

St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

5th Sunday of Easter—15th May 2022



This Sunday's Readings

1st: Acts 14: 21-27
Psalm: 144 R/ I will bless your name forever, O God, my king.
2nd: Apocalypse 21: 1-5
Gospel Acclamation! Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus sai " give you a new commandment, : love one another, as I have loved you. Alleluia!
Gospel: John 13: 31-35

CURRENT MASS SCHEDULE

Monday—Friday: Mass at 10am preceded by the Rosary church opens at 9.30am and closes at 5pm
Wednesday: Mass also at 7.30pm
Saturday: church opens at 10am **Vigil Mass** at 7pm
Sunday Mass at 10.30am* & 12 noon
1st Saturday of the month— Mass at 10am followed by confessions
 All available on www.blanchardstownparish.ie/webcam
 *also on Phoenix Radio—92.5FM
Eucharistic Adoration Tues. & Fri. 10.30—5pm
Evening Mass for the Blanchardstown Area
 Mondays—Mulhuddart at 7.30pm
 Tuesdays & Thursdays—Castleknock at 7.30
Wednesday—Blanchardstown at 7.30pm
 Friday—Corduff at 7.30pm
 *Please be aware that rehearsals for the sacraments of 1st Communion and Confirmation will take place in the church on some weekdays during the month of May.



Mass for Healing with the Sacrament of the Sick - The parish celebrated Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick last Sunday afternoon at 3.00pm. It was a lovely celebration and I thank all who attended. There was great turnout. It seemed to have touched people, which is all that one can ask for. Those in attendance received the Sacrament and at this Mass, we prayed for and remembered all our parishioners who are sick and/or housebound. I want to thank in particular Anne Maybury and Kathleen Nolan who prepared the Mass and who made contact with all the invitees. I also thank the Sacristans on duty for the Mass, the Parish Choir, the Ministers of the Word and Ministers of the Eucharist. I thank Christine for all the secretarial work involved. If anyone would like myself or Fr. Frank to visit a sick or elderly relative at home please let us know, or leave information with Christine in the Parish Office.

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

Sacraments of Confirmation and 1st Eucharist

Confirmation Ceremonies—The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for our Parish Schools continues this coming week. On **Thursday 19th May** we have the girls from Scoil Bhríde Cailini at **11.00am**. I welcome the children and their parents/guardians and wider family circle to these wonderful occasions

1st Holy Communion—Next Saturday 21st May at 11am and 1pm, the girls and boys from Saint Francis Xavier School will receive their 1st Holy Communion. I wish the school well in all their preparation this coming week, and I hope the weather is fantastic on the day.

Sale of 128 Broadway Road

The Parish Finance and Property Committee have approved the sale of the Presbytery on 128 Broadway Rd (the home of the late much beloved Fr John Casey RIP). In recent weeks the Finance and Property Committee obtained an Architect's report on the Parochial House situated on the Church grounds. The house is in abysmal condition, needing significant funds spent to bring it back to habitable condition.

Fr. Michael Carey PP

Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

Risen Christ, as we remain in silence before you, we let this ardent prayer rise up: may the firing of weapons in the land of Ukraine cease!
 Welcome into your love those who are dying from violence and war, console the families in mourning, support those who have had to take the road of exodus.
 Faced with incomprehensible suffering, we still believe that your words of love and peace will never pass.
 You gave your life on the cross and you opened a future for us, even beyond death. So, we implore you: give us your peace. You are our hope. (Br. Alois – Taizé Dublin)

Liturgy Team—The Parish Liturgy Team will meet on Tuesday 17th May at 2.00pm in the Parish Centre.

Online Theology Open Evening, is this for you? The Priory Institute provides online Theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home. Online Open Evening on Wed. 18th May 7pm. Email enquiries@prioryinstitute.com to find out more. Link to register for the Online Open Evening: <https://prioryinstitute.com/events/priory-institute-open-evening>

The Archdiocese of Dublin **Lay Ministry Collection** takes place this weekend **May 14 & 15**.

This Collection will support the development of a variety of lay ministries, providing for more women and men to work alongside the priests and deacons. Our hope is that lay ministry will make a significant contribution to pastoral life into the future. Donations can be made online at: <https://payzone.easypaymentsplus.com/customer/10012/product-list/>.

Many thanks to all who supported the **Trocaire Lenten Campaign**. Over €3,000 has been forwarded from parishioners to date.

Sincere thanks also to all who contributed so generously to the recent **Special Collection for Ukraine**. Nationally, this collection has raised to date over €3.25 million.

THE HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE

We are likely to see eternal life promised by Jesus as something in the future, as something which occurs after death. Jesus in St. John's Gospel says "I will raise him on the last day" (Jn.6:44) and "whoever eats this bread will live for ever" (Jn.6:51). We're less accustomed to the idea that what Jesus promises is already ours. "Amen, amen, I say to You, whoever believes has eternal life" (Jn.6:47). These quotes from St. John's Gospel were part of the daily Mass readings of the third week of Easter

By faith and our relation to the Lord, we have already begun the life which has no end. He life is us by virtue of our baptism is the same life which will come to its full realisation only in the world to come. We live in Christ or Christ lives in us; we have become sons and daughters of God. This is the Easter message, this is the Church's underlying message is hope. Now hope is one of the three theological virtues of the Church along with Faith and Charity. (1.Cor.13:13). The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) talks about hope in a number of places but mainly paragraphs 1817 fwd. Hope is a supernatural gift of God, by which we firmly trust that God will give us eternal life and all means necessary to obtain it, if we do what he requires of us. (1. Cor.2:9). St. Paul goes on to say in Romans that God will give us 'a hope which will not let us down'. (Rom.5:5). **So hope is a feeling or desire for something and confidence in the possibility of its fulfilment.** Important and all as definitions are, the best way of explaining Christian hope is by way of a story and Fr. Jack McArdle has a lovely story on this:

There were twins (a boy and a girl) in their mother's womb. After some time, they became aware of each other, and of the cord that bound them with their mother. They remarked that their mother must really love them to share her own life with them. After some more time, they became aware of little nails, and some hair appearing on their heads, and they wondered what this could mean. One of them said that they were getting ready to be born. This sent a shiver of terror down the spine of the other, who exclaimed 'I don't want to be born. I want to say where I am.' 'But you have to be born. We cannot remain her forever.' 'I don't want to be born', repeated the other. 'How do you know there's any life after this? Have you ever seen anyone who was born. Has anyone ever come back to tell us?' 'Well I don't know, but there has to be life after this. It would make no sense at all if this is the end, before we've had a proper beginning. There just has got to be a life after this.' 'How do you know there's a mother?' the other asked. 'What does she look like? Have you ever seen her? I bet we have just invented her to take care of our own insecurity.' And so, the argument went back and forth. One was already a little atheist, while the other was a person of faith, which means simply that he/she had proof for nothing! Anyhow, the time arrived, and they were born. Shortly after birth, when it was safe to do so, they opened their eyes, and found themselves looking into the eyes of their mother. It filled their hearts with profoundest joy, and indescribable delight. They looked across at each other, as if to say 'Weren't we really stupid! How could we possibly have imagined anything like this?'

When we die we leave the 'womb of life' and enter into everlasting life which is a life that is more glorious than we have ever experienced or imagined (like the birth of the twins in the story). This is our faith and 'Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen'. (Heb.11:1)



We welcome our recently baptised
Sophia, Ada, Jaida & Aidan

We remember our recently deceased
Michelle Harte

Always loved, never forgotten

Children's Corner

In the Gospel Jesus gives his friends a new commandment. They must love one another, in the same way that he loves them. Everyone will know who Jesus' friends are, because they will see how much they love each other.

A world of love

What sort of a world would we have if everyone loved each other? Draw your ideas in the world shape.

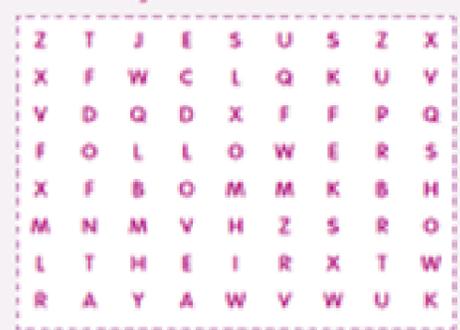
The letters around the world are lots of words joined together. Circle the words which belong in a world where people love each other. Cross out any words which don't belong in a world of love.



Word search

Find these words. They can be down or across.

FOLLOWERS OF JESUS SHOW THEIR LOVE



A Prayer to Say Thank you, Jesus, for loving me so much. Help me to follow your example and love the people I meet today. Help me to put other people before myself. Amen.



Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding an evening for bereaved parents on Wed. 18th May at 7:15pm in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Sword. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. Email: info@anamcara.ie or call 085 2888 888 for any queries.

Mass Intentions 14th/15th May

7pm	John Donohoe (1st A), John & Sarah Keane, Ellen Heavin
10.30	Christina Downey MM Madge & Bert Taylor,
12 noon	Mary McMenamin MM Hilda Baird, John Lundy (5th A) and his son Johnny RD

PARISH CONTACTS: Fr. Carey: 8213660 Fr. Drescher: 5384969 Jim Adams (Deacon) 0862232411 Michael O'Connor (Deacon) 0872941729 Máirín Keegan (Pastoral Worker) 8115414 Sacristy: 8238354 Parish Office: 8115412 email: office@blanchardstownparish.ie website: www.blanchardstownparish.ie <https://www.facebook.com/St-Brigids-Parish-Blanchardstown-944438662375848/>

