



St Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

Sixth Sunday of Easter— Sunday 14th May 2023



CURRENT SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Mass at 10am preceded by the Rosary at 9.30, Church closes at 5pm
Monday: Area Mass at 7.30pm
Wednesday: Liturgy of the Word at 10am
Saturday: Church opens at 10am
Vigil Mass at 6pm
Sunday Mass at 10.30am*
*Last Sunday of each month will also have a midday Family Mass **
1st Saturday of the month— 10am Mass followed by confessions
Last Tuesday of the month—Prayer Group Mass 8pm, all welcome
Bank Holidays: Mass 11am only
All services available on www.blanchardstownparish.ie/webcam
Also on Phoenix Radio— 92.5FM
Eucharistic Adoration Tue & Fri 10.30am-5pm
Blanchardstown Area evening Mass
Mon: Blanchardstown 7.30pm
Tues & Thurs: Castleknock
Wed: Mulhuddart **Fri:** Corduff

St. Vincent de Paul
The outdoor monthly collection for St Brigid's Blanchardstown VdP, will be taken up **THIS** weekend at all Masses.

A Reflective Sentence
God is so great that he can become small. God is so powerful that he can make himself vulnerable and come to us as a defenseless child, so that we can love him — Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI



The Advocate

We have almost finished celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation in our Parish. On Pentecost Sunday there 5 will young people from Pelletstown Educate together who will receive the Sacrament during the 10.30am Mass. I want to sincerely thank the Parish Team and the Confirmation Team. There is always a sense of satisfaction when a task is completed. The ceremonies themselves were lovely and more to the point, prayerful, and I have no doubt that all who attended were helped to pray for the hour that they were in the church on that day.

The big question for all of us is course 'what effect will that day have on the rest of the children's lives? What effect will the Holy Spirit have on the lives of their parents and older siblings who have already received the Holy Spirit? What effect if any, does the Holy Spirit have on us? The late Archbishop Joseph Cassidy RIP (Tuam Archdiocese - died 31/01/2013) had the following to say on the matter of the Holy Spirit who appears in our Gospel today when Jesus says that he will send the 'Advocate'.

"After his Resurrection, when he was going up to heaven (and we'll be celebrating that Ascension next week), Jesus' disciples were imploring him to stay with them. Their dismay at the prospect of his departure was very understandable. They were a small vulnerable group of people, on whom Our Lord had placed the enormous responsibility for evangelising the world. They need him. They needed his presence and support. In response to their distress and in recognition of their need, he made an extraordinary statement to them—one of the most astonishing statements in the whole of salvation history! 'It is for your own good that I am going' (Jn 16:7), he said. Imagine that! 'It is for your own good that I am going, because, unless I go, the Paraclete/Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you' (Jn 16:7). And he makes a similar promise in John's Gospel (Jn 14:25-26). 'I have said these things while still with you; but the Paraclete/Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.' So what sort of job does the Holy Spirit do? What's he there for? Or should I say what's he here for? The first thing to remember is that he Holy Spirit is God, but that he's God in his role as *enlightener* and *consoler*.

Don't think of him as a vague, vapour, insubstantial reality — a genie out of a bottle. Think of him as *guide* and *comforter* — the bright side of God, the warm side of God, the spirit of life, the spirit of love. There isn't one of us in the Church who doesn't have decisions to make in life — difficult decisions sometimes. God is there in his spirit to guide us. And we need his help. Let's not make difficult decisions on our own. All decisions are wiser if they are made in partnership with God. And there isn't one us here in this Church who doesn't need *consoling* at times. It may be depression, or sickness or conflict in the home, or worry about exams, or the job, or finding a house/home. We need the Holy Spirit to console us in situations like that, to help us through, to heal us and bring us peace of mind. 'Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace which the world cannot give, this is my gift to you' (Jn 14:27).

I'd be very happy if, you began to think of the Holy Spirit as a very *dear friend* to whom you turn for *guidance* and *comfort*. And may you be guided and comforted and enriched by that friendship for the rest of your life!"

Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage To Lourdes

Thursday 7 – Tuesday 12 September 2023

Led by the Archbishop

If you are interested in travelling with the Archdiocese to Lourdes this year, then please contact the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office at 01-8087555 or email : info@lourdes.dublindiocese.ie

This year the Pilgrimage will be taking assisted sick pilgrims. For further information please contact the above number or email.

1st Holy Communion

Next Saturday 20th May at 11am, the boys and girls from St Francis Xavier Junior School will receive their 1st Holy Communion. There will be two celebrations that day, at 11.00am and 2.00pm. I wish the school well in all their preparation this coming week, and I hope the weather is fantastic on the day. Whatever the weather it will be a lovely day!



FROM THE PASTORS DESK

Teen Hope

The teenagers are invited to gather on Friday 19th May at 7.00pm in the Pastoral centre – Pizza, chat, games, reflection and prayer and FUN.

Parish Mass of healing and Anointing

Today at 3pm the Parish will celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick. All parishioners are welcome. It is an ideal opportunity to reach out to a housebound neighbour or a neighbour who has no means of transport and bring them to the church for this celebration.



The Sacrament of the Sick

This sacrament proclaims God's immediate and saving presence, that God will act in a saving way within this very sickness, that God will make this illness redemptive; he will turn it 'unto good' on some way or another. Your illness may heal other wounds-in the family perhaps, or draw out the generosity of relations or the goodness of neighbours. God will comfort the sick person, strengthen you and reach through the pain to enlighten the mind or change the heart. That's what we mean when we say that God will use the illness 'redemptively'.

Choir Director

Organist/Choir Director

As you now know John White is retiring from his position as Choir Director/Organist after 10 years of wonderful service to St Brigid's Blanchardstown. We wish his well and there will be an opportunity to pay tribute to him at a later date.

Is there someone in our community or among a wider circle that you think might be interested in this position which will become vacant at the end of June? Good keyboard skills, sound knowledge of the liturgy, experience of choir work and ability to work as a member of a team are some of the gifts that we would look for in reviewing applications. Diocesan Guidelines for Church Musicians are used to determine remuneration.

Vocations

Sixth Sunday of Easter — 'Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have.' (1 Peter 3:15). St Peter writing to the Christian community tells them to be always ready to answer with courtesy and kindness, the reason for our faith in God. We pray for those choosing to give their lives in service as a priest, deacon or religious that they will be always ready to share the reason for their faith and hope.

Fr Michael Carey PP

Please pray for our recently deceased:

Terry Brown



Children's Corner

In The Gospel

Jesus wants his friends to put their love for him into action. They can do this by keeping his rules. Jesus' rules are simple: to love God and to love other people. Jesus' friends don't need to worry — he is sending a special friend, God the Holy Spirit, to help them!

Can you find these words from today's Gospel? I love you Jesus. I want to show how much I love you by following your rules. Thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to help me. Amen.	FRIEND	K	E	E	P	K	P
	HOLY SPIRIT						
	LOVE	F	R	I	E	N	D
	KNOW						
	JESUS	U	S	E	V	O	L
	KEEP						
	US	H	O	L	Y	W	K
	S	P	I	R	I	T	
	J	S	U	S	E	J	

How did Jesus ask us to live?

What is a virtue? What is sin?

Join our discussion on next

Wednesday (17 May) — 7:30 to 8:40 pm

St Brigid's Parish Pastoral Centre

Mulhuddart Cemetery Mass Sunday 11th June - 3pm.

Lay Ministry Collection

Thank you for your very generous contributions last weekend. The collection amounted to €960.

A date for your diary....

Mass For All Nations will be at midday on Sunday June 11th.

Coolmine Community School 50th Anniversary Celebration. Photographic exhibition from the past 50 years. Friday 19th May 2023 4-5pm. Saturday 20th May 2023 10-1pm. Venue: Coolmine Community School library. All welcome.



Mass intentions for the week

Sat 6pm	James and Teresa Somers Noel Healy	Richard O'Connell John Egan
Sun 10.30	Herbert and Madge Taylor John and Johnny Lundy	James and Milly Fay Noel Landers

Annual Parish Pilgrimage

Saturday 17th June
(Theme: Drawing Wisdom from Ancestral Wellsprings)



Kildare Cathedral & Town located in the heart of Kildare town. This visit will be followed by tea/coffee and a scone in Teach Dara.



Solas Bhríde Spirituality Centre a calm and tranquil space, ideal for resting & recharging body, mind & soul.

Lunch time - (you can bring a small snack for this time if you wish)
Free time to either go to the Maze in the garden for a guided meditation or to go to St. Brigid's Well with a member of the Solas Bhríde team.
Followed by Mass in the centre chapel and Finishing with Dinner in the Louis Fitzgerald Hotel
Bus leaves the church at 9.00am and arrives back at approx. 8.00pm

Cost €50 (includes morning coffee and dinner)
Places can be booked through the office

PARISH CONTACTS: V REV Fr. Michael Carey: 8213660 Rev Jim Adams(Deacon) 0862232411
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