

# St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

## Third Sunday of Lent – Sunday 12th March 2023



Why not practice them *inwardly* now as well, from the heart, not grudgingly or merely out of routine, but with compassion and love for your spouse and children, doing all to the glory of God and giving thanks to God the Father for providing for all your needs (see I Cor 10:31, Col 3:17). In this way, as St. Paul wrote, the simplest daily chore becomes "a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God," a true "spiritual worship" (Rom 12:1).

### The Corporal Works of Mercy-

Continuing on from last week's newsletter in which I am highlighting the Corporal Works of Mercy. The Corporal Works of Mercy are found in the teachings of Jesus and give us a model for how we should treat all others, as if they were Christ in disguise. They "are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs", and they respond to the basic needs of humanity as we journey together through this life.

Feed the hungry. (2) Give drink to the thirsty. (3) Clothe the naked. (4) Shelter the homeless. (5) Visit those in prison. (6) Comfort the sick. (7) Bury the dead.

### Third and Fourth: Clothe the Naked and Shelter the Homeless

Our universal concern for the plight of the poor must be acknowledged as a genuine priority. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches: "[Human] misery elicited the compassion of Christ the Saviour ... Hence, those who are oppressed by poverty are the object of a *preferential love* on the part of the Church" (2448).

There are also well-established groups that specialize in relieving the problem of homelessness. Supporting their work is almost always a great way to practice these works of mercy. As for "clothing the naked," you can always go through your closets and find garments to donate to the needy. Local thrift shops, or the St. Vincent de Paul clothing appeal would be happy to make them available to the needy at a low cost (and often those thrift shops are selling their items to raise money for other good causes, too, such as a local hospital or hospice). Finally, bear in mind that those of you who are working hard each day to earn the money to provide food and drink, clothing and shelter for your own families, and those of you who cook and clean at home, are already practicing these corporal works of mercy, at least *outwardly*.

### Feast of St. Patrick



Friday next 17<sup>th</sup> March is the Feast of St. Patrick, a holy day of obligation.

Masses are as follows:

**Vigil:** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

**Day:** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 10am

### Saints in the Church's Calendar

#### Saint Patrick – March 17<sup>th</sup>

Principal Patron of Ireland. It would no doubt take the modest St Patrick by surprise to know how widely his feast is celebrated and marked! We know something of the man himself from the few documents which have come down to us. His return to those who enslaved him shows great character; even more outstanding is his commitment to Jesus Christ, the Scriptures (*his writings are full of allusions*), and to his calling as apostle and evangelist. The spark of faith has shone among the Irish, sometimes brightly, sometimes dimly, ever since. Let us mark the feast with thanksgiving and renewed faith. **Prayer** - Father, you brought the Gospel to life among the Irish by the preaching of the great St Patrick. Help us rediscover again the spark of faith, that it may shine brightly once more among us.



**Lenten Lectio Divina** 'Lectio Divina' - a reflection on the Scripture will take place on some Wednesdays during Lent. Next meeting is on **Wednesday the 15th of March. 11am to 12 noon in the pastoral centre. ALL are most welcome.**

### St. Vincent de Paul

The outdoor monthly collection for St. Brigid's, VdP, will be taken up **this weekend** at all Masses.

**A Reflective Sentence** Caring for life from the beginning to the end. What a simple thing, what a beautiful thing. So, go forth and don't be discouraged. Care for life. It's worth it – Pope Francis.



### FROM THE PASTORS DESK



#### Novena of Grace

This weekend marks the end of the Novena of Grace. I thank the Liturgy team and Sacristans for the extra work surrounding the Novena and on behalf of the Parish I sincerely thank **Fr Colm Mannion OP** for his wonderful Novena Talks which made up our Parish retreat for Lent.



#### Vocation Intercessions for Lent

**Third Sunday of Lent – The response to our psalm today is "O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts" We pray for those who are discerning a call to live their lives in service as a priest, deacon or religious, that they may be able to listen today to the voice of the Lord in their hearts and follow in His Way**

**Stations of the Cross**  
During the Season of Lent the Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday morning at 9.30am. This will replace the Rosary on Friday. I thank Anne Maybury and Maire Martin who undertake this initiative and all who help them.

**Fr Michael Carey PP**

#### Confirmation - Ceremony of Light

In this Ceremony, the parents hand the lighted candle lit from the Pascal Candle directly to their children themselves, symbolising that they, their parents have fulfilled their promise to bring their children up in the faith and will continue to fulfil it and that their children now make the step of confirming their faith for themselves. **Monday 13th March at 8.00pm – the girls and boys from Pelletstown Educate Together.**

#### Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

The PPC will meet this Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at **7.00pm** – please note the earlier time.

#### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Today is the anniversary of the election in 2013 of Pope Francis as Supreme Pastor of the Church.

#### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS

Our Charismatic Prayer Group is taking up the call of Pope Francis and facilitating Life in the Spirit seminars. They will be held in in Jubilee Room for **7 weeks** commencing on **Tuesday 14th March at 8pm**. Please join us to deepen your relationship with the Lord.



**Adult Faith Development**  
**Wed 15 Mar**

No session this week.  
Reading week.

## Children's Corner

### In The Gospel

Jesus asks a Samaritan woman for a drink. She gives him water and he gives her "living water" – the love of God! Jesus offers love to all of us, no matter who we are.

### Growing



This plant has soil and sun. What else does it need to grow? **W... (r t a e)**

With water this plant will grow bigger, stronger and even more beautiful. With Jesus we will grow bigger, stronger and even more beautiful too!

Draw yourself with the plant. Show how beautiful and strong you will be with Jesus living in your heart.

Draw this same plant after it has had some water.



Draw a picture of someone you will speak kindly to.

Today I will speak kindly to...

**Thank you, Jesus, for loving me so much. Thank you for knowing everything about me and loving me just the same! Amen.**

#### Mass intentions for the week

Day	Intention
Sat 6pm	Niall Brooks Tony Tolan (MM) Thomas Coughlan
Sun 1030am	John McNally Peggy Kavanagh
Mon	Patrick Mulholland
Tues	Thomas Hegarty
Thurs	Thomas Rooney

### Wanted— volunteer Church cleaners!



**Are you—a dab hand with a duster? Magic with a mop? Handy with a Hoover? Or, would you just like to be part of a parish team?** If you have up to an hour to spare once a month, we would love you to join our group of Church Cleaners! If interested, please leave your name in the sacristy or the parish office. **Thank you!**

#### We pray for our recently deceased:

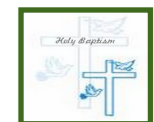


Ethna Teeling  
PJ O'Farrell

#### CURRENT SCHEDULE

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**  
Mass at 10am preceded by the Rosary at 9.30  
Church closes at **4pm**  
**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](http://www.blanchardstownparish.ie/webcam)  
Also on Phoenix Radio— 92.5FM  
**Eucharistic Adoration** Tue & Fri 10.30am-4pm  
**Blanchardstown Area evening Mass**  
**Mon:** Blanchardstown 7.30pm  
**Tues & Thurs:** Castleknock  
**Wed:** Mulhuddart  
**Fri:** Corduff

#### We welcome our recently baptised:



Séamus  
Cadhla  
Alexander  
Scott

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