

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

This Sunday is World Day of the Sick and marks the 160th anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady to St. Bernadette in Lourdes. There will be a torchlight Rosary Procession in The Grotto in St. Mary's, Chapel Lane, Belfast, on this Sunday evening starting at 8.00pm. Candles for the procession will be available from 7.45pm. Roses will also be blessed to bring home to the sick. All are welcome.

REPORT

The Parish Pastoral Council Annual Report for 2016—2017 is available to pick up in the foyer of the Church.

A JOURNEY IN FAITH

If you — need a deeper understanding of your Catholic faith / are seeking to return to celebrating your faith / would like to explore and enquire into the Catholic faith with a view possibly of Baptism... please come along to join others on a journey of faith, in the Gartan Room, Parochial Hall **this Wednesday 14th February at 7.45pm**. Enquiries to Noleen 07879 498131



BAPTISM



We joyfully welcome into the Parish Family—**Charlie Armstrong, Leo Edward Byrne, Oliver Michael Byrne and Rory Paul McNickle** who were baptised last Sunday.

DINNER DANCE

Our Lady & St. Patrick's College PTA is holding an informal Dinner Dance on the **Saturday 3rd of March** at the La Mon House Hotel and all Parish Members are welcome. Wine reception, hot fork buffet and excellent prizes. Tickets are £35pp and available by calling Tom on 07818000703.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2018

The Diocesan Directory is available at the back of the Church to buy, price £4. Please put money in one of the boxes in the wall next to the candelabra.

MONEY MATTERS

Sunday 28th January: £ 1903.96

Many thanks to all who contributed so generously to the collections. The Sick and Retired Priests collection will be taken up next weekend.



PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

11th February 2018

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Very Rev Tony Fitzsimons PP and Rev Vincent Cushnahan CC

Phone - 028 9065 4157. Website: www.st-colmcilles.net

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Office open: Monday—Friday: 10.00am—12.30pm

Entrance Antiphon	Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.
Psalm	You are my refuge, O Lord; You fill me with the joy of salvation.
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, Alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!
Communion Antiphon	They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 40-45

The leper in the gospel today was healed by the touch of Jesus. How can I become a source of healing to others by a gentle touch or consoling word of assurance?

The leper was sternly ordered by Jesus not to reveal the source of his healing. Once we have been healed by the Lord we feel this inner obligation to tell the world about it! The man with the leprosy became a powerful evangelist!

The touching of the leper was not only a gesture of sympathy and love but a major infringement of the Law and Custom; it signalled Jesus' challenge to the establishment. Conscious that He was not and must not be known as a mere wonder worker and anxious to reveal His true identity in His own time He tried to keep the knowledge of the cure to the minimum legal requirements. His inability to go openly into any town may have been because, having touched a leper, He was considered unclean, though Mark infers that his popularity is the cause too.

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Ash Wednesday is **this Wednesday 14th February**. Could some Ministers of Holy Communion please volunteer to distribute either the Ashes or the Blessed Sacrament at Mass. There is a separate sheet on the noticeboard in the Church foyer for you to write your name where you are available.



WHY IS MASS SO IMPORTANT FOR CATHOLICS?

In our increasingly busy lives, it can be a real challenge to have an appreciation and real enthusiasm for Mass! ALTARATION is a new five part study programme that will help us take some quiet time to really reflect on the meaning and significance of the Mass today. The programme is made up of powerful cinematography, inspiring presenters and a workbook resource that will help participants reflect on their personal learning. Through the use of humour, story and small group discussion, the programme will capture your attention and instil in you a deep and lasting love for the Mass. Join us for ALTARATION at St. Malachys Church, 24 Alfred St, Belfast on **Wednesdays in Lent from 7.30pm-9.00pm**, starting on **21st February** and concluding on **21st March**. For more information or to register for the study, call St. Malachys Parish at 028 9032 1713

TRÓCAIRE

Trócaire is the overseas development agency for Ireland. This year's Lenten campaign focuses on Sierra Leone. The country has been brought to its knees three times in recent years. The people of Sierra Leone have lived through Civil War, a deadly outbreak of Ebola and a series of landslides that have killed more than a thousand people. Nobody should have to face the fear and heartbreak that people in places in Sierra Leone have endured. But with your support Trócaire will be there and will work relentlessly..... Until Love Conquers Fear. **Trócaire Lenten boxes are available to pick up at the back of the Church.**

LENTEN PIONEER PLEDGE

Many people choose to abstain from alcohol during Lent. Why not take this opportunity to perhaps help yourself or someone you know with an alcohol or drug problem by offering your sacrifice for freedom from addiction? Please consider taking the short term Lenten Pledge and make a difference to someone's life. Say the daily prayer: "I promise in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary to abstain from all alcoholic drink until the end of Lent."



LENT

Lent begins **this week, on Ash Wednesday 14th February**.

Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence.

Mass will be at 7.15am, 9.30am and 7.00pm.

During Lent morning Masses in St Colmcilles, will be at—

7.15am on Monday to Friday and also

9.30am on Tuesday to Friday



WALK WITH ME

The Walk With Me, Lenten Journey of Prayer booklet, can aid you with your daily devotions in Lent. It is available at the back of the Church. Price £1. Please put money in the box in the wall next to the candelabra.

LENTEN LUNCH

Apostolic Work Lenten Lunch will be held in the Parochial Hall after both Masses **next Sunday 18th February**. There will be a collection after Mass in the Church porch, on Saturday 17th February so that everyone has a chance to support the Missions through Apostolic Work.



LENT PRAYER SESSIONS

A programme of prayer will be offered to parishioners in March on **Tuesday evenings, repeated on Friday mornings**. The sessions will be based around Lectio Divina and Visio Divina.

Lectio Divina, a Latin term, means 'divine reading' and describes a way of reading the scripture whereby we gradually let go of our own agenda and open ourselves to what God wants to say to us.

Visio Divina shares its roots with Lectio Divina. It invites the viewer into 'divine seeing' when meditating on the image that is presented to the individual. With our culture becoming more and more visually oriented, an intentional way of praying with images is needed more than ever. Visio Divina invites us to a more contemplative place. It invites us to see all there is to see, exploring the entirety of the image. It invites us to see deeply beyond first and second impressions. It allows God, who is never limited or tied to any image, to speak to us through them.

The programme of prayer will take place in the Parochial Hall on **Tuesdays 6th, 13th and 20th March at 7.30pm** and will be repeated on the subsequent **Friday mornings, 9th, 16th and 23rd March at 10.00am**.

Please indicate your interest by signing the sheet at the back of the Church.

Reading: Sunday : Cycle B ; p 713, 452, 499

Weekdays: Cycle 2, 6th week in Ordinary Time, Psalter Week 2

Weekend Mass Times: Saturday: 6.30pm; Sunday: 9.30am, 11.30am.

Weekday Mass: Mondays in Lent : 7.15am;
Tuesday to Friday in Lent: 7.15am & 9.30am

Mass Intentions: Sunday 11.30am: Gary Morris

Confession : Saturday 6.00pm

Chapel of Adoration: Monday and Tuesday 2.00pm—9.00pm

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

We are deeply aware that as your Priests we have an obligation to make the sacraments, especially Holy Communion, available to any person wishing to receive them. But we need your help in doing this. For this reason, we are forming a group to facilitate the regular visitation of the Sick and Housebound of the Parish and at the same time taking Holy Communion to them. This will require a lot of help.



Our goal is to visit parishioners who are unable to attend Mass regularly because of sickness or frailty and are housebound in their own homes or nursing homes. The visit may include a time for prayer and reading from the Gospel, but most importantly, administering Holy Communion to them.

The visit would normally follow any of the normal Saturday / Sunday Masses. It may be more convenient in some cases to follow on from any of the 9.30am weekday Masses. Shortly we will invite those interested in being part of this Ministry to contact one of the people organising this special ministry. Anyone who has a close relative or friend who is housebound may have a special desire to be involved in this very special ministry. They would be very welcome.

There will be a **formation session** in the Iona Room from **7.00pm to 9.30pm** on **Wednesday 14th March**. (Tea / coffee break included.)

More details will be available in next week's bulletin.

DECEASED

We pray for the repose of the soul of all those who have died recently especially Bernie Doyle, sister of Odran our former choir leader.

We also remember all those whose anniversaries are at this time, especially : Eva Haan, Frank McEvoy, Gary Morris, Gerard O'Keefe.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT- Tel: 07456 989458

PARISH COMMUNITY

WEDNESDAY CLUB

On **this Wednesday 14th February** Aidan Campbell, a local historian and author, will give us a talk on the history of Ballyhackamore. Please join us in the Iona Room at 2.00pm for what promises to be a very enjoyable talk.

GRANDPARENTS GROUP

A group of Grandparents in the parish have met for mutual support and prayer for their children and grandchildren. The group will resume meeting on **next Tuesday 20th February at 10.00am** in the Iona Room, Parochial Hall. Please come... all welcome.

SCRIPTURE AND PRAYER GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday **20th February, at 8.00pm** in the parish committee room. Our reflections will be on readings from the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of Lent. We meet every third Tuesday of the month.

FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENTS MEETING

There will be a meeting for the parents of children who are being prepared for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The meeting will be held **next Wednesday 21st February at 7.00pm** in the Parochial Hall.

CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be on **Sunday 25th February** at the 11.30am Mass.

JOHN PAUL 11 AWARD

Congratulations to **Harvins Abraham, Joel Varghese George and Shan Mathew** who received their Pope John Paul 11 Gold Award at a ceremony in St Mary's Church, Chapel Lane, last Thursday, for their commitment to Church Ministries in St Colmcille's and local Community activities.