



St Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown Newsletter

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sunday 2nd July 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 (EXCEPT JULY & AUGUST)*

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

The Last Speech of St Oliver Plunkett

Yesterday July 1st was the Feast day of St. Oliver Plunkett He was ordained in Rome in 1654 and became professor of theology from 1654 to 1669, when he was appointed Archbishop of Armagh. He was arrested and tried in Dundalk in 1679 for conspiring against the state. So as not to be convicted in Ireland he was moved to Newgate prison where he was found guilty of high treason 'for promoting the Catholic faith'. He was martyred at Tyburn by being hung, drawn and quartered. He was the last catholic to die for his faith at Tyburn, and the first of the Irish martyrs to be beatified. His head is in St. Peter's Drogheda and most of his body is at Downside Abbey, England.

Below is an extract from his last 'will and testament' written during his final days in Newgate Prison, London, with the endorsement of Fr. Corker a fellow prisoner. He delivered it from the scaffold at Tyburn, immediately before his execution and it was printed shortly afterwards for distribution. The original manuscript, which is written in St. Oliver's own hand, is preserved in Downside Abbey, along with his final letters to Fr. Corker. The speech was apparently well received, as the large crowd listened to him deliver it to its very conclusion and it is probable that many people may have already sensed an injustice was taking place. Indeed, the tide of the wicked Popish Plot turned immediately and Lord Shaftesbury its principle promoter was arrested on the following day. St. Oliver thus became the last of the one hundred and five Catholic martyrs of Tyburn who had given their lives over the previous one hundred and fifty years and also the very last of the Catholic Martyrs who were condemned by the state in these islands. *Deo Gratias.*



"I have, some few days past, abided my trial at the King's Bench and now very soon, I must hold up my hand at the King of Kings' bench, and appear before a Judge who cannot be deceived by false witnesses or corrupted allegations, for he knoweth the secrets of hearts.

I will therefore confess the truth, without any equivocation, and make use of the words according to their accustomed signification. Assuring you, moreover that I am of that certain persuasion, that no power not only upon earth, but also in heaven, can dispense with me, or give me leave to make a false protestation. And I protest upon the word of a dying man, and as I hope for salvation, at the hands of the Supreme Judge, that I will declare the naked truth, with all candor and sincerity and that my affairs may be the better known to all the world. If I will deny all those crimes, (as I did, and do,) yet it may be, that some, who are not acquainted with the affairs of Ireland, will not believe, that my denial is grounded upon truth, though I assert it, with my last breath. I dare venture further and affirm, that if these points of seventy-thousand men, etc. had been sworn before any protestant jury in Ireland, and had been even

acknowledged by me at the bar, they would not believe me, no more than if it had been deposed, and confessed by me, that I had flown in the air from Dublin to Holyhead. You see, therefore, what a condition I am in, and you have heard what protestations I have made of my innocence, and I hope you believe the words of a dying man and that you may be the more induced to give me credit. I assure you that a great peer sent me notice, that he would save my life, if I would accuse others. But I answered, that I never knew of any conspirators in Ireland but such as I said before, were notoriously known and proclaimed outlaws, and that to save my life, I would not falsely accuse any and thereby prejudice my one soul. To take away any man's life or goods wrongfully, ill becometh any Christian and especially a person of my calling; being a clergyman of the Roman Catholic Church, and an unworthy prelate. I have a firm resolution, and a strong purpose, My God, never to offend you; and I beseech your Divine Majesty, by the merits of Christ, and by the intercession of his Blessed Mother, and all the holy Angels and Saints, to forgive me my sins, and to grant my soul eternal rest. Have mercy on me, God, etc. Spare my sinful soul, Lord. Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. For a final satisfaction of all persons, that have the charity to believe the words of a dying man, I again declare before God, as I hope for salvation, what is contained in this paper, is the plain and naked truth, without any equivocation, mental reservation, or secret evasion whatsoever, taking the words in their usual sense and meaning, as Protestants do, when they discourse with all candour and sincerity. To all which, I have here subscribed my hand the first of July.



From the Pastor's Desk

Family Mass The Family Mass and the Family Mass Team now take their summer break and this Mass returns at the end of Sept. It was a new initiative spear-headed by our now retired Pastoral Worker Mairin Keegan, and I thank the Team for their enthusiasm and commitment. This Mass last weekend also coincided with Mairin's retirement.

Mairin Keegan

Last Sunday Mairin Keegan officially retired as the PPW of St Brigid's Blanchardstown. She was an integral member of the Parish Team for 6 years. Mairin was present at the Mass with her husband Paul and their daughter Mary. Mairin and Paul presented the gifts of bread and wine during this Mass. I also thank Deacon Michael O'Connor for the brilliant idea of inviting the 6th class choir from Scoil Bhríde Cailíní under the direction of Ms O'Connor to sing – they were excellent. After Mass our wonderful Hospitality Team were in action again! A presentation was made to Máirín. She greatly appreciated the reception, she will be sadly missed.

Hospitality Team

This wonderful team had a very busy month of June. I hope that they have a well earned summer holiday from their fantastic Ministry

Summer Holidays

I will be taking the final two weeks of July off. I have managed to arrange cover for most of our Mass Schedule from the Priest's of our Partnership Parishes Corduff and Mulhuddart.

Advance notice – **The 6pm Vigil for Saturday 22nd and 29th July has been cancelled.**

Fr Michael Carey PP

Synod – Rome – Oct 2023

The working document ("Instrumentum Laboris") for the upcoming Synod has been published. It sets out 15 areas for discussion: 5 each under Communion, Participation & Mission. See Parish website or go to <https://synod.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Instrumentum-Laboris.pdf>



SCIENCE AND ART CAMPS

"Designer Minds" have 2 Summer Camps running in Castleknock. Science Design & Technology Camp OR Art Camp (or try out both and receive a discount). For all boys & girls currently in Senior Infants up to 6th Class. Register online at www.designerminds.ie or call 087 631 0411

Children's Corner

In The Gospel

Jesus tells us to put God first in our lives. Nothing is more important. We must share God's love and be kind to everyone. God will be pleased with even the smallest kind thing we do, like giving someone a cup of water.

Colour a cup of kindness

Jesus said: "A cup of cold water to a thirsty traveller is a cup of kindness".

Give someone a cup of kindness this week. Write their name on the cup and decorate it.

Dear Jesus, help me to put you first. I want to be like you and share God's love with everyone around me. Help me to be kind. Amen.



BE KIND!

Saints in the Church's Calendar

St. Thomas, Apostle – 3rd July. Called 'the twin' and is chiefly remembered for doubting the reality of the resurrection until he saw the Lord for himself. Once he was satisfied, he made a heartfelt profession of faith: 'My Lord and my God'. St. Thomas, who probably suffered martyrdom as a result of preaching the Gospel in India, comforts us when our faith is weak, encourages us to persevere and demonstrates that 'every doubt can lead to an outcome brighter than any uncertainty.'



St. Maria Goretti, Martyr – Thurs 6th July Born near Ancona, Italy, to a poor peasant family, St Maria (1890-1902) was known for her cheerfulness and piety.



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).

The Little Sisters of the Poor would like to thank you all for your generosity— they collected **€1597.72!**

THIS weekend; 1st & 2nd July, Peter's Pence collection will replace the Share collection at both masses.



We pray for our recently deceased:



Thomas Daly

St. Vincent de Paul

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



Mass Intentions for the week

Sat6pm	Brigid Forde	Bernard McGarrell
Sun 10.30am	Fr Micheál Russell OFM	Olivia Beirne Gilbert Fagan
Tues	Kevin Russell	
Thurs	Mary Bruen	

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