



# St. Anne's Parish

Pastoral Community of Derriaghy & Colin

Fr. Peter O'Hare, PP  
Rev Pat McNeill, Deacon  
Sr. Mary Murray, Parish Sister

Parish Office: 02890610112  
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21<sup>st</sup> June 2020

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year



All our masses are celebrated in **private** by Fr. Peter and uploaded onto our parish **YouTube** channel: **St. Anne's Dunmurry**.

When you go to YouTube ..... **please subscribe.....** to receive notifications of uploaded material. **Subscription is free!**

Mass will be celebrated for the intentions of all our parishioners. If you have a particular anniversary that you wish to have celebrated then please email/contact Fr. Peter with the details.

**St. Anne's Mass: Sunday 11am, Tues, Wed & Thurs 10am**

- **You can find resources for your use at home on our parish website [www.saintannesparish.net](http://www.saintannesparish.net) or the diocesan website – [www.downandconnor.org](http://www.downandconnor.org)**

### **We Remember them**

**Recently Deceased:** Fr. John O'Sullivan

**Month's Mind:** Jane Millen.

**Parish WhatsApp Group** – Keep up to date with what is happening in our parish community .....text your name and number to 07714691281 to be added to our WhatsApp group.

**Our Church is open for Private Prayer**

### **Opening Times**

**Tues, Wed and Thurs 2pm to 4pm**



There will be a **One Way System** in place. All visitors will enter by the main door and exit by a side door. Hand sanitisers will be in place at the entrance and wipes will be available within the church for the cleaning of seats before and after use by visitors.

### **Readings**

**The First Reading: Jer 20: 10-13.** The prophet Jeremiah suffers greatly on account of his faithfulness to God's word. His courage consists not in the absence of fear, but in his continued proclamation, even when it costs him dearly.

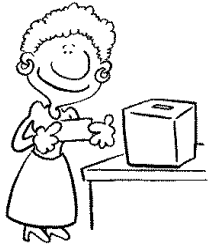
**The Second Reading: Rom 5:12-15.** 'The gain itself considerably outweighed the fall.' The consequences of sin are very real, very concrete, but God's grace and his providence are always of greater consequence. Sin has entered the world, but God's Son, in entering the world, has defeated it.

**The Gospel: Matt 10: 26-33.** 'Do not be afraid.' Three times in this short reading we hear those words. Why the repetition? Because Jesus sees and understands our tendency to fear, and because he wants to replace it with courage.

**Bereavement Support Group:** Have you suffered the pain of loss and bereavement? Talk in confidence – call 90610112 and a member of the Group will contact you.

## Your Giving:

This w/end - **Weekly Offering & Peters Pence**



- You may wish to set up a **Standing Order** and if so, call the parish office on 028 90610112 and leave your details or email us on [stannes@downandconnor.org](mailto:stannes@downandconnor.org)

**OR**

- **Donate online** to St. Annes Parish

**A/C No. 07707787 Sort Code 93 83 00**

**OR**

- **Envelopes**- Parishioners can use their weekly envelopes, the new set are available for collection in the porch of the church during opening hours. When Government policy allows us, we will look at measures to safely collect them.

Your continued helpful generosity would be very much appreciated.  
Thank you in anticipation

**OR**

- Use the "**Donate**" button on our home page of this website.

### **Please.....I need a little help!**

Do you need a helping hand...at this difficult time? Do you need some medicine picked up from the chemist? Do you require some food items to be delivered to you? Would you like someone to take the dog out for a walk? Or would you just like someone to have a wee chat with? Then please don't hesitate or be afraid to call us on 02890 610112 or send an email to [stannes@downandconnor.org](mailto:stannes@downandconnor.org) or use the contact form on the parish website.



### **Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel: Mt: 10:26-33**

- 1.** 'Do not fear' is the unifying theme in this passage which is set in the context of a mission sermon by Jesus, preparing his disciples for what lay ahead. He urges them to have courage in speaking and living his message, drawing strength from their trust in the Father whose care for us exceeds his care for hundreds of sparrows. How has trust in God been a source of strength in life for you?
- 2.** For Jesus the important thing is to be true to one's real self, even if this does involve some material or physical loss or pain. When you have had that kind of courage, what was it like for you?
- 3.** There is no such thing as secret discipleship. It is in declaring their allegiance to Jesus that his followers will find life. They will be the losers if they hide their discipleship. Does this resonate with your experience?

John Byrne OSA



## **CLONARD NOVENA**

In current circumstances, it isn't an option to celebrate an in-church Novena during the month of June.

So, the Irish Redemptorists have decided to do an all-Ireland, online Novena, which will be streamed live from Limerick [Mt St Alphonsus] and Belfast [Clonard].

The Novena will begin **on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> and end of June 27<sup>th</sup>**, the feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

**The Sessions from Clonard will be at:**

**7am; 9.30am; 6.15pm; and 8.00pm.**

The Redemptorist preachers are:

**Fr Peter Burns, Fr Johnny Doherty, Fr Brendan Keane  
and Fr Ciaran O'Callaghan.**

Rev Dr Janet Unsworth [Methodist] and Rev Jonathan Frazer [Presbyterian] will speak on the Ecumenical day [Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June]

## **SUPPORT POPE FRANCIS' COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND**

Your help is urgently needed to help overseas missionaries and vulnerable communities to defend themselves against COVID-19. In Africa, Asia and Latin America the Church is often on the frontline. In remote, inaccessible areas, it is missionaries who respond, as best they can, to the medical and pastoral needs of suffering men, women and children.

Missionaries already face too many challenges; working in over-crowded communities with no running water. In shantytowns and refugee camps where social distancing is simply impossible, and where self-isolation could mean starvation.

To help protect these fragile communities, Pope Francis has announced the COVID-19 Emergency Fund. If you can, please give so that our less-fortunate brothers and sisters have a fighting chance at suppressing COVID-19.

Donate by going online [www.wmi.ie/covid-fund](http://www.wmi.ie/covid-fund)  
or call Fiona on 00 353 1 497 2035.

Bank of Ireland Transfer Details  
Account Name - Society for the Propagation of the Faith  
IBAN - IE12 BOFI 9007 5456 9616 36  
BIC - BOFIE2D



## Lectio Divina

### God so Loved the World (John 3:16-18)

#### Lectio: What the Word says in itself

Whenever I see 'John 3:16,' the first thing I think of is a man at a sports stadium holding up a placard with this reference on it. Anyone who has looked up these verses will have found a sublime summary of the Gospel, even of the whole Bible. God's saving purpose and our suggested response is contained in this simple, yet very deep, statement. The few phrases we are contemplating are part of a longer conversation that Jesus had with a Pharisee named Nicodemus, 'a leading Jew.' Probably worried about his fellow Pharisees' disapproval, and maybe about his own reputation if he is caught talking to Jesus, he comes to Jesus 'by night.' As such, the whole conversation has an atmosphere of darkness and light about it. Nicodemus is confused and asks questions. Jesus reveals deep truths. Central to these truths is that, out of his abundant love, God gave us his Son, his Only Begotten, so that we might have eternal life. The Greek word for 'he gave,' edoken, is also used in all the Gospels of Jesus' giving of the Eucharist. Contrary to human fears about God's judgement, God sends his Son to save the world. Yet God's gift requires a response from us. We have to believe in 'the name of God's only Son.' In the Bible, the name is the person: Jesus, the Light of the world.

#### Meditatio. What the Word says to me/us

As we meditate on these words, we might like to put ourselves into the shoes of Nicodemus. As Christians in a sometimes-hostile world, we too may feel nervous or afraid. We can easily understand Nicodemus' confusion: Jesus is saying things that are mind-blowing and hard to grasp. Yet his words shine with truth and love, and we need to let them sink in. Other expressions may come to mind; for instance, 'God is love.' We try to let the Holy Spirit shape our thoughts. Who is this God who 'loved the world so much'? Who is this Only Begotten Son? What does it mean to believe in Him? Is belief just about ideas, or has it something to



do with trust? We let Jesus' words comfort us. He hasn't come to condemn but to save. We let his words wash over us. But what about those who don't believe? We leave them to God and we trust in God's love. And then, by trusting in God's love, we start to appreciate Jesus' words in a new way. We start to live his words in our hearts. We start to believe and we start to love. We start to love this Father who, in giving us his only Son, gives us everything he has. We start to love Jesus, who has come to save us.

#### Oratio. What the Word leads me/us to say

These reflections may make me feel grateful. I may wish to thank God our Father for the gift of his Son, Jesus. I may also wish to know Jesus better, and to better appreciate his sacrifice on the cross for me. I say 'for me,' because his sacrifice is no longer a general act for the world, but a personal act to save me. I let these feelings of gratitude in my heart unite me to the peace and love in Jesus' heart. I rest in that peace and I try to abide in that love. I speak if I feel called to speak. Maybe my heart says it all.

#### Contemplatio. Being transformed by the Word

Nicodemus came to Jesus in secret, afraid, with many questions. Jesus spoke, and Nicodemus went away a different person. We too have spoken. We too have asked questions. We have prayed. It is now time to let Jesus speak. We do not try to predict his words with our words. Instead we try to open our hearts to listen.

#### Actio. Putting the Word into practice

Jesus' words to Nicodemus focus us on the gift that God constantly offers us in his Son. If God is love, then his whole being is a gift. Jesus, in turn, offers his whole life back to his Father in his sacrifice on the cross. In so doing, he offers his life for the salvation of the world. More particularly, he offers his life for me. I need to contemplate this more frequently, so as to believe it more firmly. In so doing I should begin to trust God more completely. I also need to take concrete actions to make my life more of a gift to others.



(Taken from the June issue of Intercom: Fr Jim Doyle is curate of Kilmore Parish, Co Wexford)

## More People Turning to Prayer



New research has found that the Coronavirus pandemic has resulted in a 50 per cent surge in online searches for prayer as people turn to faith to cope with feelings of angst and despair.

In March 2020, the share of Google searches for prayer rose to the highest level ever recorded.

Jeanet Sinding Bentzen, associate professor of economics at the University of Copenhagen, who led the research, found that across all faiths the rise was largest for Christians, particularly Catholics, and Muslims.

[Source: CEPR Press/In crisis we pray/Religiosity and the Covid-19 pandemic](#)

## Restoring Societies



Despite the chaos and harm the Coronavirus has caused, Christian charity, [Tearfund](#) identified that the crisis has also revealed some of the best of humanity. It appears that a shift in social attitudes is beginning to emerge globally, with three areas of emphasis:

- 1. Togetherness.** With the rapid spread of the disease internationally and extraordinary surges in local volunteering, we are both recognising our interconnectedness and beginning to work together in new ways.
- 2. Prioritising life.** In a very short space of time, communities have rallied together to make huge sacrifices to save lives. At a scale never seen before, governments and central banks in high-income countries have pumped billions of dollars into their economies to increase social safety nets, keep businesses afloat, and help employers retain staff. As nations and individuals, we have been reminded of what truly matters.
- 3. Imagination.** We have seen that we are capable of adapting fast as human beings and as a society: fundamental renewal feels possible. In a recent YouGov poll, only nine per cent of Britons want life to return to 'normal' once the lockdown is over.

[Source: Tearfund Coronavirus Crisis: Restoring Societies/Policy Paper/May 2020](#)