

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Priests: Fr James Boyle MHM: Fr. John Nevin MHM: Fr. Gerald Doyle MHM

Registered Charity N0: 103983

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B) 21st JANUARY 2018

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

6pm Sat: 20/01: Vera Mullan RIP

10am Sun: 21/01: Holy Souls in Purgatory

9am Mon: 22/1: Holy Souls in Purgatory

1pm Mon: 22/1: Holy Souls in Purgatory

9am Tues: 23/1: Holy Souls in Purgatory

1pm Tues: 23/1: Peggy Hewebrie & Family

9am Wed: 24/1: O' Neill Family

1pm Wed: 24/1: Carol & Eoughan Reed RIP

9am Thurs: 25/1: Jack & Mary Duff & Family RIP

1pm Thurs: 25/1: Intentions of The Donor

9am Fri : 26/1: Holy Souls

1pm Fri 26/1: Vincent Turley (sick)

6pm Fri: 26/1: Josie Ross RIP

9am Sat: 27/1: Holy Souls

1pm Sat : 27/1: Rosemary & Ernest Carlton RIP

6pm Sat: 27/1: Intentions of Rogan & Kearney Families also Jennifer who recently died.

Let us remember the SICK in our Prayers: Paddy Gilliland, Michael Ryan, Peter Monaghan, Joe Faszczka & Betty, Jack Burns, Jan & Malachy, Martin Donaghy, James, Clare, Terry Fullerton, Elsie Cooney, Eileen Delaney, Anne Lambe, Donna Carey, , Danny Mc Kee, David, Dolores Kelly, Dinny Murphy, Sinead Ward, Colette Kearney, Sarah Keyland, Cian Travers, P McCloskey, Mary O' Neill, Maria Antonia Peres, Shannah Smyth, Pat Carville, Sheila Smith, Barry Mulholland, Paul Connolly, Joan Smith, Briege, Kumacho, Nora Mc Mahon, Marie Mc Guigan, Paul Kelly, Annie Crawford, Nuala Mailey, Paul Mc Larnon, Patsy Mullan, Larry Mc Gurk, Bernadette Boswell, Seán & Phyliss Smyth, , Linda McDonald, Christopher Browne, Kevin Heaney, Louise Green, Marian Hunter, Colm Gallagher, Margaret Mc Cafferty, Anna, Kohl Thelis, Deirdre O'Neill, Bridie Mc Crossan, Brenda McKervey, Margaret McCriskin, Margaret Mc Kenna, Jean Kelly, Joseph Duffy, Elizabeth Magee, Joel Rivera, Nora McDonagh, Maire Mc Kenna, Eddie O' Neill, Billy Houston, Mick Hughes, Annie Mc Nally. Patrick McAnulty; Tony Lindsay, Pddy McGeogh; Alex Vernon, Kathleen McMullan, Sean Mc Donnell, Eadie Staton, Gretta Whyte, Eileen Foley, Betty O'Rawe, Maureen Read

One collections this week

LAST WEEK COLLECTIONS : 1. £355; 2. £372

THIS WEEK TWO COLLECTION: Upkeep of the Church

FRIDAY BUILDING FUND: £345

NEXT WEEK COLLECTION: Running Expenses of the Church

SILVER CIRCLE: Kevin Gaston; George Crawford

*A lecture by Lord Alton of Liverpool
"Legislating for Life" in*

St Brigid's Parish Centre Derryvolgie Avenue Belfast BT9 6FP on

Thursday 25th January at 7.30pm.

David Alton is an Independent Life Peer, he is a Catholic and strongly holds a "pro-life" position. His motto on his Coat of Arms is taken from the Book of Deuteronomy: **Choose Life.**

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5,10

God spared the people of Nineveh because they heeded the message God sent through Jonah.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 25:4-5,6-7,8-9

The Lord teaches us his ways.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Paul warns the Corinthians that they must act differently because the world in its present form is passing away.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:14-20

Jesus calls the fishermen, Simon and Andrew, James and John, to be his disciples.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we begin a continuous reading of Mark's Gospel that will carry us through this segment of the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. Remember that in Cycle B of the Lectionary, most of the Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel according to Mark.

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a narrative about Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins by reporting on the preaching of John the Baptist. John is described as the voice in the wilderness sent to prepare the way of the Lord. Immediately after describing the work of John the Baptist, Mark reports on Jesus' baptism and his temptation in the desert. Jesus' public ministry begins after the arrest of John the Baptist. Mark wants his readers to understand the important connection between the end of the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' own ministry.

As we learn at the beginning of today's Gospel reading, Jesus preaches the Kingdom of God in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist. Like John the Baptist, Jesus' pronouncement of the kingdom is a call to repentance. Yet Jesus' preaching is greater than John's. Jesus begins the time of fulfillment; the Kingdom of God is already here. This will be demonstrated again and again, both in Jesus' words and in the actions that follow. Jesus' healings and forgiveness of sins are signs of the Kingdom of God that he announces in his teaching.

In contrast to last week's Gospel, in Mark's Gospel Jesus takes the initiative in calling his first disciples. As mentioned last week, it was more typical of first-century rabbinical schools for students to seek out rabbis, asking to be their disciples. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus breaks with this tradition and invites his disciples to learn from him. Jesus is said to have first called four fishermen—Simon, Andrew, James, and John. Simon and Andrew are brothers. Jesus promises that he will make them "fishers of men." James and John are also brothers. Mark does not report Jesus' words of invitation to them, but he does report that they left their fishing immediately; their father, Zebedee, was left behind in the boat.

Mark's Gospel is told with a great sense of urgency and immediacy. Jesus is a person of action, and events occur in rapid succession. We see this in today's Gospel. Time is of the essence; the fishermen immediately put aside their livelihood to become Jesus' disciples. The Kingdom of God is here and now. The time of fulfillment is at hand. How might our lives be different if we more fully shared this sense of the immediacy of God's kingdom?

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2018: Bookings are now open for the 2018 Pilgrimage. **Seven nights (10 – 17 July) £725pps. Five nights (11-16 July) £650pps. Five nights for pilgrims requiring nursing/personal care staying in Accueil Notre Dame (11-16 July) £550. Youth Team (8-17 July)£590.** Application Forms available from the Parish Office or contact the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office (028)90646040 or email [lourdes@downand connor.org](mailto:lourdes@downandconnor.org).

THE POOR CLARES IN GALWAY are hosting a Cloister day on Saturday, January 27th from 10am to 5pm. The day is designed to help young women between the ages of 21 and 40 to find out more about the Poor Clare way of life with a view to vocation discernment. To book a place contact:
Sr. Faustina at: poorclaresgalwayvocations@gmail.com

THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: Runs from 18TH – 25TH JANUARY. This year's inter-Diocesan Services will be held in: **St Anne's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Belfast, on Tuesday, 23rd January at 7 pm St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh, on Wednesday, 24th January at 7.30 pm.** The theme for 2018 is "That All May Be Free" and the preacher at both Services will be Fr Kieran McDermott, Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation and Ecumenism in the Archdiocese of Dublin.

DAILY PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OUR CHURCH

Lord, send your Spirit from heaven to make our Church an ever more holy place and its altar a ready table for the sacrifice of Christ. Here, may the waters of Baptism overwhelm the shame of sin; here, may your people die to sin and live again through grace as your children. Here, may your children, gathered around your altar, celebrate the memorial of the Paschal lamb, and be fed at the table of Christ's Word and Christ's body

A PRAYER FOR THE UNBORN

Heavenly Father, in your love for us,
protect against the wickedness of the devil,
those helpless little ones to whom
you have given the gift of life.
Touch with pity the hearts of those
women pregnant in our world today
who are not thinking of motherhood.
Help them to see the child they carry
is made in your image, as well as theirs,
made for eternal life. Dispel their fear and
selfishness and give them true womanly
hearts to love their babies and give them
birth and all the needed care that a mother
can give. We ask this through Jesus Christ,
Your Son, Our Lord who lives and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.
Amen

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY IS ON SALE IN THE REPOSITORY @ £4