

St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sunday 22nd January 2023



This Sunday's Readings

1st: Isaiah 8:23 - 9:3 **Psalm:** 26
R/ The Lord in my light and my help
2nd Corinthians 1:10-13. 17
Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus proclaimed the Good news of the kingdom, and cured all kinds of sickness among the people. Alleluia!
Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

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

Sunday of the Word of God

In 2019 Pope Francis established that the *Third Sunday in Ordinary Time* is to be the Sunday of the Word of God. It is a day to be devoted to the celebration, study, and spreading of the Word of God. Pope Francis is clear that the relationship between the Risen Lord, a community of believers, and sacred Scripture is essential to who we are as Christians. **What is the Word of God?** We often identify the Bible as the Word of God. This is not wrong, but God speaks to our hearts in many different ways. For instance, he speaks to us in prayer and through our conscience, and often through other people. Hence, the Word of God covers much more than a printed book. Nevertheless, the Bible is the privileged collection of communications between God and his people. These stories and poems have nourished the lives of the people of Israel and the Christian Church right through the centuries, and they continue to nourish us today. They tell the story of God's love and our salvation from ancient times onwards. The scriptural texts offer us both challenge and encouragement for our lives, and are especially valuable to us through the hope they offer us at dark moments.

Pope Francis' Prayer to: MARY – Woman of Listening

Mary, woman of listening, open our ears; grant us to know how to listen to the word of your Son Jesus among the thousands of words of this world; grant that we may listen to the reality in which we live, to every person we encounter, especially those who are poor, in need, in hardship. Mary, woman of decision, illuminate our mind and our heart, so that we may obey, unhesitating, the word of your Son Jesus; give us the courage to decide, not to let ourselves be dragged along, letting others direct our life. Mary, woman of action, obtain that our hands and feet move "with haste" toward others, to bring them the charity and love of your Son Jesus, to bring the light of the Gospel to the world, as you did. **Amen.**

A Reflective Sentence

Everything that is not eternal is worthless in eternity.

.... Clive Staples CS Lewis

(1898-1963 author of the Chronicles of Narnia)



Some useful Quotes: 'I am doing my duty, in obedience to Christ's command: "Search the scriptures" (John 5:39), and "ask and you will find" (Matt 7:7) so Christ will not say to me... "You are wrong, because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God" (Matt 22:29). For if, as Paul says, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God, and if the one who does not know Scripture does not know the power and wisdom of God, then ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.' *St Jerome, Prologue to the commentary of the Prophet Isaiah.*

"There is no doubt that this primacy of holiness and prayer is inconceivable without a renewed listening to the word of God." *St John Paul II, Novo Millennio.*

"Allowing ourselves to be "wounded" by the word is indispensable for expressing verbally that which overflows from the heart... We devote time to those we love, and here we are dealing with the love of God who desires to talk to us and offer us words of life eternal." *Pope Francis, 5th October 2017 Address to Church Relations Committee of the United Bible Societies*

Saints in the Church's Calendar

St Frances de Sales, Tues 24th 1567-1622, Bishop of Geneva, founder of the Visitation Sisters. Patron saint of writers, editors and journalists.

The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle— Wednesday 25th January, This feast commemorates the conversion of Saul of Tarsus while he was on his way to Damascus to persecute Christians. He was blinded by a light, hearing the words, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?'

Ss. Timothy and Titus, bishops— Thursday 26th January, were close to St. Paul as followers and later in their work with him.

St Angela Merici, Friday 27th January 1474-1540, founder of the Ursulines, devoted herself to Christian education based on love, kindness with firmness, and concern for the individual.

St. Thomas Aquinas, priest and doctor of the Church – Saturday 28th Jan, 1224-1274. One of the greatest theologians, patron of schools, universities, students&booksellers

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2023



The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity concludes this Wednesday 25th January on the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul. The week is a privileged moment of prayer, encounter and dialogue. It is an opportunity to recognise and receive the richness and value that are present in the other, the different, and to ask God for the gift of unity. Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) writes: "The immense numbers of people who have not received the Gospel of Jesus Christ cannot leave us indifferent. Consequently, commitment to a unity which helps them to accept Jesus Christ can no longer be a matter of mere diplomacy or forced compliance, but rather an indispensable path to evangelisation" (E.G 246)

Catholic Schools Week 2023

Catholic Schools Week 2023 runs from Sunday, 22nd January, the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, until Sunday 29th January and its theme is '*Catholic Schools: Walking together in Faith and Love*'.

Each of us are on journey in life. For Catholics each journey begins and ends with God. Each moment on that journey is a chance to come to know and love God, who has been revealed to us in Jesus Christ. We can feel God's presence when we pray, when we spend time with loved ones, in nature, in moments of joy and when we come together as a community to celebrate God's love at Mass. As we walk our journey, God is with us every step of the way. Every Catholic school seeks to help students along their journey, nurturing their gifts and talents. Each student is a reflection of God with the potential to make society a kinder and more just place for all. The Church is currently in the process of synodality, which literally means 'journeying together'. This means that Catholics are called to come together and discern what the Holy Spirit is calling the Church to do and to be. We celebrate the unique contribution our schools make to the lives of our pupils, community and Church. As we journey together, may we always be inspired by the Holy Spirit to be all that God made us to be. May we walk together in faith and love.

Family Mass – next Sunday 29th January is the last Sunday of January. The Family Mass will be celebrated at 12 noon

The Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas

This Day falls on *Thursday 2nd February*. If you would like candles blessed on the Feast day, please leave them in the Sacristy beforehand or bring on the day and place on the table in the sanctuary. If you do not have a candle they can be purchased from the Sacristy—€2 each

Fr Michael Carey PP

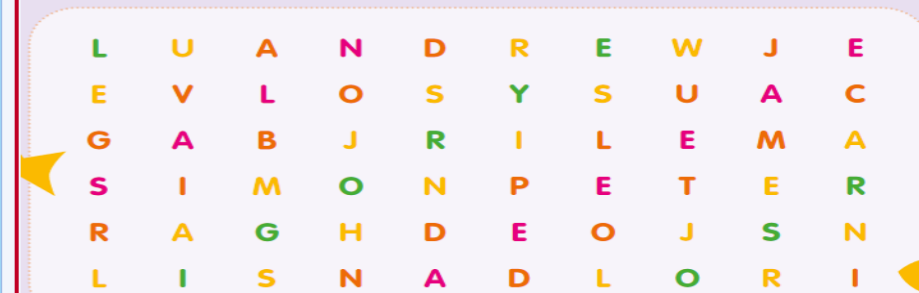
Children's Corner

In The Gospel

As Jesus is walking by the Sea of Galilee, he sees two brothers, Simon Peter and Andrew. They are fishing. Jesus asks them to, "follow me!". Next, he sees James and John, two more brothers. They are also fishermen, mending their nets. Jesus asks them to follow him too. All the fishermen come straight away!

Wordsearch

Find the names of the fishermen in the Gospel who answered Jesus' call



A PRAYER TO SAY

Help me, Jesus, to answer your call. Help me to do what I am asked straight away. Amen.



La Fhéile Bhríde Bishop Eamon Walsh will be coming to our parish on the 1st of February to celebrate our parish Feast day with us at 10am Mass, followed by refreshments.

Make your own St Brigid's Cross! We will be hosting a workshop in the parish centre to learn how to make a St Brigid's cross on **Sunday**

the 29th of January after mass. In addition, we have made a video showing you how to make the cross. Follow this link to see the video. Good luck! <https://vimeo.com/502994316> The St. Brigid's Cross is thought to keep evil, fire and hunger from the home in which it is displayed.

Parents and Baptismal Team

It has been a while since we asked parents of children for Baptism to meet the Team and have a 'run through' the ceremony along with a short period of prayer. Parents who are having their children baptised in the month of February will take place on **Wednesday 25th January at 7.30pm** in the Pastoral Centre **Confirmation Retreats** Retreats begin this week with the boys and 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 children and their families in your prayers.

'Catholicism' - Bishop Robert Barron's highly acclaimed 10-part film presentation on the Catholic faith begins Monday 23rd January for ten Mondays in Our Lady Mother of the Church Parish Centre Castleknock. 7:30pm film and then group discussions -finishes 9:15pm. All are welcome-spaces are limited - to book please text your name with the words 'Catholicism course' to **087 2161199**

Please pray for our recently deceased:

Paul Doolan Maud Coffey
 Frances Kennedy



MASS INTENTIONS 21st/22nd JANUARY

Sat 6pm	Rose Gill (MM)	Margaret Kenny (MM)	John Moran (MM)
	John Duffy	Valerie Kampff and her son Dermot	
Sun 10.30am	Patricia Dunne (1st Anniv)	Jerry & Joan O'Brien	Patsy Barden
	Johnny Molloy		

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