

***This is my beloved
Son...***



St. Brigid's Blanchardstown.

Parish Newsletter, March 12th 2017. 2nd. Sunday of Lent.



The Sacred Space at the front of the Altar symbolises our Lenten journey. It is stark and bare with a cross, a desert plant, rocks and stones. It also contains a backpack and shoes, these are symbolic of our journey through Lent; the backpack might represent the

issues we bring with us—our hopes and fears, our burdens and delights. The shoes might symbolise the paths we are taking, the choices we have made that bring us to this point in our lives. As we reflect on this tableau we put ourselves beside Jesus in the wilderness and wonder: what tempts me in my life? What causes me to turn away from God? what am I being offered that might lead me to stray from Gospel values?



Just a reminder that we are hoping to dramatised some of the Stations of the Cross On Good Friday, April 14th. To be able to do this we are looking for your good selves to volunteer to take on the roles of the pivotal characters of the drama. If you are interested please contact Kevin or Michael Hanratty.



Our local Conference of the St. Vincent De Paul are collecting this weekend. As you know, they do tremendous work

across the Parish assisting those with their needs. Please give as generously as you can to continue to help them in their vital ministry.

St. Patricks Day, Friday March 17th. Masses are at :
Thursday Vigil Mass at 7pm, Friday morning at 9am /
10.30am and 12 noon. There will be no evening mass
that evening.



Fr. Mangan: (01)821 3660 / Fr Casey: (01)821 3716 Fr. Guckian: (01)8262799 Kevin (Pastoral Worker) 086/6023450 Office: (01)811 5412 / Sacristy: (01) 823 8354

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



Lenten Movie Nights

Why not commit some time this Lent to this new initiative: 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 second of the Movie Nights will take place on Tuesday, March 14th, at 7pm in the Pastoral centre and it will be great to see you there.

Remember; the Padre Pio Mass, which takes place in the Oratory on the second Tuesday of the month, has changed from 7.30pm to 1pm.

Monday morning meditation continues over Lent in the Pastoral centre. Why not consider using that time as part of your Lenten prayer life. As always, it begins after the 10am Mass and Rosary and you are all most welcome.



MEDJUGORJE

Easter Pilgrimage, Depart Dublin 16th April 2017. For 7 Days. Group Leader: Eleanor Healy Accompanied by a Spiritual Director

€699 per person inclusive. Half board accommodation in superb private house.

Mary Immaculate College: MIC is delighted to announce that the Annual MA in Education & Wellbeing of the Older Person Free Public Lecture Series will take place on Friday 10th of March from 6.30-9.00pm in T204, Tara Building, MIC. According to Liz Early, MA in Education and Wellbeing of the Older Person programme co-ordinator; "These lectures are a must for all those interested in issues affecting older people in society today." All Talks are free to attend but pre-booking is required. For more information and to book Email: liz.early@mic.ul.ie



YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU

Door to door fundraising for Parish-planned canvass of houses

Parishioners will now be aware that canvass of our parish in relation to the FAMILY OFFERING (BANK STANDING ORDER/ENVELOPE BOX) will recommence on March 20th, 2017.

The canvass will continue for some months and the Committee would welcome new canvassers and collectors to join the team.

If you would like to get involved and help out with the canvass, 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 in order to familiarise you with procedures which are fairly straight forward.

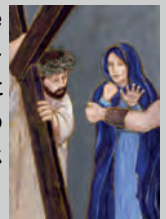
Prospective canvassers may wish to know that they will be accompanied at all times by one of our experienced canvassers.

Remember this is the principal source of parochial funding for our parish and all funds generated by it go exclusively to the maintenance, development and pastoral work of OUR parish, St Brigid's.

The canvass teams look forward to a continued warm and friendly welcome at the doors.

Thanks

During this Lenten Season we will celebrate the Stations of the Cross every Friday morning at 9.30am before the morning Mass at 10am. You are all most welcome to come to them and join other parishioners as we walk the Via Dolorosa with Christ.



OASIS DAYS

Oasis days are one day retreats open to everyone to come to and assist with your personal spiritual journey. There is an Oasis day on April 1st, 2017 in Manresa,

the Jesuit centre of Spirituality, Dollymount and the cost is €50, this includes lunch and refreshments. If interested please contact Sr. Teresa or Manresa at 01 8331352

Support Meeting: Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its next monthly Parent Evening on Monday 13th of March from 19:30 - 21:00pm in the Maldron Hotel, Tal-laght, Dublin 24 (please note change of venue). This event is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether the death was recent or not. Email: c.dingle@anamcara.ie or www.anamcara.ie

Lenten Talk 2017: Join Blakestown Parish *walking through Lent with various Biblical Characters around the Passion Narrative* for six Wednesdays in Church of St. Mary of the Servants beginning 8th March – 12th April from 7.00-7.45pm. Facilitated by Fr. Timothy Lehane, SVD. Cup of tea after every session. All welcome.



PIONEER LENTEN CHALLENGE
 Many people abstain from alcohol and take the **Short-Term Pledge** for the duration of Lent

Make YOUR Lenten Pledge by visiting www.pioneerassociation.ie and joining online or by contacting your local Pioneer Centre Representative

Caring for the Future of our Planet: We invite you to participate in four nights of reflection on one of the most critical issues of our time exploring the environmental impact of our lifestyles in view of creating a sustainable world for our children. Each night we will explore our topics with short talks, videos and group discussions. Pope Francis' Letter Laudato Si will inform our reflections as we make this Lenten journey together. Join us at 8.00pm each evening from Monday 6th -27th March in Brockagh Resource Centre, Laragh, Glendalough, Co Wicklow Tel: 0404 45600. We will discuss *The Environmental Story Today, The Social Consequences of our Choices, An Integral and Sustainable Ecology and Committing to a Better Future.*

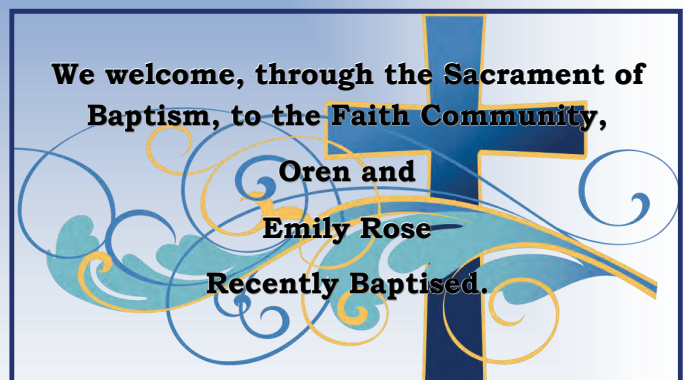
Annual Retreat/Conference: The First Annual Retreat and Conference for the Catholic Grandparents Association will take place on Wednesday 26th – 27th April in the Dominican Retreat Centre, Tallaght Village, Dublin 24. *Theme:* "Helping our Children and Grandchildren to know, love and share God in these highly secularised times "through lively discussions, workshops and resources with speakers: Fr. Enda Barry, Fr. Benny McHale, Mrs Kate Liffey and Catherine Wiley. Price is €160 per person (single room) with full board and €120 non-residential attendance for two days - meals included. Further info contact Connie on 098 24877 or email: catholicgrandparents@gmail.com All welcome.

"When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid." Peter, James, and John already knew Jesus. They had been following him, learning from him, watching him for quite some time. But what took place before their eyes at the Transfiguration was unlike anything they had yet witnessed. This was not just a miracle or a message: this was a supernatural vision. When Jesus' face suddenly "shone like the sun" and two ancient prophets appeared and spoke, and a heavenly voice announced the true identity of their friend and teacher, these three disciples nearly fainted in fear. It must have been too glorious, too strange, too astonishing to handle.

But Jesus "came and touched them" to rouse them from their prostration. He told them, "Rise, and do not be afraid." What a beautiful moment. The Lord realized that his friends were overwhelmed. He had compassion on their meager ability to comprehend what was really going on. He allowed them to participate in this moment of revelation to help them understand who he was, but he still understood who THEY were—imperfect human beings who could not be expected to completely understand the ways of God.

Sometimes we might long to witness a kind of Transfiguration moment. It can be tempting to think that if we had access to such a supernatural revelation, our faith would be strengthened and our lives would change. But Jesus knows us best. He knows what we can handle and he knows the perfect way to reveal himself. For most of us, most of the time, this means coming to know Jesus in the more ordinary ways of prayer, Scripture study, and the sacraments. Let's be sure we are ready to find Jesus there.

<u>Mass Intentions</u>	March 12th	March 19th
Sat. 7pm	Patrick & Elizabeth Phelan	/
Sun 9am	Niall Brooks	Mossie Mc Ilhenny
10.30am	John McNally	Jack and May Foley
12 noon	Sheila Kavanagh	Joseph Brennan
7pm	Members of the KeoghFamily	Gerry English



We welcome, through the Sacrament of Baptism, to the Faith Community,
Oren and Emily Rose
Recently Baptised.

READERS FOR MARCH 19th

7pm Derek Whelan / 9am Michael Hanratty / 10.30am Kevin Cullen / 12 noon Maeve O'Donoghue / 7pm Alice O'Connell

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