

St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

Fourth Sunday of Lent – Sunday 19th March 2023



To be at "Holy Communion" with Him, therefore, is to be gathered up in a mysterious way into the whole "Communion of Saints" in this life and the life to come. Thus, we can make every Holy Eucharist a time of prayer for departed loved ones and encourage others to do the same.

The Corporal Works of Mercy

Continuing and completing 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.

Seventh: Bury the Dead

No doubt most of us make sure that our relatives and friends have a proper funeral service. But we also need to be aware of the needs of those who are grieving: struggling to "bury their dead" emotionally. Grieving can be a long and arduous process; shedding tears at a funeral rarely completes it. We need to help one another to truly bury our lost loved ones by letting go of them, entrusting them to the hands of our merciful Saviour. That takes friendship - a patient friendship that keeps on visiting the bereaved, helping them dry their tears, even when the grieving process takes many months or years. This is a precious work of mercy: to help one another emotionally "bury the dead," entrusting them to the merciful Heart of the Redeemer. There is something very powerful about the Catholic Tradition of offering Masses for the eternal repose of souls. When we come to the Holy Eucharist, we are actually closer to the faithful departed than at any other time in our lives. After all, whether in purgatory or in heaven, they are in the nearer presence of Jesus Christ, who is also uniquely present to us here on earth in the Blessed Sacrament.

A Reflective Sentence We have lost paradise but have received heaven, and therefore the gain is greater than the loss – St. John Chrysostom (349-407) Bishop and Doctor of the Church.



KINDNESS

Kindness makes you beautiful and looks better on you than any clothes you wear; There is nothing as wonderful in the world than showing somebody you care. Kindness can be anything from opening a door or making someone tea to picking somebody up after they fall; A random act of kindness can mean a world to someone even if your random act of kindness seems quite small.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS

Our Charismatic Prayer Group is 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.



A blessing and prayer tribute to all mothers

"Blessed be all mothers
Who have come into our lives
Whose kindness, care and loving
Remain with us to guide.
Your inspiration in us
Made us strive in every way
Especially to remember
Helping others makes our day.
Mothers, this little tribute
Flows directly from my heart
You are so loved and cherished
Invaluable, one and all, you are.

Susan Kramer

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.
Thursday 23rd March at 7.30pm – the girls and boys from Saint Francis Xavier.

Lenten Lectio Divina - a

reflection on the Scripture will take place on some Wednesdays during Lent. Next meeting is on **Wednesday the 22nd of March. 11am to 12 noon in the pastoral centre. ALL are most welcome.**



Adult Faith Development

Discuss the basics of our religion.*
Wed 22 Mar – 7:30 pm – Pastoral Centre. Each session is separate.
All are very welcome. Why not try one to see? **This week – Why do we honour Our Lady?** (*Based on *Irish Catholic Catechism*)

Meetings this week – Pastoral Centre

Baptism Team – Wednesday 22nd March at 7.30pm will meet the parents of babies who have booked baptisms in April
Communications Group – Meeting Wednesday 22nd March at 7.30pm
Liturgy Group – Meeting on Thursday 23rd March at 2.00pm

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

Vocation Intercessions for Lent

4th Sunday of Lent – In our first reading (1 Samuel) we hear that "God does not see as man sees: man looks at appearances, but the Lord looks at the heart" Let us pray for those whom the Lord is calling to live their lives as a priest, deacon or religious that they may be guided by the holy Spirit and discern what is in their hearts.

Stations of the Cross

During the Season of Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday morning at 9.30am (except St. Patrick's Day). This will replace the Rosary on Friday. I thank Anne Maybury and Maire Martin who undertake this initiative and all who help them.

Family Mass – next Sunday 26th March

As it's the last Sunday of March the Family Mass will be celebrated at 12 noon

Teen Hope

The teenagers are invited to gather on Friday 24th March at 7.00pm in the Pastoral centre – Pizza, chat, games, reflection and prayer and FUN!

Confirmation Ceremonies – 2023

The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for our Parish Schools begin this week -On Friday 24th March we have the buachailli and cailini from **Scoil Oilibhear at 11.00am**. I welcome the children, their parents/guardians and wider family circle to these wonderful occasions.

Fr Michael Carey PP

Saints in the Church's Calendar

St. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM- Monday 20th March, is one of the greatest and most popular saints, largely because of his humility and his closeness to Our Lord and, since he probably died in the presence of Jesus and Mary, is venerated as the patron of a good death.

The Annunciation of the Lord (March 25th)

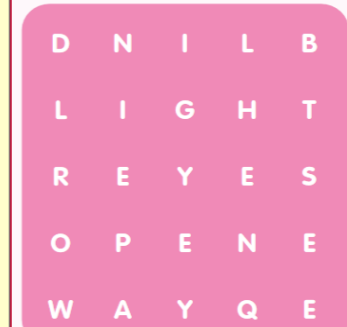
It celebrates Mary's 'Yes' to the Angel Gabriel that

Children's Corner

In The Gospel

Jesus stops when he sees a man who has been born blind. Jesus puts paste on the man's eyes. When he washes it off, the man can see! Jesus helps us all to see clearly.

Word search



Can you find these words from today's Gospel?

BLIND, OPEN, SEE, WAY, LIGHT, WORLD, EYES

Draw in the lenses of the binoculars some of the things that you like to look at.



Thank you, Jesus, for all the beautiful things I can see. Help me to see the world and the people in it with your eyes. Help me to see with my heart and not just my eyes. Amen.



Mass intentions for the week

Sat 6pm	
Sun 1030am	Hermes Longino Conor McGrane Margaret Kehir Kevin Kelly
Tues 10am	Annie Hynes
Thurs	Billy and Jane Maher
Thurs	

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

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

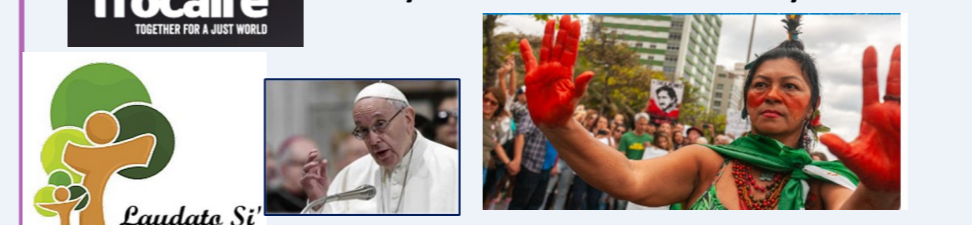
We Welcome our recently baptised

Logan, Theodore, Cillian & Archie

And remember our recently

deceased
Richard Gorman
Kay McGlynn

The Cry of the Earth is also the Cry of the Poor



'A true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice...' (Laudato Si', 49)

Exhibition – Faces of Resistance (Church Extension – from March 17th)

Our parish will host the Trócaire Faces of Resistance exhibition which honours Human Rights Defenders who stand for vulnerable communities against Business interests which abuse land, environment and indigenous peoples.

Film – Make it Your Business (Parish Pastoral Centre – March 26th after 10:30 Mass)

This short (30 min.) documentary highlights Ireland's record on Business and Human Rights and what we can do to change and improve it

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