

Parish of Bangor, Member of Ards Pastoral Community

Third Sunday of Advent - 16 December 2018

Seeing Your Life Through the Lens of the Gospels

Luke 3:10-18

1. 'What should we do?' The common thread in John's answers was to encourage his questioners to be other-centred rather than self-centred, each in the context of their own circumstances. In your experience, what difference has it made for you when you changed your attitude in this way?
2. John told the people in a direct and honest way what they should do. Perhaps you have had friends who did not beat about the bush but have told you honestly what they thought about your behaviour when you asked them? In gratitude, recall such friends.
3. The humility of John comes out in this passage, happy to acknowledge that he only had a minor role to play in relation to the Messiah. At the same time he was enthused by his mission to 'proclaim the good news to the people'. What difference has it made for you when you were able to see the good in yourself, and use your gifts without having to score by portraying yourself as greater than someone else?.

John Byrne osa
Email jjbyrneosa@gmail.com

Sunday Mass Times this week:

Bangor: Vigil 6.30 pm,
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: Monday and Friday 9am.

Confessions: Sat 5.30 pm.

Children's Liturgy:

Every Sunday at the 10.30am.

Baptisms: 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2pm.
Register online at www.bangorparish.com under
Sacramental Preparation. 4 week's notice must be given.

Christmas Mass Times

Following discussion with the Parish Pastoral Council
Mass times for Christmas were agreed as follows:

St Comgall's, Brunswick Road:

Vigil 7pm and 9pm;
Christmas Morning 9.30am and 11am.

St Comgall's Donaghadee:

Christmas Morning 9.30am.

Ballyholme:

Christmas Morning 11am.

Penitential Services for Christmas

will be held in:

Ballycran: Monday 17 Dec 7.30pm;
Ballygalget: Tuesday 18 Dec 6.30pm;
Portaferry: Tuesday 18 Dec 7.30pm ;
Bangor: Wednesday 19 Dec 7.30pm;
Newtownards: Thursday 20 Dec 7.30pm.

Your prayers are requested for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Terry Smyth, Joan Larkin, William Lismore, Bridie Close, Michael McGonigal, Margo Saunders, Ann Spruce, Charlotte McAlorum, Phil Jones, Michael Thompson, Lily Simpson, Dave Tandy, Mamie Dougherty, Ena and Charlie Quinn, Louise McLaughlin, Nora Somerville, Molly Crossey, Nora Rea, Eileen Young, Bridie York, Ellen Walsh, John Walsh, Brian Duffin, George and Margaret Jane Duffin, Margo Duffin, Gerry Dorrian, Michael and Mary Maguire, James And Emily Dorrian, Shane Monaghan, Desmond McGlinchey, Jose Junior, John Kenny.

Perpetual Adoration

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

The Parish Penitential Service

will take place on Wed 19 December, Leaflets for this service are available at the rear of the Church for anyone who might like to prepare in advance.

Advent Prayer Gatherings

The season of Advent runs for 4 weeks and offer us all an opportunity to pray our way to Christmas. For Advent 2018, the Marian Prayer Group and some young people on the St John Paul II Awards Programme invite you to join them this week on Tuesday evening at 7pm in St Comgall's Church, Bangor, all welcome. The topic for this week is:

Week 4 - Saying Yes to God.

Trocaire - A ballot in aid of Trocaire will be held in the Most Holy Redeemer Church next Sunday after the Mass.

Trocaire Global Gifts

This year you can choose from 13 gifts that help families work their way out of poverty and end the daily struggle for essentials like water and food. From Chicks £7, school lunches £15, Goats £40, Beehives £55, Water £85. The full range of gifts are on the notice board and are available to buy from the Parish Office. When you buy a Trócaire gift you're not just giving, you're joining the fight for justice. Leaflets available in the church.

St Comgall's Church Donaghadee

are seeking volunteers to help clean the Church for Christmas. Please see June in the Tea Room if you can assist.

SVP Christmas cards on sale after all Masses, £3.50 per pack. Please support this worthy cause.

The Live Crib: Visit the Live Christmas Crib at St Mary's Grotto, opening Thurs 13 Dec until Sun 6 Jan. Come along and meet Mary and Joseph, Shepherds and the Three wise men. This year animals are kindly provided by the Irish Donkey association and there will be a baby donkey in the crib this year. Carol singers daily at 2 pm. and 5 pm. Proceeds to the Mill Hill Missionaries working in Sudan.

Christmas: A Time to Remember

A fusion of Irish and Festive music featuring All Ireland Scor Champions from Saul, Brigid O'Neill, Kathryn Mullan, Scoil Rince an Chroi on Sat 22 December at 7.30pm in The Great Hall, Downpatrick. The concert is in memory of Phil Stratton and in aid of Marie Curie. Tickets £12 available online at tiny.cc/rememberphil or call Gareth 07786837198.

Anam Cara Armagh, the organisation that supports bereaved parents will hold their Parent Evening on Wed 19 Dec at 7:20pm in the Armagh City Hotel. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not.

Nurses! The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is currently seeking volunteers to join our nursing team to care for our pilgrims who will stay at the Accueil Notre Dame, during our 2019 Pilgrimage (10-15 July.) You will need to be a registered nurse, active on the NMC live register - newly registered nurses are welcome. For more info or to register your interest email: lourdes@downandconnor.org with your contact details and we will get back to you.

Ards CCE - Home for Christmas CD available from Thomas shop along with other CDs for £10.

St Brigid's Church, Belfast are delighted to announce that "The Priests" will be in concert on Fri 4 Jan at 8pm. The Priests recently performed at Croke Park for his Holiness the Pope during his Papal visit to Ireland. This will be an evening of Christmas songs, seasonal Hymns and a few traditional favourites, also including tracks from their latest album Halleluia. Tickets £25 on sale from Wellington Park Hotel Reception Tel: 9038 1111 and www.ticketmaster.ie or 0844 2774455.

Drumbo Parish Pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi and Cascia

Including Divine Mercy Sunday in Rome Vatican City, 27 April-3 May 2019. Package price from £945 pp. Spiritual directors: Fr Conor McGrath & Fr Dominic McGratten. For more details, and an application form contact the parish office 9081 2238 opt 2.

Are You Making Wedding Plans?

Prepare for your future married life at a Catholic Engaged Encounter Course, 23-24 March 2019 in Our Lady and St. Patrick's Parish Centre, Ballymoney, Co Antrim. For details and/or booking: marriageencounter.ie or 028 27638512.

Living Church Office

A series of development days for Children's Liturgy Leaders will take place on Sat 16 March 2019 in Holy Rosary Parish Hall, Ormeau Road from 9.30am-4.30pm. The other date is Sat 11 May 2019. Each day will have a different theme and the aim is to encourage, nourish, support and resource those involved in leading the important ministry of Children's Liturgy of the Word. Attendance is free, lunch and all necessary resources will be provided. To register contact Caren at the Living Church Office 9069 0920 or c.collins@downandconnor.org

Confirmation will take place in the Parish of Bangor on Thursday 7 March at 5pm in St Comgall's Church Bangor.

Fr Gunn/Parish Office Tel: 9146 5522, 27 Brunswick Road, Bangor.

Website: www.bangorparish.com

Email: bangor@downandconnor.org Office hours Mon-Fri 9.30am-1pm.