

Parish of Bangor

The Baptism of the Lord - 8 January 2017

Seeing Your Life Through the Lens of the Gospels

Matthew 3:13-17

1. The Baptism of Jesus marks a turning point in his life and the start of his public ministry. Recall moments when your life changed and you moved into a new phase.
2. The experience was one in which Jesus had a new sense of his own identity. What have been the experiences which have helped shaped your sense of who you are?
3. How have you come to an awareness of being a child of God, beloved by God, and one on whom rests the grace of God?
4. It is surprising that Jesus, the Saviour of the world, asks to be baptised by John. The request symbolises his desire to identify with us. At the same time he is filled with the Holy Spirit. That step of identifying with us is an important element in his being able to help us. Have you ever found that when someone identifies with you, it is easier for him/her to help you? Has your ability to identify with others had any impact on your effectiveness in helping others?

John Byrne OSA
email: john@orlagh.ie

Sunday Mass Times this week:

Bangor: Vigil 6.30 pm,
10.30 am, 12.30 pm.
Donaghadee: Sun 9.30 am.
Ballyholme: 11 am.

Holywood: Vigil 6.30 pm;
10 am and 12 noon.

Newtownards: Vigil 6.30 pm; 11.30 am.

Comber: 10.00 am.

Weekday Mass Times this Week:

Bangor: Mon - Thurs 9.30am.
Friday: As announced.
Ballyholme: As announced.

Confessions: Sat 5.30pm.

Children's Liturgy: Sunday at 10.30am Mass for children from P1-P7.

Baptisms: 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2pm. Contact the Parish Office to register.

Exposition and Holy Hour: 1st Sunday of the month at 3pm in St Comgall's Donaghadee, organised by the Prayer Group.

Musings:

The baptism of Christ is a painting by fifteenth-century Italian artist Piero della Francesca. It is in the National Gallery in London. It is remarkable for its light quality. Its lightness of tone reflects a time when baptisms were concluded at dawn and the newly baptised, once washed in the font, were dressed in white robes. A dawn light suffuses the figure of Christ, including sky, landscape and water. Piero worked on a white gesso surface which had a marble-like finish and his paints were tempered with egg to create translucency and a whiteness relevant to the theme of Baptism. The setting for the painting is Italy of his time, not ancient Jordan. As Christ is being baptised delegates are arriving from the east to negotiate a healing of the Churches East and West. A trio of angels have gathered in a conciliatory circle.

When we honour Christ's baptism on this day we are reminded to work on our own disunities.

Fr David O'Riordan
Ladysbridge and Ballymacoda, Diocese of Clogher

Your prayers are requested for:

Recently Deceased:

Fr George Doherty, Morgan Finnegan,
John Ellis, Noel Armstrong.

Month's Mind:

Bridget Close

Anniversaries

Noel Kelly, Brian Quinn, Simon Kirk,
James Trainor, Margaret Devenney,
Eddie Hamilton, Danny McAlea,
Bill Eccles, Gordon Parker, Jim Ross,
Arthur Lyness Watson, John Walsh,
Michael and Gertrude O'Mahony,
Robert Sharvin, Fergus Owens,
Michael Carlin.

*The second collection this Sunday is for
the Parish Development Fund.*

*Grateful thanks for donations of £270
received for the Church restoration
fund.*

*Fr Gunn, Fr Rooney, Fr Whyte and
Mgr Macaulay wish to thank all those
parishioners who very kindly sent
cards and/or presents at Christmas.
They were all deeply appreciated and
the priests wish you and all members
of the parish a Very Happy and
Peaceful New Year.*

Eucharistic Adoration

St Comgall's Church, Bangor
Monday 10.30am-9.30pm.

Diocesan Directory 2017

Now available for sale at £4 in the
Repository or the parish office.

As part of an international **World Meeting of Families** initiative, please find beside the crib prayer cards for you to take home. We remember all families throughout the world who are in need particularly as we prepare to welcome ones from all over the world to the World Meeting of Families in 2018. Sign up to be kept informed at www.worldmeeting2018.ie/contact/newsletter-request/

Annual Collection - Living Youth

will take place next weekend 14/15 January. Copies of the 4th Annual Newsletter which outlines the work we are currently involved in as well as our plans for the coming months, is available at the back of the church or on the website: www.livingyouthni.org

**St Columbanus' College
Open Evening**

Tuesday 10 Jan 2017, 7-9pm
Principals address in the College Hall
at 7pm and 8pm.

**Open Morning in Our Lady and
St Patrick's College, Knock**

for Year 7 Pupils and Parents on
Sat 14 Jan 2017, 9.15am 12.30pm
Principal's Address 9.30am and 11am.
Prospective Year 13 students are also
welcome.

**Fatima Centenary in Drumbo
and Carryduff**

The Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Carryduff will be hosting a Novena on the 13th of every month, starting with Mass on Friday 13th January at 6.30pm. In subsequent months the novena will include the Fatima novena prayer, the rosary, a time for adoration and benediction. All are warmly invited to join us.

Catching Your Breath

A one-day workshop involving gentle movement, breath, chant and meditation will take place at Glenstal Abbey, Murroe, on 14th January, 2017 from 9.30am to 5pm. Fee €85, includes workshop, materials, lunch, teas and coffees. Workshop Leader, Niall Kelly is a certified Alexander Technique teacher who has been teaching since 2004. He has run a number of similar workshops in Glenstal and around Ireland. Contact Glenstal Abbey directly for more details: Email: events@glenstal.com

Marian Prayer Group meet every Thurs evening for 1hr at 6.30pm in St Comgall's Church, Brunswick Rd. Rosary for the Unborn, Reflection, Music, Petitions and Divine Mercy Chaplet. All ages welcome.

Support for the Bereaved

If you need to talk to someone about your bereavement, a member of the Bethany Bereavement Support Group can be contacted on the Confidential mobile number: 075 1085 2157.

**Walking Tour of the Dubrovnik
Islands and Medjugorje**

15-24 May 2017 (10 days)

Flying from Dublin Airport

Cost £895 stg

Seats are limited, for further details
contact: Jean Reynolds 028 44830979.
More details on parish notice board.

**The Emerald Ball at Titanic,
Belfast**

Will take place on the eve of St Patrick's Day, 16 March. The evening will commence with drinks at 7pm, to be followed by a sumptuous four course dinner at 8pm. There will be a high-end luxury ballot and dancing to a live band. Dress is formal and monies raised will support the **Down and Connor Lourdes Pilgrimage** for the sick and the young people who support them. Tickets are £60 each and available from the pilgrimage secretary, Sinead on 90610477 or the Drumbo Parish office on 90812238. The Emerald Ball promises to be a highlight of the social calendar so be sure to reserve your tickets early.

**Pilgrimage to Padua, Italy
Venice and Lake Garda**

16 May 2017, Spiritual Director Fr Sean Rogan P.E Kilcoo, 3 nights Padua + 4 nights Lake Garda. Highlights: St Anthony's Basilica, Chapel of The Relics, Mass In Venice visiting St Marks Square Basilica. Sunday Mass Torbole, Boat trips to Limone & Malcesine, (time to explore). Price includes dinner B&B with all guided tours taxes & entrance fees £990 pp Twin/Double, £250 pp Single Supplement, Deposit £250 pp. Contact Downe Travel Downpatrick on 028 4461 3288.

Friendship Club recommences on Tuesday 10 January at the usual time.

The Parish Choir recommences practice on Wed 11 January in the St Dymphna Room, Parish Centre at 8.10pm. New members welcome.

Bible Study Class

will recommence on Thursday 12 January at 7.30pm in St Dymphna Room. All welcome.

Irish Language Class and Ceili recommences on Thurs 12 January. Language from 7pm and ceili 8.15 pm.

**Catenian Rosary Group
Appeal for unused Rosaries**

Parishioners are asked to search for unused Rosaries and send them to: The Catenian Rosary Group, 164 Green Park Road, Halifax, W Yorks, HX3 0SP.