



# St Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

## Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sunday 16th July 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 (EXCEPT 22ND & 29TH JULY)**

**Sunday Mass** at 10.30am *Last Sunday of each month will also have a midday Family Mass (EXCEPT JULY & AUGUST)*

**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](http://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



### The Parables of Jesus

Over the next few weeks, we will be listening to the parables of St Matthew. A priest of the Diocese, Canon Paddy Boyle gave an interesting overview on this topic on a talk he gave some time ago. Canon Paddy Boyle who hails from the Navan Rd., is an assistant priest in Ayrfield Parish. He actually received his first Holy Communion here in St Brigid's. This is his talk.

"Jesus, when he began his public ministry in Palestine was almost immediately recognised as an exceptional teacher. In the Gospels we catch glimpses of Him in that role: 'He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat' (Lk 5:3). 'Early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people were coming to Him; and He sat down and began to teach them'. (Jn. 8:2) And we are also told 'He taught them many things by parables,' What are parables? Parables are usually short, clever little stories which portray a truth, a universal truth about our relationship with God and with each other. The Parables of Jesus are easily remembered and very often portray people, men and women in very familiar ordinary everyday situations. The parables, many of which have entered into common parlance (e.g. the good Samaritan) form a key part of the teaching of Jesus, roughly one third of all His teaching comes in the form of Parables.

The parables contain, at one level, simple understandable truths about life and how one should behave in particular circumstances. On further study however, they very often reveal layers of meaning, which require reflection and meditation. Scholars differ as to how many parables there actually are in the Gospels but there are well over thirty altogether. Many of the parables are based on the culture and traditions of the Jews of the time and may have been difficult for outsiders to understand. Jesus himself took care to explain some of the parables to his disciples and he told them that they needed to think about what was in them to fully understand them. The Parable of the Sower is the best example of that. Jesus explains each element of the story and what it means and what it signifies and symbolises, the Sower, the seed, the ground, the weeds, the sun etc. A slow and reflective reading of this parable, listening to the explanation given by Jesus himself, can provide food for prayer and meditation for many hours. Many of the parables contain social teaching. They speak of the principles, which should underlie the motivation, attitudes and mind-set we adopt in our many and varying relations with one another. Teaching about love and justice, fairness and true charity, compassion and mercy, acceptance and tolerance, all encapsulated in a short story depicting characters with whom we can easily identify, characters we either love or feel antipathy towards, men and women from real life we can recognise and with whom we can empathise e.g., the parable of the unmerciful servant, the Good Samaritan.



The parables are rooted in the practices of the time of Jesus which may be a little strange to us but the central message of each is about treating our neighbour with justice, mercy, tolerance and kindness. As we unpeel the layers of meaning in each parable, we find revealed to us the values of the Kingdom-the Kingdom of God Jesus spoke about and which he came to bring about. We find echoes of the Kingdom of God in the most human and seemingly trivial minutiae of life; for example, the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin speak to us of the infinite love God has for each one of us and the lengths He will go to win us back when we stray. The parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids reminds us of the importance indeed the urgency of being always ready to meet the Lord, for when he will come, we do not know. The parables of Jesus are without doubt a rich source of prayer and meditation. They are also for reflection on the meaning of life, the quality of life and of the inestimable qualities and values of being a Christian, a true follower of Jesus Christ. They bring to life discipleship and how it should be lived. Above all the parables teach us about Jesus Christ, the person who first spoke to them and who used them to bring the people of his time and indeed of all times closer to Him and to His Father, our God who is full of love, mercy, and compassion and who calls us to be His images and likeness here on earth".



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### Schedule for the coming week

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

Liturgy of the Word 10.00am

Mass at 7.30pm

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July**

Mass at 10.00am

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

Liturgy of the Word 10.00am

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

Liturgy of the Word 10.00am

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July**

Mass at 10.00am

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

Mass at 10.30am

## Children's Corner

### In The Gospel

Jesus tells us a story about a man who sows some seed. Some seed did not do well but some seed landed on good soil. This seed grew big and strong. Jesus wants us to listen to his message of love. If we really listen with our hearts, we will grow strong in God's love.

### Break the code

The disciples did not understand Jesus' story and had to ask him to explain. Decode the words and write what Jesus is saying on the lines.

|     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|
| a = | b = | d = |
| e = | G = | h = |
| i = | l = | n = |
| o = | P = | r = |
| t = | u = | w = |
|     |     | y = |



**JESUS WANTS TO HELP**

Dear Jesus, help me to grow strong in your love. Help me to listen to your message and do what I know is good and kind. Help me to bear good fruit. Amen.

### From the Pastor's Desk

#### Summer Holiday

I will be taking the next two weeks of July off for my annual holidays. I have arranged cover for most of our Mass Schedule from the Priests of our Partnership Parishes; Corduff and Mulhuddart. Just an advance notice – **The 6pm Vigil for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> July has been cancelled.** A sincere thank you to the Liturgy Group who will celebrate the Liturgy of the Word at 10.00am in St. Brigid's on the days when there isn't Mass. There will also be the Rosary each morning at 9.30am and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will continue as normal on Tuesday's and Fridays from after Mass until 5pm. *Fr Michael Carey PP*



Wishing all our parishioners a happy and relaxing summer break; whether you are travelling or enjoying the summer in Ireland. 'Our Lady of the Highways, I call on you in my journeys, To make my path a holy one, A safe one'. We welcome all visitors to our parish.

### Saints in the Church's Calendar

**St. Mary Magdalene – 22nd July.** Stood by the Cross of Jesus; with two other women she discovered the empty tomb; she was granted an appearance of the Risen Lord early the same day.

### THE WHITE FATHERS

We welcome the White Fathers who are visiting our Parish this weekend.

We pray for our recently deceased: Patrick Monaghan Emily Giffney



### A Reflective Sentence

The Church cannot behave like a business that changes its product when the demand for it decreases - Karl Cardinal Lehmann (b.1936)



### Summer Dues

Envelopes for this collection will be left in the Church if you would like to contribute to the Common Fund (Income for priests and retired priests).



### Youth 2000 Summer Festival

Join young people aged between 16 and 35 at the Youth 2000 Summer Festival taking place in Clongowes Wood College, Kildare from 10th to 13th August. The festival includes inspiring talks, music, prayer, concert, workshops, dramas, share groups, reconciliation and healing service and Mass. Donation only. We have buses going from all over Ireland. For more information and to book your place go to [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie)

### Mass intentions for the week

|             |                                |                   |                 |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Sat 6pm     | John Canning                   | Frank Leslie      | Joe Galvin (MM) |
|             | Tommy & Maura O'Shaughnessy    | Josephine O'Brien |                 |
| Sun 10.30am | Terrie Fitzpatrick (1st Anniv) |                   | Michael O'Toole |
|             | Breda Fay                      |                   |                 |
| Fri         | Sheila Mitchell                |                   |                 |

### Sunday Mass Collections

Many thanks for your continued support of these collections which are vital for the support of the priests of the diocese. You can contribute to the Mass collections by: Putting your offerings in the 'white boxes' around the Church or by leaving your Envelope into Parish Office during the week. *Envelopes are provided on seats or you can have an Envelope supply in your home for convenience.* Using the 'Tap and Go' machines. Many parishioners find this quite handy. Using the online 'Donate' facility on the Parish Website. See [www.blanchardstownparish.ie](http://www.blanchardstownparish.ie) where you can select both one-off and recurring payments. The Mass collections are divided – 60% to the 1<sup>st</sup> – Common Fund for Priests; 40% - to the 2<sup>nd</sup> – Share. **Thank you so much for your generosity.**

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