough, Child Protection Officer, Child Safeguarding and Protection Service, Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe College, Dublin 3. Tel. 01-8360314. (Mon-Fri: 09:00-17:00) OR Tusla Office: OR YOUR Local Garda Station:..

Information Evening: Anam Cara, the National Organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> February from 19:30-21:30pm in the Glashaus Hotel, Belgard Square West, Tallaght, Dublin 24. This is a free event open to all bereaved parents. As Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers for event, please RSVP to info@anamcara.ie or call 01 4045378.

**Spiritual Direction Training**: Manresa has offered training in the theory and practice of spiritual direction since the 1970's. Applications are currently being processed for the 2017 enrolment in the Diploma in Spirituality (Spiritual Direction) course, currently validated by Maynooth. Find out more about this opportunity for personal and ministerial enhancement - More information and application forms are available on: <a href="http://www.manresa.ie/content/spiritual-direction-training">http://www.manresa.ie/content/spiritual-direction-training</a>, or email <a href="mailto:reception@manresa.ie">reception@manresa.ie</a>

## Door to door fundraising for Parish-planned canvass of houses.



Parishioners will be aware of the ongoing canvass of the parish in 2016/17 in relation to the FAMILY OFFERING (BANK STANDING ORDER/ENVELOPE BOX).

As mentioned before we were very pleased with the very positive response to the canvass and particularly the warm welcome the canvassers received at the doors.

The Finance Committee plan to recommence the canvass in March 2017 and in that regard we will be on the lookout for new canvassers and collectors over the coming weeks.

If you would like to volunteer and help out in your parish, please get in touch with the Parish Secretary, Christine, in the Parish Office (018115412) and give her your contact details. A member of the Fundraising Committee will then get in touch with you and invite you along to a short meeting in order to familiarise you with procedures which are very straight forward.

Prospective canvassers may wish to know that all our canvass teams' work in pairs and that they will canvass with an existing experienced canvasser.

"Whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Jesus presents two paths for us today: we can break his commandments or obey them. And the result corresponds to our choice. If we decide not to follow God's guidelines, we will not enjoy the fullness of the kingdom of heaven. But if we choose otherwise, eternity will look much brighter for us!

Of course, it's easy to know in our minds what the right choice is. But putting this into practice is another matter. The commandments Jesus gives in today's Gospel are not easy to follow. He takes the ancient Ten Commandments to a deeper level of commitment. He says more than do not kill. Rather, do not even harbor anger in our hearts. He says more than do not lie. Rather, do not even swear.

Undoubtedly, Jesus is asking us to chart a challenging course. But he would not expect us to follow these directives if it were impossible to do so. And it's important to bear in mind that Jesus doesn't set high standards to test or punish us. His love for us is at the root of everything he teaches us. Following these commandments, challenging though they may be, will in fact make us happier people, both now and in eternity! As with so many good things in life, committed effort on our part is necessary--whether it be maintaining good health, accomplishing a certain skill, or earning a sought-after award. So too with a soul that is truly free. We need to exercise a life of virtue by taking the advice of Jesus Christ, the best life coach we could ever hope to have.

The Aware Resilience Series 2017: This year's fundraising Talk takes place on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017 in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin 8. The speaker will Archbishop Diarmuid Martin. Reception at 7.00pm followed by resilience lecture at 7.30pm and Q&A. Tickets cost (€25) and all funds raised go to Aware Nationwide Support. For more information contact Mr. Drew Flood, Aware Fundraising Department on Tel: 01 086 -6069736 or 01 2374919 or <a href="https://www.aware.ie">www.aware.ie</a> Thank you for your continued support.



## Invitation to the Charity Cake Sale & Photo Exhibition

We would like to invite you to the Charity Cake Sale and short Photo Exhibition dedicated to the Anniversary of Mass Massacre at Maidan in the Pastoral Centre. This event is organized by the Ukrainian Diaspora with the support of the Association of Ukrainians in the Republic

of Ireland (CHY18402), in order to raise funds for the volunteer doctors, and to provide humanitarian aid to victims and people suffering from the conflict in the eastern Ukraine.

<u>The function will be held on Sunday 19th February 2017, from 9:00 – 13:00, at St. Brigid's Pastoral Centre, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15.</u>

This event has a highly significant impact in the moral and financial aspects for Ukrainian people. The Photo Exhibition will show you the current situation in the war zone and tell you more about the struggle of civilian population there. Because this event falls on the day when the mass massacre took place, by taking lives of hundreds of people and leaving dozens wounded, you will be able to learn about these events that occurred three years ago.

Please support and make your presence count for a great deed. We look forward to meet you at the event.

We have the remaining few St. Paul's Sunday Missals for the readers. They are only 8 euro and are available in the Sacristy.

Mass Intentions	Feb 12th	Feb 19th
Sat. 7pm Sun 9am	Nicolas Clonan Christine Clarke	Maureen Ryan John &Maureen Keane
10.30am	Paddy Fox	Mary Hehir
12 noon	Margaret Kelly	John Gilligan
7pm	Frank McGlynn	Margaret Kelly

## Free training course in using the internet - are you interested?

You may be interested in learning how to access and use the internet but have nobody to teach you. Now, the voluntary organisation, Third Age, has been funded by the Government to offer free classes to people like you. The Digital Skills scheme is part of the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment 'Getting Citizens Online' programme.

The free training course is a 10-hour programme over five weeks, two hours per week. It covers introduction to the Internet, Internet security and safety, email, search engines and websites, online government services, conducting everyday transactions, online voice and video calls and use of apps. The course is designed to inspire confidence in its intended audience of non-liners, and to create opportunities for successful self-learning.

Classes will be starting during the week beginning Monday, March 6 in Senior Help Line's Amiens Street offices – Senior Help Line is a programme of Third Age. If you are interested, or would like to know more, please contact Ann on 087-9031265 Monday-Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm

Westmanstown Golf Club is open for new members and ladies and gents vacancies are available in: Intermediate-age 24 to 26, students age 18 to 23, juveniles; girls and boys 11 to 17. Contact: 01-8205817

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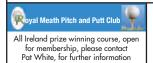
## **READERS FOR FEB 19th**

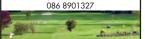
7pm Carla Salvaleon / 9am Kathleen Brennan / 10.30am Maeve O'Donoghue / 12 noon: Alice O'Connell/ 7pm: Marian McCaughley

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'Pieta 100 Cycle' which takes place on Sunday, September 25th in 10 confirmed locations at present

Dublin, Kildare, Limerick, Galway, Tipperary/Offaly, Kilkenny, Waterford, Leitrim, Donegal and Mayo. www.pieta100cycle.com



weight watchers

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ail: catherineflanagan@leader.weightwatch

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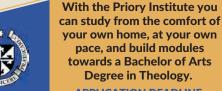
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