

St. Brigid's Parish, Killester, Dublin 5



Newsletter

February 2017



A WORD FROM FR. LIAM:

ST BRIGID AND THE PLACE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

Dear Parishioners,

As we celebrate the feast of St. Brigid, Patron of our parish it is appropriate that we reflect on and celebrate the importance of women in our Church today.

In recent days, the bishops of the country's 26 dioceses have just returned from Rome at the end of their *Ad Limina* visit to the Vatican. This is an opportunity for our bishops to report on what is happening in their areas every five years. Bishops not only meet the Pope but also visit many of the different Vatican departments or congregations.

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin spoke at a press-conference at the end of the visit. He said that no subject was off the agenda. One theme that came up on many occasions was the position of women in the Church. "We brought it up with almost every congregation we went to, and there was a willingness to listen and a recognition that we were asking a valid question, because the Irish episcopal conference is quite concerned about that theme."

Archbishop Neary of Tuam spoke of the issue in a homily he gave in Rome's Basilica of St. Mary Major. "It is essential that we rediscover the feminine and Marian dimension of the Church," he suggested. The Church is endeavouring "to respond positively and constructively to genuine voices calling for a greater recognition of women and the feminine in the Church" he added.

According to Bishop Monahan, the newest member of the Irish Bishops' Conference, Pope Francis emphasised the importance of having women involved in the decision making processes at many levels in the Church. It is an issue he has spoken of frequently. In many languages, Latin, Italian (and Irish too!) the word for the church is feminine.

May this greater involvement become a reality, not just an aspiration. *Fr. Liam*

Eucharistic Adoration

Please note that Eucharistic Adoration takes place on Monday and Tuesday in our Prayer Room in the Pastoral Resource Centre after 10.00 am Mass until 3.00 pm each day until late Spring 2017.

Adoration on Thursday night will continue to be held in our Church from 7.00 pm until 8.00 pm.

If you are prepared to 'watch for one hour' of adoration per week you will be very welcome. We also invite everyone to spend some time - even a few minutes - in prayer and reflection.

Each Thursday night for the coming months we will be praying for the Pope's intentions, peace in Syria and respect for women and their contribution to be appreciated. *All Parishioners are welcome.*

St. Vincent De Paul's collection of unwanted Christmas gifts

The local Conference of the St Vincent De Paul together with Phil and Louis would like to express their sincere thanks to all who contributed to the above appeal and left in gifts for our less well off. The response was exceptional. Many, many thanks.

I would also like to add my thanks to all who gave so generously to this worthy cause: *Fr. Liam*

FEBRUARY DIARY

Wednesday 1st	Feast of St. Brigid Catholic Schools Week – Grandparents’ Day 10.00 am Special Mass with children of St. Brigid’s Boys’ and Girls’ National Schools
Thursday 2nd	Feast of the Presentation of the Lord – Candlemas Day of Consecrated Life 10.00 am Mass of the Feast with Blessing of candles to be used throughout the year.
Friday 3rd	Feast of St. Blaise - First Friday of the month of February 10.00 am Mass of Feast with blessing of throats. Remembrance of those on Altar List of the Dead.
Tuesday 7th	7.30 pm Meeting of Parish Finance Committee
Thursday 9th	7.30 pm Meeting of Parish Pastoral Council
Saturday 11th	Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes – World Day of the Sick 6.30 pm Mass with availability of the Sacrament of the Sick
Sunday 12th	10.30 am “Do this in Memory” celebration 12.00 pm Mass with celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick
Tuesday 28th	Shrove Tuesday

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK IS FOR THE LIVING NOT JUST THE DYING

It has been said that the sacrament of anointing of the sick is the Catholic Church’s best kept secret. To discover this sacrament is to find a treasure of hope, comfort and peace.

For many centuries this sacrament was called "extreme unction" until the Second Vatican Council called it "The Anointing of the Sick." Many may refer to it as "Last Rites" because there was a time when the sacrament was reserved for someone who was near death.

Today the sacrament is reserved for those who are "seriously" sick. So, it may not be appropriate for someone with a mere head-cold or passing ailment. But you don’t have to be at death’s door either. Any elderly person, anyone over the age of 65, can receive this Sacrament, through which Jesus himself draws close to us. It is fitting to receive the sacrament just prior to a serious operation. The same holds for the elderly whose frailty becomes more pronounced.

In the Anointing of the Sick, heaven touches earth and we can experience the presence and power of our ever-loving and almighty God. The church encourages all those who are seriously sick to seek the comfort and grace of the anointing of the sick.

We Sing a Song to Brigid (Words: Claire Maloney, Music: Patricia Hegarty)

We sing a song to Brigid, Brigid brings the spring,
Awakens all the fields and the flowers and calls the birds to sing.
All were welcome at her door,
no one was turned away.
She loved the poor, the sick and the sore,
she helped them on their way.

She laid her cloak out on the ground
and watched it grow and grow,
In wells and streams and fields of green
St. Brigid’s blessings flow.

Recently Deceased—Please Pray for the Souls of:

Frances O'Brien, Killester Park

Hugh Joseph Gilligan, Ennafort Road

Eucharia Grainger, Killester Avenue

Resource Centre News

Meditation

Christian Meditation on Monday mornings after 10 o'clock Mass in the Centre's Board Room, a great way to start your week off. Admission free and all are welcome.

Adoration

Adoration continues in the Parish Centre Prayer Room Mondays and Tuesdays 10.30 am – 3.00 pm and all are welcome.

Coffee Dock News

Once again we make an appeal for volunteers; this time of year we find a lot of our volunteers are making preparation for their holidays and with the loss of community employment staff the Dock has become very vulnerable. We now find ourselves struggling to keep the doors open. Please if you can spare 2 hours a week or maybe just cover a holiday shift it will make a huge difference in keeping the Dock open. You can contact Ruth or Karol on 01-853 4030.

Limited space is still available in the Coffee Dock for local artists to exhibit their work - if this is something you might be interested in you can contact the Centre on 01-853 4030.

As many of you are aware I am due to take maternity leave at the end of February. This is a very exciting time for me as I prepare for my new arrival.

I am very happy to say that Ruth Brennan from our Board of Management will be stepping into my shoes for the next 6 months and will be glad to assist you in any way possible. I have the upmost confidence that Ruth will do a fabulous job taking care of the Centre and its clients in my absence and I look forward to seeing everyone for the next term in September.

Karol Stout

St. Brigid's Parish Shop

There is now in stock a large selection of religious items including Mass cards, Mass bouquets, pictures, angel pins, St. Brigid's crosses, crucifixes, holy water fonts, candles and christening candles, medals, rosary beads, prayer leaflets and a lot more. There is also in stock birthday, retirement, good wishes and get well cards.

Some attractive CD's are also available including "Good Old days of Music Hall" from Gerry Noonan and a recent CD issue "Beautiful Dreamer" from David Kelly (tenor) with Eugene Dolan.

Signed Mass Cards are also available.

Why not call into the shop and see for yourself the large array of goods available. The shop is open after all the Masses at weekends and is located at the side of the Church nearest car park.

At back of Church there is now a large selection of Prayer and Reflection booklets including "The Power of an Hour with Jesus" which is especially appropriate for use during Eucharistic Adoration, and CDs covering our Catholic faith, life and truth for all. *All proceeds go to Parish funds.*

Parish contact details:

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Parish email: killesterparish@eircom.net

Parish Website: www.killester.dublindiocese.ie

Resource Centre Ph. 01-853 4030 email: resourcekillester@gmail.com

*This Newsletter and past issues
can be viewed on the Parish Website Archive
at www.killester.dublindiocese.ie*

Maths Classes

George Humphrey 087- 978 7380
St. Brigid's Resource Centre
Every Wednesday Evening
17:00 - 18:00 **Junior Higher**
18:15 - 19:15 **Leaving Ordinary**
19:30 - 20:45 **Leaving Higher**
20:45 - 22:00 **5th Year Higher**

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**Yoga & Mindfulness for Seniors -
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Starting from 8th April
For more information or to book a place
please contact Magda at
Mobile: 087 32 67 237
Email: soul.lighthouse.info@gmail.com

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