

St. Brigid's Blanchardstown, Parish Newsletter.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time 4th Feb 2018



THE DEEP END: Jesus the Healer

In today's gospel we read about Jesus' first healing in Mark's Gospel. Jesus hears of the illness of the mother of Simon's wife and goes to her. Due to the purity laws of his time this scene would have been considered controversial. His first healing is of a woman and we are told that he touches her, raises her up; he completely restores her to health. Many of his actions here would be considered taboo.

The 'whole city' was crowded around the door as people wanted to also be healed. What a commotion! Jesus, very early on in his ministry, is clearly a very popular, attractive figure. Jesus is the healer. We might ask ourselves today: who do we know who is in need of healing of any kind? This week, how can we reach out to them?

Another important aspect of this story is that Jesus does not remain comfortable in this house. He keeps moving, keeps going outward. This requires so much energy and an outpouring of love for those in need. Jesus shows us in today's gospel what it takes to stay connected, to re-energise ourselves for our various tasks: quiet time and space for real encounter with God. Even then, the people hunted for him. 'Everyone is searching for you', and still today, everyone is searching. It is up to all of us to help those on this journey, the seekers, the lost and those in need of healing. We cannot break new ground unless we are inwardly free and connected to that divine presence within us and in our world.

Jane Mellett

Musings

In speaking about the merciful outreach of the Church, in his first official interview with the Jesuit Antonio Spadaro, Pope Francis compared the Church to a field hospital: 'I see the church as a field hospital after battle... the thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity.' Using simple but effective imagery, he brings home his point that before getting into details about the dos and don'ts of the Christian life, it's important to make sure we

are conveying the central message and reality: 'it is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else. Heal the wounds ... And you have to start from the ground up.'



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

MEDJUGORJE

Easter Pilgrimage

Depart Dublin 30 March 2018
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Group Leader: Eleanor Healy
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€699 per person inclusive
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*We are looking forward to a very special trip this Easter.
As we prepare for the meeting of families this August we
pray to Our Lady, Queen of Families.*

Information from
Michael 086 8650708
Eleanor 087 2351294



**We welcome our families preparing
for 1st Holy Communion
to our special Masses this weekend
and we continue to pray for them at this
particular time.**

B.E. - BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

B.E. is a support group for those coping with the pain of loss of their life partner, through Death, Separation or Divorce. Few people are able to cope alone with the pain of loss. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Seeking help is a sign of strength and self-knowledge – not weakness. This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. Coping effectively with bereavement is a skill we can all learn. A team, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share their experiences with you.

Next Coping Programme will commence on Wed. 7th February for 7 Wednesday evenings, at 7.15pm in White Friars Community Centre, Aungier St., Dublin 2 (No need to book) For more information ph. 086 0877379 or email bedublin@gmail.com.

Eucharistic Adoration will continue on Tuesdays and Fridays after the 10am Mass

World Day Of The Sick 2018 The 26th anniversary celebrations of World Day of the Sick will take place on Sunday 11th February 2018. The **Mass of Healing and Anointing of the Sick** will be celebrated at St Agnes' Parish Church, Crumlin, Dublin 12 on Sunday 11th February at 3.00pm. Main Celebrant: Archbishop Diarmuid Martin. All are welcome. Telephone: 01 455 5368. Email: karenstaynes@gmail.com **Dublin Diocesan World Day of the Sick Conference** at St Agnes' Parish Centre, Crumlin, Dublin 12 on Saturday 10th February from 9.30am to 2.00pm. **Title:** "Dementia Friendly Parish Communities". A conference hosted by the Dublin Diocesan World Day of the Sick Committee. For information contact Trish Conway at trish37@gmail.com or call 087 622 0349. Booking forms to Ms Sheila Pyne, Archbishop's House,

Due to the Church Calendar , there will be no Baptisms on the 3rd Saturday or the 5th Saturday of March (St. Patrick's Day and Holy Saturday). They will take place instead on the 4th Saturday 24th March at 12 noon.

Monday morning Meditation continues with Máirín, our Parish Pastoral Worker after the 10 am Mass and Rosary

Movement Therapy for People with Parkinson's Disease.

Movement Therapy Classes with Mr. Pat O'Dea, through exercise, dance and enjoyment Wednesdays at 4.30 pm St. Brigid's Community Centre, Blanchardstown.



Remember to take this newsletter with you as you leave the church, and take a look at the advertisements at the back. It is thanks to the support and sponsorship of these, mainly local, businesses that we can produce such a colourful and impressive newsletter with no cost to the parish. If you do avail of the services of one of our advertisers, please do let them know you saw their advert in the Newsletter so that they know they are getting value for their investment! If you would like to include a news item or advertise in the newsletter please contact the office for further information

LOURDES



Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Spiritual Director Fr John Kelly

6 July 2018

Hotel Solitude

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Limited availability

Please contact Joan Cahill: 087 6262008

The Irish Cancer Society operates a free transport service for patients attending hospital for chemotherapy treatment. Volunteer Drivers pick the patient up at the door of their home, drop them at the hospital door, then when finished treatment, will pick them up and drop them home.

Volunteer expenses are paid. Patients wishing to avail of this free service should contact their healthcare professional, visit the Society's website at irishcancer.ie or contact the Irish Cancer Society for more information on 01 2310 522.



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.



Make a St. Brigid's Cross—You are most welcome to call into the Pastoral Centre this after the 10.30am and 12 noon Mass, to a workshop about making a St. Brigid's Cross. We will also have tea and coffee from our Hospitality Group who are always delighted to see you there.



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

Divine Mercy Prayer Group

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

SET DANCING classes are held every Tuesday at 8.15pm in the Castleknock Parish Centre. We do set dancing and include some line dancing. We extend a warm welcome to all. Why not come along and give it a try.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL CLOTHING APPEAL

TAKES PLACE OVER TWO WEEKENDS.

THE APPEAL IS FOR CLEAN, GOOD QUALITY CLOTHES, BEDCLOTHES, CURTAINS, SHOES ETC.

BAGS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH THIS WEEKEND.

BAGS WILL BE COLLECTED NEXT WEEKEND

READERS FOR FEB 4th

7pm: Marian McCaughley 9am: John Reid

10.30am: Anne Andrews

12 noon: Gwen Cruise 7pm: Sheila Gouldson

Mass Intentions

Feb 4th

Feb 11th

Sat. 7pm	Joanie Hill Kit Critchley MM	Nicholas Clonan, Kathy Moran & Brenda Grogan
Sun 9am	Una & Jack O'Callaghan	Maureen & John Keane
10.30am	Frank Kelly	Paddy Fox & Frank Power
12 noon	Mary Nugent, William Meere Michael Williamson	Martin & Claire Corry
7pm	Kathleen & James O'Rourke	Keith Dillon



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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BACK TO SCHOOL ESSENTIALS



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Monday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
Tuesday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
Wednesday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
Thursday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
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