

Parish of Bangor, Member of Ards Pastoral Community

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 17 February 2019

Seeing Your Life Through the Lens of the Gospels

Luke 6:17, 20-26

1. We are told that Jesus 'fixed his eyes on the disciples' before speaking. This suggests that he was about to say something that he really wanted them to take in. Surprisingly he then tells them it is no bad thing for us to be poor or hungry. But perhaps you have recognised the truth in what St Augustine said: 'You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.'
2. 'Blessed are you who weep' is not an encouragement to be miserable. Rather it is an affirmation of the importance of loving relationships in life. We are blessed to have such people in our lives, but there may also be pain. Yes it is not true that the blessing of loving and being loved is worth the price you pay?
3. Jesus said that his followers would be open to opposition and ridicule because of him, and that they are blessed when this happens. Unpleasant it may be, but have you not been grateful on those occasions when you had the courage to stand by something that you believed in?

John Byrne osa
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Sunday Mass Times this week:

Bangor:	Vigil 6.30pm 10.30 am, 12.30 pm.
Donaghadee:	Sun 9.30 am.
Ballyholme:	11 am.
Hollywood:	Vigil 6.30 pm; 10 am and 12 noon.
Newtownards:	Vigil 6.30 pm; 11.30 am.
Comber:	10.00 am.

Weekday Mass Times:

Bangor:	Monday - Friday 9.30am.
Ballyholme:	Mon and Fri 9am.

Confessions: Sat 5.30 pm.

Children's Liturgy:

Every Sunday at the 10.30am Mass for children from P1-P7. Parent consent forms must be signed.

Baptisms: 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2pm. Register online at www.bangorparish.com under Sacramental Preparation. 2 month's notice required.

St Vincent de Paul Helpline No: 077 0367 9384

The Deep End - How Happy

What's so great about being poor, or hungry, or sad? On the surface, these Beatitudes of Jesus seem very strange: 'How happy are you who are poor'. Surely it is better to be wealthy, to be well fed, and to enjoy good times - or to at least be comfortable and content?

But Jesus is not interested in comfort, or in maintaining the status quo. The Jesus of Luke's Gospel is something of a revolutionary. He has come to turn the social order on its head: last becomes first and least becomes greatest. His concern is always for the poor and marginalised.

Pope Francis' 'new Beatitudes' include:

Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others.

Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalised and show them their closeness.

Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.

Your prayers are requested for:

Recently Deceased:

Anne McBurney, Donal Crawley

Month's Mind:

Michael McConville

Anniversaries:

Leo Gribben, Margaret McGeough,
Denis Rush, Mary Waddell,
Michael Devlin, Ellen Curran,
Anne Louise Wilson, Fr John Courtney,
Sid Stalford, Rita Brogan,
Eddie McElroy, Eric Dickson Young,
Eileen Bell, Mrs Mathew.

The second collection this Sunday is the diocesan collection for Sick and Retired Priests.

Perpetual Adoration

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

Trocaire and Traidcraft are having a sale next weekend of 23/24 February. Tea and coffee will be served after all Masses on Sunday.

St Joseph's Young Priests Society.

The latest addition of The Sheaf, the quarterly magazine of the Society, is available at the back of the church. Please take a copy.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Full Board in hotel: 7 nights (9-16 July) £725 or 5 nights (10-15 July) £650. Full board for sick or infirm pilgrims with medical and nursing care in Accueil Notre-Dame: 5 nights (10-15 July) £550. Youth team (7-16 July) £590. All flights from Belfast Int'l Airport. Application forms available from the Parish Office.

Beginning Experience is offering 'a weekend away for a lifetime of change' at Drumalis, Larne, Fri 22-Sun 24 Feb. To find out more, contact Phil: 9020 7645 or Marie 07896119669. Support group continues Wed evenings at 8pm in St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Ave.

St Columbanus' College PTA – Table Quiz Thurs 28 Feb. Doors open 7pm Quiz at 7.30pm. Tables of up to 8 £20. BYO Drinks, Nibbles Provided. Participants must be aged 20+ To book a table please email: stcolumbanuspta@gmail.com. Please support this event to raise much needed funds for the College.

30th Anniversary 'Homegrown' Concert celebrating the work of TinyLife, the premature baby charity. Fri 1 March at 8 pm in Clonard Monastery, Belfast. Artists include the cream of NI talent: Karl McGuckin, Malachi Cush, Andrea Begley, Eimear McGeown, Niamh Perry, St Dominics Grammar School Choir & Special Guest Phil Coulter. Tickets £20 available from Clonard office, TinyLife office tel: 9081 5050 or www.buytickets.at/tinylife

Tobar Mhuire

Ash Wednesday Day of Prayer

Our annual day of prayer is dedicated to prisoners; their families, and those who care for them. Chapel open all day for Adoration followed by Prayer Service at 7pm. Talk by Fr Ciaran Dallat (Prison Chaplain) at 7.30pm. All welcome. **Wed 13 March:** First of our Lenten Talk Series: The Beatitudes of Pope Francis with Dr Aidan Donaldson at 7pm. All welcome. Voluntary donation.

Holy Rosary Parish - Sunday Night Bingo

has started in the new Parish Centre. The weekly event, run on behalf of Good Shepherd Church by members of Youth Football Club and Bredagh GAC, will raise much needed funds to help pay off the remaining debt for the new Centre and be a great opportunity to meet people and maybe win a few pounds. Doors open at 6.45pm. Light refreshments available.

From Bishop Noel Treanor: I wish to make you aware of an initiative within the Diocese of Down & Connor that is very beneficial to those who are deaf and hard of hearing. Each day a BSL NI Sign Language Mass is provided via the webcam from St Vincent de Paul Parish, Belfast.

www.saintvincentdepaulligoniel.com/webcam. You can also watch a recording of the Mass with subtitles at: www.youtube.com/channel/UCQJf_QN2zqPzwKx4p6PJ18A

NI Blood Transfusion Service

Blood donation sessions will be held in Ballycrochan Presbyterian Church Hall, Silverbirch Road on Friday 1 March from 2.15-4.15pm and 5.30-8pm. We need new donors as well as existing ones.

Womens' World Day of Prayer

Come Everything is ready! Praying for Slovenia, A Service for Everyone. First Bangor Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Bangor. Friday 1 March, Refreshments from 10am, Service 11am.

St Patricks Parish - Pilgrimage to Fatima

(2 nights) Lisbon and Estoril Coast (4 nights) 8-14 Sept. €875pps. A deposit of €300 is required at the time of booking with Cultural Connections Ltd, Tel: 00 353 57 93 55050. Email: info@culturalconnections.eu For more info and booking form contact Deirdre Douglas 07843006560. email deirdredouglas@virginmedia.com Deadline for booking Fri 22 Feb.

Ards CCE - St Patrick's Night

Special Concert and new CD launch, Friday 8 March, doors open 7.30pm, St Comgalls Parish Centre. Featuring Ards CCE Entertainment Groups, McClean Family, Irish Dancing, McGinn Family and guest artists. Tickets £5 from Thomas' shop, kids free, late bar, great ballots. More info Ards CCE Facebook.

Living Youth/Habitat for

Humanity NI Ethiopia Team:

8-18 July, Personal Donation £500; Personal Fundraising Target £1700. Closing Date for Applications Thurs 31 Jan. To register go to: www.habitatni.co.uk – click on 'Join Us', 'Volunteer Globally' and select Living Youth. For further info contact: kieraoneill@livingyouthni.org

Cappella Caeciliana

will present "A Spring Celebration in Words and Music" in Clandeboye Courtyard on Sat 2 March at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £16 and are available from Clandeboye Office or at www.caeciliana.org

Support for the Bereaved

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

Trocaire Lent 2019

Lent begins on Wed 6 March.

"So now faith, hope and love abide, these three. But the greatest of these is love". 1 Corinthians 13:13. Will you hold Maria, Patricia and Maya in your heart this Lent.

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