

St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sunday 15th January 2023



The lamb of God that takes away OUR SIN - John 1:29

This Sunday's Readings

1st: Isaiah 49:3. 5-6 **Psalm:** 39
R/ Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will. **2nd** Corinthians 1:1-3.
Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!
Gospel: John 1:29-34

CURRENT SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:

Mass at 10am preceded by the Rosary at 9.30
 church closes at 4pm Jan & Feb

Monday: Area Mass at 7.30pm

Wednesday: Liturgy of the Word at 10am

Saturday: church opens at 10am

Vigil Mass at 6pm (note change)

Sunday Mass at 10.30am*

(last Sunday of each month will have a midday Family mass)

1st Saturday of the month— Mass at 10am followed by confessions

Last Tuesday of the month—Prayer Group Mass at 8.00pm, all welcome

Bank Holidays: Mass at 11 am only

All services available on

www.blanchardstownparish.ie/webcam

*also on Phoenix Radio—92.5FM

Eucharistic Adoration

Tues. & Fri. 10.30—4pm

Blanchardstown Area evening Mass

Mon: Blanchardstown at 7.30

Tues & Thurs: Castleknock

Wed: Mulhuddart

Fri: Corduff

World day of Peace

Concluding the Pope message for the 56th World Day of Peace which he has titled 'No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace. The pandemic also had its positive effects. These include a chastened return to humility, a rethinking of certain consumeristic excesses, and a renewed sense of solidarity that has made us more sensitive to the suffering of others and more responsive to their needs. We can also think of the efforts, which in some cases proved truly heroic, made by all those people who worked tirelessly to help everyone emerge from the crisis and its turmoil as best they could. This experience has made us all the more aware of the need for everyone, including peoples and nations, to restore the word "together" to a central place. For it is together, in fraternity and solidarity, that we build peace, ensure justice and emerge from the greatest disasters. Indeed, the most effective responses to the pandemic came from social groups, public and private institutions, and international organizations that put aside their particular interests and joined forces to meet the challenges. Only the peace that comes from a fraternal and disinterested love can help us overcome personal, societal and global crises. 4. Even so, at the very moment when we dared to hope that the darkest hours of the Covid-19 pandemic were over, a terrible new disaster befell humanity. We witnessed the onslaught of another scourge: another war, to some extent like that of Covid-19, but driven by culpable human decisions. The war in Ukraine is reaping innocent victims and spreading insecurity, not only among those directly affected, but in a widespread and indiscriminate way for everyone, also for those who, even thousands of kilometres away, suffer its collateral effects – we need but think of grain shortages and fuel prices. Clearly, this is not the post-Covid era we had hoped for or expected. This war, together with all the other conflicts around the globe, represents a setback for the whole of humanity and not merely for the parties directly involved. While a vaccine has been found for Covid-19, suitable solutions have not yet been found for the war. Certainly, the virus of war is more difficult to overcome than the viruses that compromise our bodies, because it comes, not from outside of us, but from within the human heart corrupted by sin (cf. Gospel of Mark 7:17-23). 5. What then is being asked of us? First of all, to let our hearts be changed by our experience of the crisis, to let God, at this time in history, transform our customary criteria for viewing the world around us.

We can no longer think exclusively of carving out space for our personal or national interests; instead, we must think in terms of the common good, recognizing that we belong to a greater community, and opening our minds and hearts to universal human fraternity. We cannot continue to focus simply on preserving ourselves; rather, the time has come for all of us to endeavour to heal our society and our planet, to lay the foundations for a more just and peaceful world, and to commit ourselves seriously to pursuing a good that is truly common. In order to do this, and to live better lives after the Covid-19 emergency, we cannot ignore one fundamental fact, namely that the many moral, social, political and economic crises we are experiencing are all interconnected, and what we see as isolated problems are actually causes and effects of one another. Consequently, we are called to confront the challenges of our world in a spirit of responsibility and compassion. We must revisit the issue of ensuring public health for all. We must promote actions that enhance peace and put an end to the conflicts and wars that continue to spawn poverty and death. We need to join in caring for our common home and in implementing clear and effective measures to combat climate change. We need to battle the virus of inequality and to ensure food and dignified labour for all, supporting those who lack even a minimum wage and find themselves in great difficulty. The scandal of entire peoples starving remains an open wound. We also need to develop suitable policies for welcoming and integrating migrants and those whom our societies discard. In sharing these reflections, it is my hope that in the coming New Year we can journey together, valuing the lessons that history has to teach us.

Saints in the Church's Calendar

St Anthony, Abbot- Tuesday 17th Jan lived a life of solitude but also attracted many others to form communities of hermits.
St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr- 21st Jan, came from a noble Roman family. Her name is included in the Roman Canon. She is often shown as a lamb, a symbol of purity
Patron of betrothed couples, young girls & gardeners.

A Reflective Sentence Jesus came to tell us that he wants us all to be in paradise, and that Hell – of which one speaks little in our time – exists and is eternal for all who close their hearts to his love. Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI



FROM THE PASTORS DESK

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2023



Every year from the 18th to the 25th Jan, the Christian Churches celebrate the week of Christian Unity. The theme this year is "Be-Longing: Praying for Unity amidst injustice". Materials for the 2023 Week of Prayer have been prepared by the Churches in Minneapolis exploring 'how the work of Christian unity can contribute to the promotion of racial justice across all levels of society'. The murder of George Floyd by a police officer in Minneapolis in 2020 was described as a watershed moment. There was a sense that the global wave of solidarity that brought people out onto the streets during a pandemic would make it impossible to ignore the deadly consequences of institutional racism and the power imbalances that deny human dignity. For this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity we are guided by the churches of Minneapolis as we seek to explore how the work of Christian unity can contribute to the promotion of racial justice across all levels of society. The CTBI (Churches Together in Britain and Ireland) writers' group has also focused our attention on the 30th anniversary of the murder of Stephen Lawrence. The work of restoring hope through justice undertaken in Stephen's memory continues to inspire and change lives for the better. As we join with other Christians around the world for this year's Week of Prayer we pray that our hearts will be open to see and hear the many ways in which racism continues to destroy lives. The Churches in Minneapolis place before us the prophet Isaiah's challenge to do good and seek justice (Isaiah 1:17). The prophet is writing to the people of Judah at a time when formal religion is thriving, in a culture which understands wealth as blessing from God and poverty as punishment. He speaks out vigorously against corrupt leaders and in favour of the disadvantaged. Isaiah teaches that God requires righteousness and justice from all people. Our world today mirrors the challenges that Isaiah confronted. Justice, righteousness and unity originate from God's profound love for each of us. They are at the heart of who God is and how God expects us to be with one another. Yet injustice and oppression continue. The sin of racism is evident in practices that set one racial group over and against another.

Fr Michael Carey PP

Please pray for our recently deceased:

Rosemary Fitzgerald
 Eileen Walsh
 Rita Roche



Children's Corner

In The Gospel

"Look!" says John the Baptist when he sees Jesus. "It's Jesus, the lamb of God!". John knows Jesus is God's Chosen One because the Holy Spirit came and rested on Jesus when he was being baptised.

How can I share what believe?

I can **TELL** my friends
 I can **LISTEN** to their worries
 I can **HELP** at home
 I can **CHAT** to Jesus
 I can **TALK** about the Gospel
 I can **SHOW** I am a Christian

T	E	L	L	B	E
I	N	U	I	D	H
F	S	E	S	T	L
C	H	A	T	A	O
P	O	H	E	L	P
A	W	Y	N	K	S

Can you find the coloured words in the word search?

Help me, Jesus, to show that I know you and think that you are important. Help me to treat the people I meet with love and kindness. Amen.

Signpost

John pointed the way to Jesus. Write or draw something in this signpost; something you could do, to tell everyone how important Jesus is.



La Fhéile Bhríde Bishop Eamon Walsh will be coming to the parish on the 1st of February to celebrate our parish Feast day with us at 10am Mass, there will be refreshments after Mass.
Make your own St Brigid's Cross! We will be returning to our workshops where we learn how to make a St Brigid's cross on **Sunday**

the 29th of January so you'll have your cross ready for February 1st. If you can't make this we have made a video showing you how to make the cross. Click the link below to see the video. Good luck! <https://vimeo.com/502994316>

Meetings this week

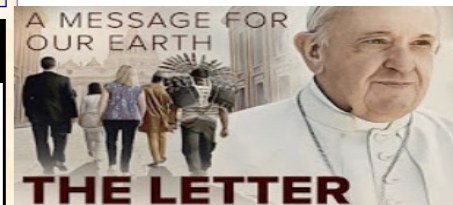
Parish Pastoral Council - Tuesday 17th January at 7.30pm in the Pastoral Centre
Liturgy Group - Thursday 19th Jan at 2pm in the Pastoral Centre.
Teen Hope-The teenagers are invited to gather on Fri 20th Jan at 7pm in the Pastoral centre –Pizza, chat, games, reflection, prayer and FUN!

'Catholicism' - Bishop Robert Barron's highly acclaimed 10-part film presentation on the Catholic faith begins Monday 23rd January for ten Mondays in Our Lady Mother of the Church Parish Centre Castleknock. 7:30pm film and then group discussions -finishes 9:15pm. All are welcome-spaces are limited - to book please text your name with the words 'Catholicism course' to 087 2161199

Coolmine Community School

50th Anniversary. There will be a memorial service for deceased members of the Coolmine School Community on Sunday 22nd January at 3pm. All are welcome.

THIS WEEK— *The Letter* tells the story of 5 people of different faiths and from different parts of the world who journey to Rome to meet Pope Francis. There will be 2 screenings on **Thursday 19th Jan** at 7.30pm in the Pastoral Centre in Royal Canal & **Friday 24th Feb** at 7.30pm in the Church extension. Powerful and moving, Don't Miss It!



MASS INTENTIONS 14th/15th JANUARY

Sat 6pm	Fr John Casey	Marie Marsland	John Madden	Miriam Harkin
Sun 10.30am	Kevin Smith	Mossie McElhinney	John & Ellen Hyland	Ned Fitzgerald

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