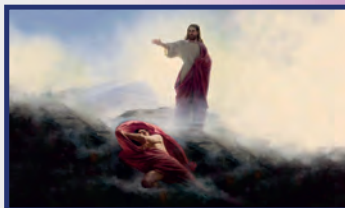


# St. Brigid's Blanchardstown.

## Parish Newsletter, March 5th 2017. 1st Sunday of Lent.



Lent has started and so has our journey to the

Triduum and the Resurrection. To help us focus our spiritual thoughts on this journey, our Altar has symbols at the front that allow us to enter more deeply into the Liturgical Season. What is represented there is a wilderness into which is placed rock, stone, plant, cross and a backpack for our journey. Take some time to reflect on this and enter the wilderness with Christ.

"He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry." And no surprise! That's an incredibly long time to fast. Undoubtedly Jesus' physical and emotional strength would have been extremely weak after enduring such a marathon of abstinence. And isn't it interesting that the "tempter" should choose to appear at this particular moment? When bread must have sounded better than ever, the devil comes and tests Jesus, saying, "Command that these stones become loaves of bread."

How hard it must have been to resist! Surely, Jesus could have caved in. He could have shown the devil his power--and had a bite to eat while he was at it--but he didn't. Instead, Jesus relied upon the word of God, and battled the devil by holding fast to the truth. "One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God."

What an excellent model this provides for us. We too face temptation of various kinds and degrees. As the first reading from Genesis reminds us, the "cunning" serpent has been slithering around humanity from the beginning of time. Even when we have all that we need, the devil makes us want more, or want different, than what we have. Today's Gospel calls Satan "the tempter" for good reason. He tempts us to break God's law as Adam and Eve did when they ate from the tree "in the middle of the garden." But Jesus shows us the right response by battling the devil with the truth of God's word. Whatever temptations might beset us, there is power in clinging to the truths that we find in Scripture. In our moments of trial, may we have the strength to claim these truths as our own and, like Jesus, defeat the deceit of the devil.

*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*

*office@blanchardstownparish.ie / www.blanchardstownparish.ie*

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



## Many Hands Make **LIGHT** Work

### **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 in March.

The canvass will continue for some months and as mentioned at all the masses last week 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



## Movie Nights

### 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.**

**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.**

**Our local St. Vincent de Paul society are collecting next weekend, the 12th of March. Please give as generously as you can and many thanks.**

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



Our Annual Novena of Grace begins again this year on Saturday March 4th. We are delighted to have with us Fr. Vincent Travers, Dominican, who will preach at the 10am morning Mass over the course of the Novena.



On Good Friday; April 14th, we are dramatizing some of the Stations of the Cross at 12 noon. We are entering into the Via Dolorosa in a way that helps us to see and hear at a deeper level the journey of Christ to the Cross. For us to be able to do this we need volunteers from the Parish to take on some of the important figures that bring the Stations to life. If you are interested would you please contact Michael Hanratty or Kevin

0866023450 or leave your name in the Sacristy please.

# PIONEER LENT 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](http://www.pioneerassociation.ie) and joining online or by contacting your local Pioneer Centre Representative





Make-A-Wish Ireland Annual Wish Day – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Make-A-Wish\* Ireland has one simple aim – we grant the wishes of children aged between 3 and 17 years living with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy and create extraordinary memories for them and their families.

Volunteer are needed for WISH DAY, our annual fundraising day, on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

There are a number of ways you could get involved and support us:

- \* select a location nearby and volunteer to sell our badges there for the day
- \* hold a coffee morning or bake sale in aid of Make-A-Wish
- \* hold a Jersey Day or a similar themed day in aid of Make-A-Wish

Money raised on the day goes to continuing to grant wishes to our brave wish children.

If you can commit to the full day or even a few hours selling our badges, please visit [www.makeawish.ie](http://www.makeawish.ie) to register online at one of our collection points. Alternatively contact Emma Horgan [emma@makeawish.ie](mailto:emma@makeawish.ie) or call 01 2052012 for more details

On behalf of everyone at Make-A-Wish; our wish children and their families; thank you for your support, we really do appreciate it.

We have a special treat on Friday March 10th at 7.30pm. **The Abaana New Life choir** from Bangor will be performing here in St. Brigid's.

They will present to us their unique style of spirituality, music, song, dance and video.

We are delighted to host them and look forward to making them feel right at home here.

Check them out at: [www.abaana.org/choir](http://www.abaana.org/choir)



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**8<sup>TH</sup> MAR, 2017**  
**MIGRAINE INFORMATION SEMINAR**

**TIME/VENUE:** 7 – 9PM, THE GRAND HOTEL MALAHIDE.

**SPEAKERS:** Dr. Martin Rutledge, Consultant Neurologist and Leading Migraine Expert. Public Interview with Audrey Craven (Founder MAI) and Lynn Geldof (Migraine sufferer) on the patient journey to treating and managing migraines.

Kindly supported with a Local HSE National Lottery Grant & the SSNO Regional Development Programme.




**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 8<sup>th</sup> March – 12<sup>th</sup> April from 7.00-7.45pm each evening. Facilitated by Fr. Timothy Lehane, SVD. Cup of tea after every session. All 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.

Information from Michael 086 8650708 Eleanor 087 2351294

**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

Mass Intentions	March 5th	March 12th
Sat. 7pm	Noel Collins	Patrick & Elizabeth
Sun 9am	Patrick Bruen	Phelan Niall Brooks
10.30am	Kitty Mc Carthy	John Mc Nally
12 noon	Joseph Brennan	Sheila Kavanagh
7pm	Jadwiqa Frank Ezarkowski	Extended Keogh Family members

**We welcome, through the Sacrament of Baptism, to the Faith Community, Emily Rose, Oren Kevin and Henry Baptised recently.**



**READERS FOR MARCH 12TH**

7pm Carla Salvleon / 9am Michael O Connor / 10.30am Gwen cruise / 12 noon John Kingsley / 7pm Mary Brady

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