

# St. Brigid's Blanchardstown, Parish Newsletter.

## Sixth Sunday of Easter – 6th May 2018



### THE DEEP END: A brief history of love

God does not have favourites, Peter tells us. You wouldn't think that was the case sometimes, listening to some of the people who purport to speak on his behalf.

When Professor Stephen Hawking passed away earlier this year, people from all walks of life paid tribute to his brilliance, his scientific legacy, his courage and his sense of humour. Professor Hawking's work taught the world so much about the boundless mysteries of the universe. Though he considered himself an atheist, he believed that life had meaning, and that we should always be curious about how the universe came into existence. He believed in love, and is quoted as saying 'It would not be much of a universe if it wasn't home to the people you love.'

And yet, after his death, there were some who couldn't resist the opportunity to ask: where is he now, this man who did not believe in God? The judgement and lack of compassion was staggering, coming as it did from 'Christian' commentators. Where is the love in such attitudes?

Today we bring everything back to one word: love. There are more than 20 references to love in today's readings. God's love does not discriminate. In the second reading we hear that 'everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God', while 'anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love.' That love that God showed by sending his Son for us, is the same generous, wholehearted, self-sacrificing love we are called to show others – whether their beliefs align with ours or not. God does not have favourites.

Triona Doherty

### ANNUAL HEALING MASS



Our Mass of Healing—Mind, Body and Spirit will take place

**SUNDAY 20TH MAY 2018  
@ 3PM**

Carers hands also blest and hospitality provided in the Pastoral Centre after the Mass.

**NO PARKING FEES**

If you need transport please contact the parish office.

**ALL WELCOME**

**DIOCESAN PUBLICATION *Choose Life 2018*** promotes the Church's position on unborn human life. The newsletter is published each week on the diocesan website at [www.dublindiocese.ie/choose-life-2018](http://www.dublindiocese.ie/choose-life-2018) **Issue seven** is now available around the church.

### No Monday Morning Meditation

This Monday, 7th May, due to the bank holiday

### *Divine Mercy Prayer Group*

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

**Eucharistic Adoration  
Tuesdays and Fridays  
after the 10am Mass**

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

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

**Parish Office: 01 8115412 / Sacristy: 01 8238354 mail: [office@blanchardstownparish.ie](mailto:office@blanchardstownparish.ie)**

**LIVE THE LITURGY -  
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love." So many people hunger for love. All of us desire to be intimately connected with others, God, and our world. Many things can work against this and cause us to feel alienated and even profoundly sad. Pope Francis tells us that our "infinite sadness can only be cured by an infinite love." We have been touched by God's love. We are called to bring that love to others so that their sadness and wounds can be healed. We must do this even for those we do not particularly like or who have hurt us. We cannot let anything stand in the way of love.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**PADRE PIO  
PILGRIMAGE TO  
HOLY CROSS  
9.00AM  
27TH MAY 2018  
(bus from Justins)**

**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.

**SET DANCING**

Set Dancing classes are held every Tuesday at 8.15pm in the Castleknock Parish Centre. We extend a warm welcome to all.

**Parish Conversations  
Wednesday  
Evenings**

Many thanks to all who attended these conversations. The discussions were very honest and worthwhile.

**St. Brigid's GAA Club**

Club Camp is running from 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> May to coincide with half term. From 9.30 to 2pm each day for 5 to 13 year old boys and girls - register on the website or email [eventsbrigids@gmail.com](mailto:eventsbrigids@gmail.com) for more info.

**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](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie) Have you considered volunteering? An opportunity not to be missed!

**Would you like to join a free course in Digital Skills in Blanchardstown?**

The not-for-profit organisation, Third Age is starting new classes shortly geared to people aged 45 and over, those with a disability or currently unemployed. Classes may be of particular interest to a local retirement group. **The location is Laurel Lodge Community Centre**—The free training course is a 10-hour programme over five weeks, two hours per week, up to 10 participants per course. It covers introduction to the Internet, Internet security and safety, email, search engines and websites, accessing online government services, conducting everyday transactions, online banking, online voice and video calls and use of apps. **If you would like to register your interest, phone Third Age on 046-9557766, email [nationaloffice@thirdageireland.ie](mailto:nationaloffice@thirdageireland.ie), or log on to [www.thirdageireland.ie](http://www.thirdageireland.ie)**

**Holy Hour St Patrick's**

Parish, Corduff will hold a Holy Hour at 8pm on the following dates: Tues. 8<sup>th</sup> May. This is to pray for the protection of family life.

**Castleknock Community  
Annual College Plant Sale—**  
takes place 12th and 13th May.



Many Thanks to all who sent in  
Easter Dues

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.**



ECUMENICAL  
BIBLE WEEK 2018

**MULHUDDART**

ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST CHURCH,  
CHURCH ROAD, MULHUDDART, DUBLIN 15

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018**

7.30 – 9.00 pm

*Jonny Sommerville*

*Pay it Forward*

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018**

7.30 – 9.00 pm

*Eileen Browne DC*

*Living in Chaos... Grounded in Stillness -  
Meeting the God of Hope*

All Welcome

More info at [www.bibleweek.ie](http://www.bibleweek.ie)

[www.facebook.com/bibleweek](https://www.facebook.com/bibleweek)  
hello@bibleweek.ie



**Pathways: Exploring Faith and Ministry Programme**

Booking is now open for Pathways, which begins this year in Holy Cross College on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018 7pm—9.30pm. Pathways is a two-year, one night a week course for adults of all ages who wish to explore their faith. It runs from late September to May each year. There are no exams and no written work – the only requirement is an openness to listening to others and to participate. You can just come along and enjoy! The cost is €400 for the coming year which may be paid in instalments. Some sponsorship may be available for those of limited means. Places are limited so early application is advisable. For more information please visit [www.evangelisation.ie](http://www.evangelisation.ie) or contact Eileen Houlahan, CHF, PhD, Director, Pathways Programme, Holy Cross College, Clonliffe Road, Dublin, DO3 P2E7. Phone: 01 8087594 | email:[pathways@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:pathways@dublindiocese.ie)

**Parish Pilgrimage to Glendalough  
Sat. 9th June 2018  
incorporating a trip to the  
Carmelite Sisters in Delgany  
Cost €40 (includes dinner)**

*Names will be taken after all Masses on  
Sunday 13th May, or you can leave  
your name in the office any morning.*

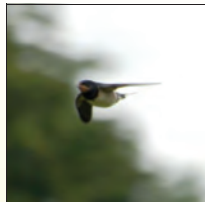
**ACCORD –Volunteers required**

We're seeking a volunteer receptionist to help facilitate our work in Accord—once or twice a month on a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday evening at the Accord Centre in Blanchardstown from 6.45pm to 10pm. Please contact Orla on **8201044** or email us at **Blanchardstown@dublin.accord.ie**



Signs of summer are eagerly sought, if warily welcomed, this year.

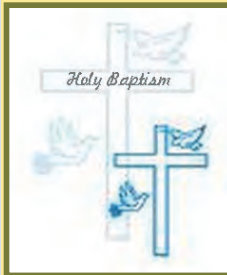
Some time of retreat offers a chance to step aside from the usual preoccupations and to look again at the everyday.



We are glad to notice how often people recognise anew what God is doing in their lives, and hope that some of the offerings of this May might be of help to you.

For a full list of [retreats](#), please see [our website](#) or ask us for a brochure

Go gcoimeádfaí faoi bhrat na Maighdine thú i rith na míosa seo



**Welcome to  
Keith, Ava,  
Cillian & Oran  
Who were recently baptised**

**READERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

- 7pm: Máire Martin
- 9am: Maeve O'Donoghue
- 10.30am: Carla Salvaleon
- 12 noon: Brian Santry
- 7pm: Eamonn Burke

**Mass Intentions**

**May 6th**

**May 13th**

Sat. 7pm

Anne Levins

Richard O'Connell  
John Egan

Sun 9am

10.30am

Catherine Lawless  
Pat & Anna Murray

12 noon

Andy Meehan  
Nancy Purtill

Teresa Somers

7pm



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](http://www.blanchardstownparish.ie)

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Contact Maria / Ciaran

Orchard Close, Coolmine

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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.
Friday	9a.m. - 9p.m.
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