

St Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sunday 18th June 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

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

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

A Reflective Sentence

Apart from the Cross there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven – St. Rose of Lima (1586-1617, patron saint of Peru, first saint of the Americas).



So where are we in the Synodal Pathway?

If you want quick and dramatic ... then you need a dictatorship. Synodality, by its nature, is slow and steady trying to bring everyone along with you. The process was launched in Sep 2021. After due training and preparation, local assemblies were held in Feb / Mar 2022. These parish level reports were synthesised into a diocesan report. All the diocesan reports were in turn synthesised into a national report, which was submitted to Rome in Aug 2022.

In Oct 2022 a world-wide synthesis was published, and, in true synodal fashion, this was sent back to all the dioceses to request their comments. 7 continental level review meetings were organised for Mar 2023. Now the comments from these review meetings have been sent back to Rome. This feedback will be digested and a revised world-wide synthesis will be published in June 2023. This will become the working document for the meeting of the bishops in Rome in Oct 2023.

All the documents have been published on the Synod websites together with multiple video recordings of the various sessions in progress. So, if anyone here wants to check up on anything it is all publicly available (see links on our Parish Website – where a "Synodal Pathway" page has been added under "Our Parish"). The meeting in Rome in October is clearly the critical next step. It is vital that we get it right. So Pope Francis asked us all to pray to Our Lady to place the Synod process under Mary's motherly care and protection with special prayer services on May 31st, the feast of the Visitation. As you may remember from earlier discussions, the word synod comes from two Greek words: *syn* meaning "together" and *hodos* meaning "the way" So, synod means "on the way together" or "journeying together". One of the great examples of journeying together has to be Mary and Elizabeth. The Gospel of Luke tells their parallel stories of angels announcing that

they are to have a child, the birth and presentation in the temple of the child and then their public ministry. Mary, having just been told she is to become the mother of God could quite reasonably have been expected to cosset and protect herself and her child. Instead, she undertakes an arduous journey to be together with her kinswoman. And she stayed with her for 3 months to listen and talk with her about what was happening to both of them. And their meeting is the occasion for one of the greatest prayers in the bible, the Magnificat, which praises God and proclaims his care for the poor, the simple and those in need.

Rev. Michael O Connor

PAPAL MESSAGE FOR THE DAY FOR LIFE 2023

Pope Francis has kindly sent a message of encouragement for all who participate in the Day for Life. 8th June 2023. The message is as follows:

The Holy Father Francis was informed of the celebration of the 2023 Day for Life in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales under the theme "Listen to Her" and sends his greetings and good wishes to all the participants. In listening to Mary, our Mother, and following her example, he invites us to discover our personal call from God who is the source of our existence, reminding us that, "Each human being is called by God to enjoy the fullness of life; and, is entrusted to the maternal care of the Church. Every threat to human dignity and life cannot but have an effect on her heart, on her maternal 'womb'. To defend life is not an ideology for the Church. It is a reality; a human reality which involves all Christians, precisely because they are Christian and because they are human". (General Audience, 25 March 2020).

With these sentiments in mind, I assure all who participate in this year's Day for Life of Pope Francis' prayers, particularly for all expectant mothers and their families. Through the intercession of the Mother of God, the Holy Father cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing to all participants and invokes an abundance of Divine graces.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

John White – Choir Director



This Sunday will be John White's last Sunday to direct the choir which he has done so magnificently for the last 10 years. After Mass there will

be a reception for John in the Pastoral Centre...all are invited. Next Sunday will be Mairin Keegan's last Sunday before she retires, and we will host a reception after mass that day too.

Mass for all Nations

What a joyous occasion! A huge amount of work went into the preparation for this Mass which the Parish celebrated last Sunday including last minute preparations the day before and the morning of. I thank our Parish Sacristans, Liturgy Team and Hospitality Team. A big thank you to Mary Tighe who pulled it all together and the Mass for all Nations Team. The international choir was wonderful. I also thank the Ministers of the Word, Ministers of the Eucharist, symbol and gift bearers, the altar servers and the visiting priests. It was beautiful to hear the prayers of the faithful in all the different languages. The hospitality afterwards was tremendous –everyone came in for a bite to eat and a chat—this part of the day lasted the best part of two hours. The ice-cream van was a great hit!

Fr Michael Carey PP



Saints in the Church's Calendar

The Irish Martyrs – Tue 20th, in 1992 Saint John Paul II beatified 17 representative martyrs who suffered in Ireland during the 16th and 17th centuries. They include bishops, priests and lay men and women and Blessed Francis Taylor who was born in Swords, Co Dublin, circa 1550. **St Aloysius Gonzaga– Wed 21st** a Jesuit novice. Worked in a plague hospital where he caught fever and died in 1591 age 23. Patron of Youth. **St Thomas Moore– Thursday 22nd June**, 1478-1535, the first commoner to be Lord Chancellor of England. Patron of Lawyers and those in public life.

Parish Meetings this week

Tuesday 20th—the Family Mass Team will meet in the Pastoral Centre at 7pm.

Wednesday 21st—7.30pm. Parents and Baptismal Team—Parents of children for baptism in July are invited to meet the team to have a presentation on the symbols of baptism along with a short period of prayer and reflection, and to meet each other.

Lourdes Collection

An outdoor collection will be taken up this weekend to support the Fund that helps send sick pilgrims to Lourdes who stay in the Hospital in the Grotto Sanctuary.



Children's Corner

In The Gospel

Jesus feels sorry for the people who have come to listen to him. They are like sheep without a shepherd. Jesus asks his special friends to help him spread the Good News about God's kingdom. Jesus wants everyone to know that God loves them – as quickly as possible!

Maze

These sheep have no shepherd. They have got very lost. Can you help the shepherd gather them together in the pen?



Dear Jesus, you ask your friends to help you spread the message about God's kingdom of love and justice. Help me to work for you too. Help me to build God's kingdom by what I say and what I do. Amen.



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

A Prayer For All Fathers

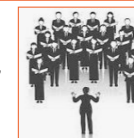
Heavenly Father, we thank You for our earthly fathers. We are so grateful for the gift they are to each of us. Bless all fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength, wisdom, tenderness, and love. Let them know that they are doing Your work in supporting all those who look to them. May we, their children, always honour them with respect and love. May St Joseph, Jesus's father here on earth, guide and protect them. Help them through the storms of life to find joy and contentment. And when this life is over may they rest in peace with You, Amen



Good bye to John !

We are all sad, very sad, that John, our Musical Director is retiring.

However, he is kind enough to leave us with so many great memories of song, laughter and even tears (of joy) and the fruits of his fantastic imagination throughout his time with us. 10 of the happiest years in the life of our choir. Thank you John, for being YOU.



Next Sunday 25th June, will be the last of the month, to that end, we will have our Family Mass at 12 noon in addition to our usual 10.30am mass.

Little Sisters of the Poor
Next weekend 24th & 25th June there will be an outdoor collection for the Little Sisters of the Poor .

Mass intentions for the week

Sat 6pm	Anne Doolin Patrick O'Leary
Sun 10.30am	Mary Dredge
Mon	Jack O'Mara
Fri	Anne & Leo Levins Eileen Ivers

We pray for our recently deceased:



Michael Concannon
Elizabeth (Betty) Leonard

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