

BONNYBROOK PARISH

NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY, 17TH DEC 2017

VOLUME 2 No. 16

**3rd Sunday
OF ADVENT**



GAUDETE SUNDAY

CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH THE ARTISAN

IT IS THE
BEAUTIFUL TASK
OF ADVENT TO
AWAKEN IN ALL
OF US MEMORIES
OF GOODNESS AND
THUS TO OPEN
doors of hope.
- JOSEPH CARDINAL RATZINGER



3rd Sunday in Advent

"There is one ... coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." Untying sandal straps was no prestigious job. In the days of John the Baptist, those straps would have been especially unpleasant to deal with. Besides the usual odours that accompany sockless leather footwear, there would have been the grime and dirt from the sandy roads and paths that swirled around the people who went everywhere on foot. Taking off someone's shoes upon their arrival was the task of the lowly servants. So when John says he's unworthy of doing this task for the "one who is coming after me," he is putting himself in a very humble position. And rightly so.

John realizes that the Christ--the Anointed One, the Messiah--is so far above him, so far above any of us, that we are truly unworthy of him. Indeed, the Son of God is not just the greatest of men; he is God-made-man and in his presence we most appropriately should bow in humble homage. Yet this God chose to stoop down to our human level and walk among us. He chose to get his sandals dirty. And still today he chooses to allow us to encounter him as a friend and companion.

But as John reminds us by his example, this encounter with the Lord is not the result of our own merits or accomplishments. We are sinners who stand in need of Christ's help. But thanks be to God, he is always willing to extend this help to us. As St. Paul says in today's epistle, "May the God of peace make you perfectly holy." Indeed it is God who does the perfecting, not us by our own power. So let us approach the Lord this Advent season with a spirit of hopeful humility, trusting that God alone can make us worthy of welcoming his Son.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Sat Evening: 7pm Elizabeth Grennan (B.R.), also dec. members of the Grennan & Kiernan Families, Pat Foran (A), Ellen Rooney & son Gerard (A), Jean & Jimmy Bissett (A), Noel O'Beirnes (M.M), Jimmy Gorman (A& B.R.),

Sun: 9.30am Michael Metcalfe (A),

Sun: 11.30am Kathleen Murphy (A), Teresa Michael & Graham Judge (A), Ernest Massey & dec. members of the Massey & Paget Families (A), Jackie Costigan (A), Olive Downey (A), Paul Smith (A), Christy Judge (A), Susie Calahan (B.R.), Mary Mooney (M.M.), John Dolan & Phyllis Heron Dolan, (A), Alan Nolan (A)

Mon: 9.30am Mary Walsh (A),

Tues: 9.30am Patrick & Kate O'Reilly (A), Frank & Kathleen O Keeffe (A), Paddy & Iris Mooney (A),

Wed: 9.30am Patrick & Elizabeth Joyce (A), Lily Snowe (A),

Thurs: 9.30am Iris Mooney R.I.P.

Fri: 9.30am Paddy Conway R.I.P.

Contact Details

Fr. Joe Jones (Moderator) ☎ 01 848 5262
✉ joe@bonnybrookparish.ie

Parish Sisters:

Sr. Irene Dunne ✉ irene@bonnybrookparish.ie
Sr. Margo Delaney ✉ margo@bonnybrookparish.ie

PARISH OFFICE

☎ 01 848 5262

(The above number is transferred to a mobile phone outside of office hours.)

✉ office@bonnybrookparish.ie

Opening Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm (Office is closed on Wednesdays)

Website: www.bonnybrookparish.ie

Facebook: Bonnybrook Parish.

Parish Pastoral Council: chairperson@bonnybrookparish.ie

Mass Times

Sunday Vigil: (Saturday Evening) 7.00pm

Sunday: 9.30am & 11.30am

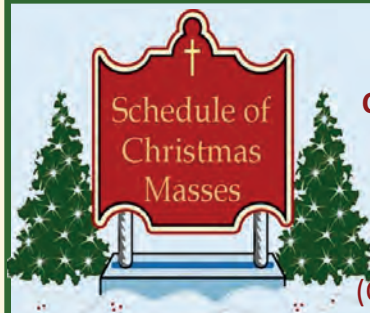
Monday - Friday: 9.30am

Saturday morning: No Mass

BAPTISMS

Second Saturday of each month at 12.00pm

Fourth Sunday of each month at 12.30pm



CHRISTMAS EVE - SUNDAY

CHILDREN'S MASS AT 5.30PM

CHOIR MASS AT 7PM

CHRISTMAS MORNING

(ONE MASS ONLY) AT 10.30AM

COLLECTIONS FOR 9TH DEC 2017

COMMON FUND €450

ST VINCENT DE PAUL €2,445

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.



AN EVENING OF CAROLS & REFLECTIONS

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Fr. Joe are both involved in this evening's
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Thousands of people will be travelling from very distant places to participate in World Meeting of Families in 2018 (Dublin, 21—26 Aug 2018). Many would be unable to come if they also had to cover the cost of accommodation. Do you have a spare room? Would you be willing to host a person, a couple or a family next August? Help us welcome visiting families to Ireland and have a home-from-home experience. Learn more at: www.worldmeeting2018.ie/hostafamily or Call us on 01 567 6800 or email us at hostingteam@worldmeeting2018.ie

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WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

QUESTION:

On many Sundays, especially during Advent and Lent, we hear a reading from one of the prophets. What is significant about them for us? Didn't Jesus fulfil all their predictions?

ANSWER:

Lent and Advent are the times of the church year when the prophetic word forms an important part of the liturgical season. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Baruch, and Zephaniah are just some of the prophets who offer powerful and essential lessons for Christians of any era. Prophets do not predict the future—they are very much concerned about the present, calling Israel to follow once again the word of God.

The prophets witness to a life of faith. In the midst of an intense relationship with God, the prophets are very aware of their unworthiness to embrace this call from God, and struggle to accept the mission God entrusts to them.

The prophets speak on behalf of God. Each testifies that the word spoken is not from them, but from God. This lands them in trouble, at times, with their audience. Jeremiah, for example, felt betrayed by God as the prophetic message was delivered. People did not like the message because of their sin-filled lives and their displeasure was taken out on the prophet. While tempted at times to throw in the towel, the prophets remained true to the life of faith and persevered in the proclamation of God's word. In modelling these virtues and calling us to greater fidelity, the prophets offer an example and message that are still important to us today.

INSPIRATION

John the Baptist came to testify to the light, who is Jesus Christ. Like John, we are called to testify to that same Light. We do so by living lives of faith and bringing the joy of the Gospel to everyone we meet. We are people of joy who rejoice at his birth and eagerly await his coming again. We share that joy by tending to the needs of the poor, helping those who are broken, and witnessing to the freedom that a life in God brings. May we take our task of being joyful witnesses to the good news seriously as the celebration of Christ's birth fast approaches.

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