

St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sunday 29th January 2023



This Sunday's Readings

1st: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13 **Psalm:** 145
R/ How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
2nd Corinthians 1:26-31
Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!
Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

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

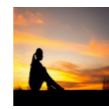
Blanchardstown Area evening Mass
Mon: Blanchardstown at 7.30
 Tues & Thurs: Castleknock
 Wed: Mulhuddart
 Fri: Corduff

The Beatitudes

There are a number of Lotto millionaires in Ireland, and they are lucky people, some might say that they were blessed, but of course they are not blessed as Jesus understands the word. For Jesus the beatitudes are about a new way of living. For the Lord it is not what we have but who we are, how we live and how we relate to others that leads to ultimate satisfaction. Real happiness lies in the gift of blessedness that only God gives.

- **Blest are the poor in spirit:** those who realize their utter need of God and the poverty of life without him
- **Blest are those who mourn:** those who grieve over the state of the world, their sins and the sins of others
- **Blest are the meek and lowly:** those who realize their place before God and don't try to impose their will on him
- **Blest are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness:** those who yearn for God's way of doing things to become the norm of human conduct and act accordingly.
- **Blest are the merciful:** those who forgive as God forgives and who do not hold grudges or seek revenge
- **Blest are the clean of heart:** those who act from the purest motives of love for God alone and single-heartedly seek to do his will
- **Blest are the peacemakers:** those who are reconciled with God themselves, and others and help others to enjoy the same peace
- **Blest are the persecuted for the sake of Jesus:** those who suffer or are demeaned for their beliefs and observance of God's laws. Their reward will be great in heaven. (Source: *Have you heard the Good News- Edward T. Dowling SJ*) In today's Gospel Jesus is speaking to us and wants to know: "Are we considerate, kind and helpful, or are we selfish, uncharitable, and lazy". He offers us a joy which shines through sorrow and suffering and which nothing in life or death can take away.

A Reflective Sentence Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him/her to life St. Basil the Great (ca.330-379)



Saints in the Church's Calendar

Bl. Margaret Ball and Francis Taylor, martyrs - Monday 30th January
 Bl Margaret Ball was imprisoned for teaching Catholicism, harbouring priests and having Mass celebrated in her home. **Bl. Francis Taylor** was born in Swords in 1550. He was elected Dublin's mayor in 1595. Later he was imprisoned for his Catholic faith, and died on 29 January 1621.

St. Brigid, Abbess, Secondary Patron of Ireland— Wednesday 1st Feb. Known as 'the Mary of the Gael', St Brigid is renowned for her hospitality, almsgiving and care of the sick. She was born c. 454. When she was young her father wished her to marry but she insisted in consecrating her virginity to God. She received the veil and spiritual formation probably from St. Mel and stayed for a period under his direction in Ardagh. Others followed her example and this led her to found a double monastery in Kildare with the assistance of Bishop Conleth. She died in 524 and her cult is widespread throughout Europe. The St. Brigid's Cross, in legend used by Brigid to explain the Christian faith, remains a popular sign of God's protection.

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord— Thurs 2nd Feb, This feast is a remembrance of the Lord and Mary, his Mother. With candles in their hands, the people go out to meet the Lord and to acclaim him with Simeon, who recognized Christ as 'a light to reveal God to the nations'

St Blaise, bishop and martyr -Friday 3rd Feb died 315. Bishop of Sebastes, martyred in Armenia. Tradition states that he was a physician before becoming a bishop. He has been venerated as the patron of those who suffer from disease of the throat.

Easter in Medjugorje €795 8-15 April Pilgrimage 2023
 The 20th year of Pilgrimages from this area to Our Lady's Shrine in Medjugorje takes place this

Easter. If you have not been there already or would like a return visit please contact us and you will receive every help. Eleanor 087 2351294 / Michael 086 8650708

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

World day for Consecrated Life

In 1997 Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on Feb 2nd. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, especially friends and family members and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

Teen Hope

This event happened on Friday 20th January. It went very well. The teenagers, amongst other things, made a St Brigid's Cross. I thank Mary Tighe for showing the teenagers how to make the cross. Please keep this wonderful initiative in your prayers. I'd like to thank the Teen Hope Team led by Mairin Keegan (PPW) Mairin Murphy, Tom Hannigan, Aine Jordan and Anna Turcanova who give of their time not only on the night but also in preparation.

Family Mass

I welcome all this weekend to our Family Mass especially the families of the First Holy Communion classes who are invited to attend all the weekend Masses.

Fr Michael Carey PP

Liturgical Diary This week

The Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas

This Day falls on *Thursday 2nd February*. If anybody would like candles blessed on the Feast day, please leave in the Sacristy beforehand or bring on the day and place on the table in the sanctuary. Candles are available to purchase from the Sacristy at €2 each.

Feast of St. Blaise

Throats will be blessed at the 10am Mass this Friday 3rd February to mark the Feast of St. Blaise. The blessing of St. Blaise is a sign of our faith in God's protection and love for us and for the sick. Using two crossed unlighted candles, blessed on the memorial of St. Blaise or on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, the minister touches the throat of each person saying, 'Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father....'

Tuesday 31st January

Because we have Mass on Wednesday 1st Feb to celebrate our Parish Patron, there will be no Mass on Tuesday. Instead there will Liturgy of the Word at 10am preceded by the Rosary at 9.30am

Confirmation Retreats continue this week with the boys & girls from 6th class. I thank our excellent Confirmation Team: Pat Cummins; Margaret Hill and Aine Jordan who are assisted by the Parish Team. Please keep the boys and girls and their families in your prayers.

Children's Corner

In The Gospel

Jesus goes up a hill and teaches his disciples. He tells them how people can be really happy. If we trust God, we will have the kind of happiness that lasts forever.

Puzzle



Jesus' message today has a special name. Write down the first letter of each object to find out what it is called

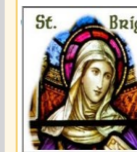


Happy helpers

These two happy children are showing kindness. Write in the speech bubbles what they may be saying.



Thank you, Jesus, for showing us how to be happy. Please help me to trust you always. Amen.



La Fhéile Bhríde

We are delighted to welcome Bishop Eamonn Walsh on

Wednesday to celebrate our parish Feast day with us at 10am Mass, followed by refreshments. In preparation, we will host a workshop in the parish centre on **Sunday after both masses** to teach you how to make your own St Brigid's Cross.

St. Vincent de Paul



The outdoor monthly collection for St. Brigid's Blanchardstown, VdeP, will be taken up **next weekend 4th/5th February** at all Masses.

Divine Mercy Conference

17th, 18th & 19th February 2023

"Act justly, Love mercifully and Walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

Full programme and latest information on the website;
www.divinemercyconference.com

Mass intentions for the week

Sat 6pm	Michael McDonnell Thomas & Peg Lynch Phoebe Fagan
Sun 1030	Mary Nugent Elfriede Meere Lily Molloy Mary & Daniel McCarthy Jack Massey
Sun 12pm	Bernard & Margaret-Mary Jordan Sheila Kavanagh Johnny & John Lundy Michael & Eileen Clancy
Mon 10am	Caitlin O'Byrne
Mon 730pm	Mary O'Donohoe
Wed	Pro populo
Thurs	Christopher Lawlor
Friday	1st Friday
Sat 10am	1st Saturday John Horton

Please pray for our recently deceased:
 Frances Kennedy



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