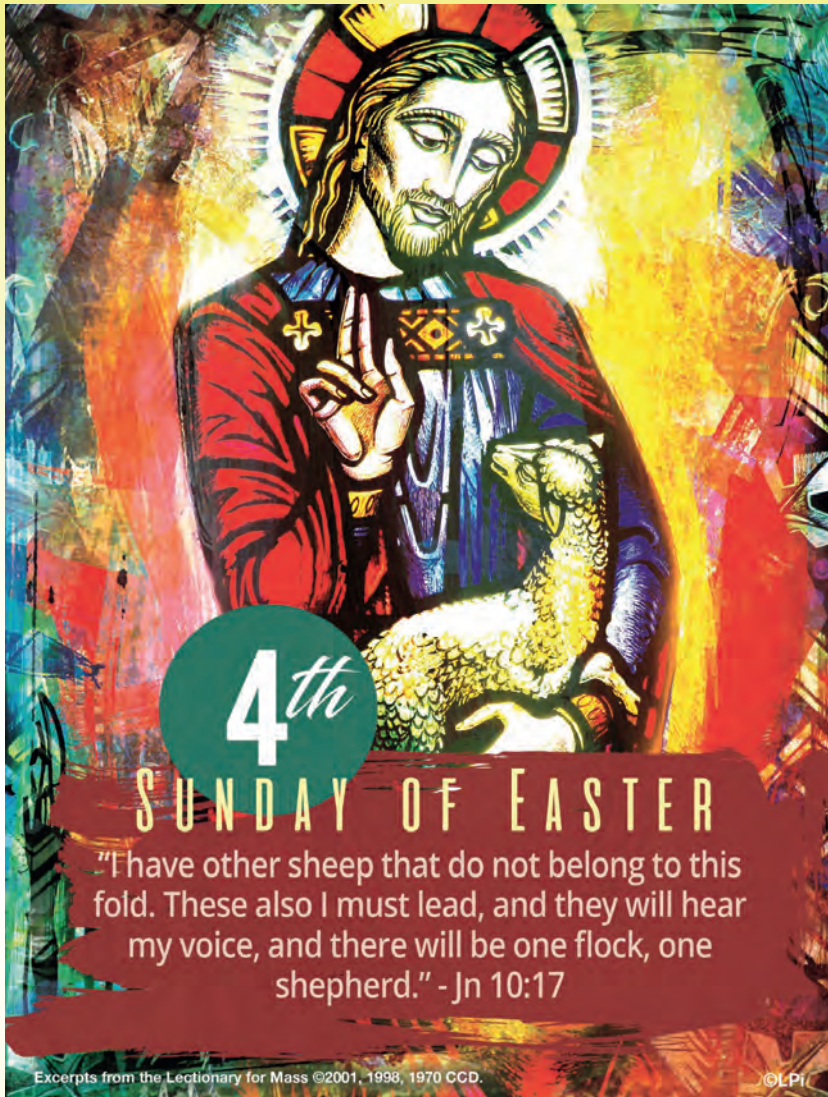


St. Brigid's Blanchardstown, Parish Newsletter.

Fourth Sunday of Easter – 22nd April 2018



4th

SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd." - Jn 10:17

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

There is something comforting about knowing that we are in someone's care. Children can feel this most easily when surrounded by the embrace of a mother or father. All is well. Jesus is the Good Shepherd. We don't have to figure out all of the complexities of life. All we need to do is allow Jesus to be the true shepherd of our lives: to point us in the right direction, lead us to the best pasture, and keep us safe from harm. So many things in the world can hurt us, and we can quickly find that we are on the road to despair. Keeping focused on Jesus, remaining close to him, allows us to develop the gifts and talents God has given us and discover the key to true happiness. Jesus welcomes me with all of my doubts and fears, limitations and sins.

THE DEEP END: The Good Shepherd
In Jesus' time, being a shepherd was not a pleasant job. Sheep became easily lost and the shepherd's job was to guide them back to safety. There were many dangers and the sheep were totally dependent on the shepherd. Shepherds would round up their sheep in the evening and guide them into their pen. But it had no gate so the shepherd would have to lie across the space in case the sheep were attacked in the night. The shepherds literally laid down their lives for their flock. John compares the sacrifice of the shepherd to the 'hired hand' who is not really committed to the flock. He does what he has to but flees at the first sign of trouble.

This Good Shepherd Sunday, the gospel describes Jesus as the 'genuine' Shepherd who wants a personal relationship with each one of us and who would lay down his life for us. The gospel emphasises the importance of relationship as the shepherd knows his flock and cares for them. They 'follow him' and it is not a Facebook or Twitter type of following, rather it is a genuine relationship. Everyone matters to the Good Shepherd, regardless of their situations. We are told 'I know my own and my own know me'. We are called today to follow Jesus in a more personal, more intimate way. Even when we stray off the path and get lost, it is then – especially – that the Good Shepherd comes looking for us.

Jane Mellett

'We think we are fleeing from God, but in fact we are running into his arms.'

Meister Eckhart

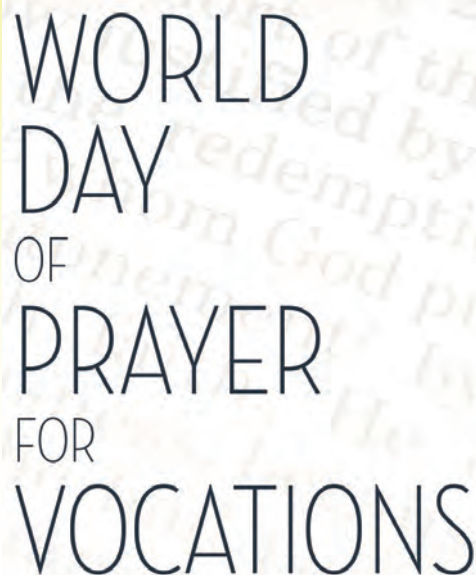
Monday Morning Meditation

after the 10am Mass and Rosary

Contact details: Fr. Mangan: 01 8213660 Fr Casey: 01 8213716

Jim Adams (Deacon) 086 2232411 Máirín Keegan (Pastoral Worker) 01 8115414

Office: 01 8115412 / Sacristy: 01 8238354 mail: office@blanchardstownparish.ie



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father,
You call us to believe in You,
to accept lovingly Your Son Jesus
and to be open to the Holy Spirit
for the service of our brothers and sisters.

We thank You
for the confidence You show us
in calling us to share in Your plan of salvation.

Help us to discern
how we can work with You
as committed lay people, married or single,
as priests or deacons,
as religious or missionaries.

Awaken in each of us
the courage to respond to Your call
by an ever-growing gift of self.

Grant the grace of fidelity and eternal life
to those who are called, like the Apostles,
to follow Christ wholeheartedly.

Amen.

Holy Hour St Patrick's
Parish, Corduff will hold a Holy Hour
at 8pm on the following dates:

Tues. 8th May. This is to pray for the protection of family life.

Upcoming Events for Young Adults

Life to the Full (Jn 10: 10) Book Club Join other 20 & 30 year olds to meditate, share and discuss life, faith, purpose and how to live life to the full. We read a chosen spiritual book over a few weeks and come to reflect and discuss our thoughts - we are currently reading the C.S. Lewis book "The Great Divorce". From 7.00-8.30pm every Thursday in St. Paul's Church, Arran Quay, Dublin 7. Contact st.pauls@dublindiocese.ie and www.facebook.com/lifetothefullbookclub

Ewe Thina: We Walk God's Way Join other young adults (20's & 30's) for reflective hikes around Dublin Area. Monthly event. The next hike will be Sunday 29th April for the Howth Cliff Walk. We will meet outside the parish Church in Howth at 12.30pm. Contact st.pauls@dublindiocese.ie and www.facebook.com/wewalkgodsway

St. Benedict's Priory, Cobh, Co.Cork: Saturday 28th April

Day of Recollection based on the spirituality of the Servant of God Marie Adele Garnier. Theme—The Paschal Mystery. 9.00am until 3.30pm. Holy Mass to begin and Adoration during the day. Lunch Provided. Admission: Donations only. Overnight accommodation available .

Choose Life 2018

Every week, the Catholic Communications Office in Maynooth circulates a double-sided newsletter *Choose Life 2018*. *Choose Life 2018* promotes the Church's position on unborn human life and encourages family discussion on this important subject. The newsletter is published each week on the diocesan website at www.dublindiocese.ie/choose-life-2018 Issue six is now available around the church.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Parish Heritage Pilgrimage to Glendalough

9th June 2018

World Youth Day Panama January 2019

Pope Francis has announced that the next World Youth Day will take place in Panama next January 22-27.

Registration for the WMOF event August 2018



Registration for the Pastoral Congress (which includes guaranteed tickets for the Festival of Families & the Final Mass) is open online on our website at www.worldmeeting2018.ie Have you considered volunteering? An opportunity not to be missed!

Eucharistic Adoration Tuesdays and Fridays after the 10am Mass

Divine Mercy Prayer Group

Mondays 7pm in the
Fr. Dungan Room,
in the Pastoral Centre

You are invited to join us in
Prayer
**FOR THE PROTECTION OF LIFE
AND FAMILY**
during Eucharistic
Adoration
every Tuesday and Friday
2.00—2.30 p.m.

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



ALONE: The First 40 Years is a new book by author and journalist Valerie Cox. It tells the inspiring story of ALONE, the charity that supports older people to age at home, from Willie Bermingham's selfless dedication in the early years to the new challenges and issues faced by the charity today.

ALONE: The First 40 Years is available to purchase from all Veritas bookshops and their website www.veritasbooksonline.com and selected Easons stores nationwide and their website www.easons.com. Priced at €15.00, all proceeds will go directly to ALONE's services.

Parish Conversations Wednesday Evening 8.00 - 9.30 April 25th



We are continuing our conversations around family life in the light of Pope Francis's exhortation "The Joy of the Gospel". The discussions so far have been interesting and have helped us to reflect together on what family means to each of us personally. Come to all or just come along to whatever you can make. Each voice will help us to get a broader picture of family and relationship. The following themes will be reflected on -

April 25th : - A Gospel of Hope for our Families

SET DANCING

Set Dancing classes are now on Easter break and will return on Tuesday 24th April 2018 at 8.15pm in the Castleknock Parish Centre.

READERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

7pm: J.K.Owumereh
9am: Tony Devlin
10.30am: Richard Carroll
12 noon: Margaret Keane
7pm: Marian McCaughley

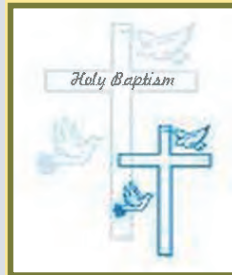
Family Carers Are you caring for a family member at home? A spouse, a partner or a close relative or neighbour? Then you are a Family Carer - become a member of Family Carers Ireland and benefit from a local and national network that helps family carers who need advice and that informs and influences government policy relating to home-based care. As a member you can also avail of our exclusive deals. For more details call 05793 22920 or visit our website www.familycarers.ie

MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE PILGRIMAGES 2018: 7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle service from €279 per person. Book any flight - any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service. Call us for further info and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 01 443 4510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com.

ACCORD Dublin - Recruiting!

ACCORD Dublin, Catholic Marriage Care Service, is currently recruiting volunteers as Marriage and Relationship Counsellors and Marriage Preparation Facilitators to prepare couples for the Sacrament of Marriage. Training will be provided for both roles through the Pontifical University in Maynooth.

Potential Marriage Preparation Facilitators: contact Frances Stephenson on 01 4784400. For information on Counselling Roles: call Jennifer Griffin on 01 4784400.



**Welcome to
Georgia, Rocco, Scott Thomas,
Mason James, Sophie Kate,
Robyn and Senan Paul
Who were recently baptised**

Mass Intentions

April 22nd

April 29th

Sat. 7pm

Peggy O'Rourke

Kathleen Bank & Teresa
Connolly

Sun 9am

Ann Diver

Kathleen Duffy MM

10.30am

Mary & Czes Kubiak

Kay McNally

12 noon

Sean Garvey

Daniel Brennan

7pm

Simon Hilliard

Jim Finnerty



Please spread the word to family, friends (both at home and abroad), those housebound and also young families with smart devices - all church services are available on the internet via www.blanchardstownparish.ie

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Wednesday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
Thursday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
Friday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
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