

# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Chapel Lane, Belfast BT1 1JJ

Tel: 028 90 32 04 82: [www.stmarysbelfast.org](http://www.stmarysbelfast.org)

E-mail: [administatorofstmarys@btinternet.com](mailto:administatorofstmarys@btinternet.com)

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

Registered Charity N0: 103983

## Pentecost Sunday (Cycle B) 20<sup>th</sup> May 2018

### MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Sat : 6pm 19/5: Vigil Mass Wellbeing of Edward Kelly (sick)

Sun : 10am 20/5: Michael Duggan RIP

Mon: 9am 21/5: Intentions of Roisin Quinn

Mon: 1pm 21/5: Protection of the 8<sup>th</sup> amendment 6 of 9 day novena

Tues: 9am 22/5: Intentions of Kathleen Quinn

Tues: 1pm 22/5: Protection of the 8<sup>th</sup> amendment 7 of 9 day novena

Wed: 9am 23/5: Wellbeing of Ann Hanna

Wed: 1pm 23/5: Protection of the 8<sup>th</sup> amendment 8 of 9 day novena

Thurs: 9am 24/5: Intentions of Lily Brown

Thurs: 1pm 24/5: Protection of the 8<sup>th</sup> amendment 9 of 9 day novena

Fri: 9am 25/5: Winifred Mc Kay (sick)

Fri 1pm 25/5: Christine Butler RIP

Fri: 6pm 25/5: Geraldine Moneswala RIP

Sat: 9am 26/5: Annie Dempsey (sick)

Sat: 1pm 26/5: Johanna O' Connor RIP

Sat: 6pm 26/5: Imelda O' Kane RIP

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 Mc Kervey, Margaret McCrskin, 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, Paddy McGeogh; Alex Vernon, Kathleen McMullan, Sean Mc Donnell, Eadie Staton, Gretta Whyte, Eileen Foley, Howard Marshall, Michael O' Neill (Canada). Irene Lee, Philomena Lee; Anne Marie, Martin Jones; Jeannette Lee, Jim McAnespy, Charlotte Miskelly, Christopher Brown, Nell Mathews.

### TWO COLLECTIONS THIS WEEK 20/05

LAST WEEK COLLECTIONS: £ 271; £ 385

THIS WEEK TWO COLLECTIONS: 20/05 : 1. Heat & Electricity

2. Lourdes Sick Collection

NEXT WEEK COLLECTION: Upkeep of the Church

FRIDAY BUILDING FUND COLLECTION: £165

SILVER CIRCLE: Eilish Hennessey; Lily Brown

**THE LOURDES COLLECTION:** is to support those sick persons who wish to, but are financially unable to go to Lourdes without the generosity of financial help from the various parishes of the diocese. **Be generous.**

### **CLONARD SOLEMN NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP, BELFAST:**

**13TH – 21ST JUNE 2018** We invite applications to volunteer as Eucharistic Ministers, stewards, car park attendants, & church cleaners. Volunteer application forms are available from Clonard reception. Tel 02890 445950 or email [reception@clonard.com](mailto:reception@clonard.com). Applications need to be returned by no later than 1 June to allow for processing.

## SUNDAY READINGS

**First Reading:** *Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11*

The Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles gathered in Jerusalem.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalms 104:1,24,29-31,34*

God's Spirit renews the earth.

**Second Reading:** *1 Corinthians 12:3b-7,12-13*

We are all one in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel Reading:** *John 20:19-23*

Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

The season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is to us known that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an Advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

In the context of the feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit upon the apostles mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath." This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiveness of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.

*Loyola Press*

**IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT LET US SAVE THE 8<sup>th</sup> AMENDMENT** : According to John's Gospel, God knows what is best for the world and so that the world might be saved, God sent His Son Jesus into this world to rescue struggling humanity. Jesus through His life and teaching revealed to humankind the way to live. God's desire to rescue humanity is falling on deaf ears in Ireland among those who will *VOTE YES* in the forthcoming referendum on May 25<sup>th</sup>. It is not the way to live that Jesus taught us. *Abortion is the killing of the defenceless child in the womb.* St (Mother Teresa) often said that any society that legalizes the killing of the child in the womb is barbarian. We who still want to follow the Way of Jesus have a lot of work to do in a world gone wrong and particularly at this time in an Ireland gone wrong!! How can we be most effective in our efforts to secure a *NO VOTE*? Tomorrow is the day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is the One that Jesus sent to carry on HIS work after He finished his mission on earth and returned to the Father. Each of us has a role to play in the realization of God's future for the world. In our homes, in our places of work, in our local communities **LET US INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT** to give the right words to those who are canvassing for a No Vote and ask the Spirit to open the minds and hearts to pro-life of those who are not sure what way to vote.

**THE FALLS PASTORAL COMMUNITY** warmly welcomes all parishioners to join them for the Corpus Christi Procession from St Dominic's to St Peter's Cathedral. The Procession will take place on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, beginning at 3pm. First Communicants (in their dresses and suits) and the P7 Confirmandi (in school uniform), with their families, are especially welcome to take part.

**LIVING CHURCH DOWN & CONNOR LOUGH DERG PILGRIMAGE**

The *sixth* Living Church Lough Derg 3 day Pilgrimage will take place this year from **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018**. The pilgrimage will be the traditional three day format. Those who took part in the pilgrimage over the last few years spoke of the many blessings they received from being on the island of Lough Derg, as countless people have throughout the years. There is quietness and deep spirituality to be found there that is very special. Please consider coming along. The cost of the pilgrimage is **£65. We are now offering two departure points Belfast and Ballycastle.** For details of travel arrangements and to book a place please call the Living Church Office on 02890690920 or email [livingchurch@downandconnor.org](mailto:livingchurch@downandconnor.org) by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June. Registration forms on request from Living Church Office or your Parish Office **THE DOWN AND CONNOR**

**ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK:** led by Bishop Treanor, will take place on Sunday 10th June 2018. We encourage Parishioners who usually visit Knock annually as a family or individuals to consider making their visit on this day. Due to the World Meeting of Families many Parishes who usually organize a Parish trip to Knock for the Diocesan Pilgrimage are focusing their energies and resources on Parish trips to WMOF and the Papal Visit.'

**THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL:** wishes to clarify that it embraces the Church's teachings and upholds Gospel values. Our Rule states that Vincentians are committed to supporting life from conception to its natural earthly end. We endorse the comments made last week by the General President of SVP, Renato Lima de Oliveira, when he described the charity as "a Christian organisation that defends the right to life". Our General President also commented "We reaffirm our position of defence of life, not only as a Christian duty but, above all, as an attitude to the sacredness of the life of the human being. We defend every stage of life and all the difficulties that it may encounter. We reject all arguments, threats and mechanisms that are contrary to life! We will not build a just society, of peace and prosperity, by admitting the right to kill human beings, especially the most vulnerable and innocent of them."

**GAZA - Archbishop Pizzaballa** You will be aware of the terrible violence in Gaza over the past few days. Please pray for peace with regard to the ongoing situation here and for peace to emerge from such tragic circumstances. **Archbishop Pizzaballa**