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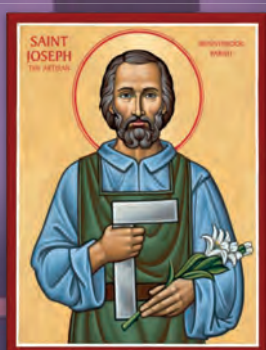
THE ARTISAN  
CHURCH

Filled with the Holy Spirit,  
Jesus returned from the Jordan  
and was led by the Spirit  
into the desert ...

LUKE 4:1

NEWSLETTER

BONNYBROOK PARISH



FIRST SUNDAY OF

LENT

18TH FEB 2018

VOLUME 2 No. 25

*"Do not let*

*your weakness make  
you impatient...let  
words of thanks break  
from your lips."*

— St. Peter Damian

### *First Sunday in Lent*

Why do we always go to the desert? We see this example in Scripture time and time again. The Israelites wandered in the desert. King David and prophets were driven into the wilderness. And now Jesus is in the same place. Lent after Lent, we too are invited into a barren, desolate place. Why do we always go to the desert?

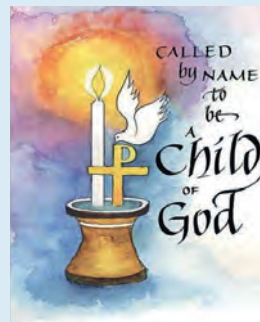
Throughout Scripture, the desert is a place of testing. It's also a place of hiding and withdrawal. In the Old Testament, David fled into the wilderness to hide from Saul, Elijah from Jezebel, and Jonah from God! In other words, the desert is a place of "retreat." In Christian circles, we use the word to describe a spiritual weekend away. But its meaning comes from warfare, as we well know. To retreat means to draw back, to separate oneself from the fighting. Of course, a military retreat brings its own kind of "battle" - the internal assessment of why the fighting went so poorly.

As we enter into this Lenten season, we are invited to retreat into the desert with Jesus. Attending a day or weekend of reflection is a wonderful spiritual practice. This "desert spirituality," however, can fill all forty days. We can fulfil our Lenten resolutions with a purpose - writing daily notes to family and friends can inspire new gratitude, every time we pass up that specific food item can be cause for intercession for deeper sufferings and privations of others. The Gospel tells us that "the Spirit drove him out into the desert." In other words, God wants us to be here. What feels uncomfortable is actually part of our spiritual journey. To be stretched, to be challenged, to confront our own areas of weakness - these things are essential in our walk with God. This Lent, will you go to the desert?

## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Sat Evening: 7pm	Teresa Burke (1stA), Mary Murphy (A),
Sun: 9.30am	Catherine Barton (living), John Roe (A),
Sun: 11.30am	Nellie McCarthy (A) & Husband Joe, Bridget McKenna (A), & husband Joe, Jimmy James (A), Hannah Hanlon (A),
Mon: 9.30am	Mass of Intentions (Phyllis),
Tues: 9.30am	Paul Carolan (living),
Wed: 9.30am	Mass of Intentions (family)
Thurs: 9.30am	Frank & Nellie Callery (A),
Fri: 9.30am	Christopher & Mary O' Brien (A),



We Welcome to our Christian Community these Children as they were baptised in February and we congratulate their parents and friends.

Riley James McGuinness  
Ava –May Rose Reilly  
Brook Grace Murphy

#### 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

The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas Period and will re-open on Monday, 8th January 2018. If you require anything in the office during this time please call the number above and we will be happy to assist.

**Website:** [www.bonnybrookparish.ie](http://www.bonnybrookparish.ie)

**Facebook:** Bonnybrook Parish.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** [chairperson@bonnybrookparish.ie](mailto: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 ( A months Notice must be given)

Second Saturday of each month at 12.00pm

Fourth Sunday of each month at 12.30pm



### COLLECTIONS FOR 11TH FEBRUARY 2018

COMMON FUND €383

SHARE €330

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

### THE ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR ACCORD

will take place this weekend (18th Feb).

This will replace the SHARE Collection.



### LIVE STREAMING & INVISIBLE PARISHIONERS

Yes Folks, people think you are invisible on live streaming. Most of our parishioners sit at the back or the side of the church. When people look in on the live streaming it appears that no one is in the Church. Our live streaming is the most popular reason the people visit our website and we are delighted that they enjoy it. However, they also think that nobody comes to church in Bonnybrook as they can not see anyone in the seats. Maybe you might consider sitting nearer to the altar and those who watch in will know that our parishioners are really here. Just a thought!

### THE LENT READINGS 2018

FOR PRAYER & PREACHING 6 Wednesday's in Lent  
in St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral

Each week at 11:15-12:30 by Kieran O'Mahony, OSA  
Mass at 10.30am or after at 12.45pm each week.

### A JOURNEY WITH THE DESERT FATHERS AND MOTHERS

In the Monastery of St. Alphonsus, Iona Road.

**On Monday, 19th February 2018 at 8pm.**

Music led by the Dublin Diocesan Music Group.  
More information at [www.rednuns.com](http://www.rednuns.com)

### LENTEN EVENINGS IN OUR LADY OF MERCY, ARTANE

Mondays from 7.30-8.45pm. Feb 19th: Praying in Lent – Donal Neary SJ. Introduction to various ways of making this Lent a Prayer Lent. Fr Donal is editor of The Messenger and helps in the parish. Feb 26th: Amoris Laetitia – Fr Alex Stenson. The Letter of the Pope (The Joy of Love) raises questions about the Church's welcoming of different relationships. The talk will deal with these questions, particularly about divorce, remarriage and the Sacraments. Fr Alex was formerly PP of Killester and now helps in Artane. March 5th: The Pope is Coming – Ronan Barry. Let's see what we hope for with the visit of the Pope to Ireland. Ronan Barry is a school chaplain, and is married with three children. Donation

**THE CLONTARF PLAYERS** have confirmed the Play they will do this year will be "**Heaven Scent**". They will perform this play on **Friday, 23rd March 2018 at 8pm** in our Church. We look forward once again to being host to the Clontarf Players.

### World Meeting of Families - Dates for your Diaries.

#### The Joy of Love - Parish Conversations

Three Meetings will be held in our Cluster of Parish.

1. Wednesday, 21st Feb 2018 in **Bonnybrook** Church at 7pm
2. Wednesday, 7th March 2018 in **Priorswood** Church at 7pm
3. Wednesday, 21st March 2018 in **Darndale** Church at 7pm

The above meetings are open to parishioners in each parish as we gather 'together' to explore the significance of this important meeting for all our families. We hope you will join us.

## WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

### QUESTION:

At times, temptation seems so powerful that it is almost impossible to resist. How can I be stronger in my resolve to avoid sin and temptation?

### ANSWER:

Temptation is powerful because it appeals to our human weakness and our desire for power, wealth, control, or personal satisfaction. Evil disguises itself as something good and we are enticed to make a choice. Our will is weakened each time we give in to something for selfish reasons, especially things we do not wish to choose. It is not something we can totally avoid, because temptation is not something we create or sometimes recognize, but rather it comes from evil. But it would be a mistake to think of temptation only in terms of things that are really sinful. Temptation gains its strength by wearing down our will to choose good. If we fail in the small choices, we are all the more likely to fail in the bigger ones.

Herein lies the wisdom of the Church in encouraging us to make small sacrifices and to do Lenten penance. In these practices of self-denial, we strengthen our will to choose, our ability to recognize good, and our desire to avoid evil. The balance of power shifts from evil to good, from temptation to resistance. We then overcome evil in the small struggles of daily life and are more attuned to the prompting our conscience to choose good.

## LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK.

Repent and believe in the gospel! This is the message that is found on Jesus' lips after forty days in the desert. As the forty days of Lent come before us, we are asked to create a desert experience in our lives so that we can learn anew the ways of God. Our daily cares and concerns can distract us from truth and cause us to become absorbed with the world and secular priorities. Lent is an opportunity to free ourselves from illusion and focus us on what really matters. In doing so, we open up new possibilities for our relationship with God, others, our world, and ourselves.

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