

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street

Clergy: Mgr. Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr David Lucuy
Fr Larry Milby

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Parish Office opening times: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am -2.00pm



THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5th November 2017

The Hypocrisy Trap

It's easy to be religious, but it's not easy to be Christian. It's easy to go to church, carry a bible and look prayerful, but it's not always easy to put faith into action. Even when we do put our faith into action it's hard not to want people to notice how good we are being.

Yet again the Pharisees are in Jesus' bad books. "... Do whatever they teach," Jesus advises, "but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they preach." Jesus accuses the religious leaders of hypocrisy. "They tie up heavy burdens hard to bear and lay them on the shoulders of others." "They do all their deeds to be seen by others." Jesus is telling us that if we start placing more emphasis on outer conduct rather than on inner character we are hypocrites. We are hypocrites if we do good deeds not for the love of others but for love of the spotlight.

None of us set out to be hypocrites, so perhaps we shouldn't be quite so harsh on the Pharisees. Hypocrisy is a very easy trap to fall into. We are constantly dishing out advice as parents, as teachers, as counsellors and as best friendsadvice we are often guilty of not following ourselves. Hypocrisy is a very human failing. We want to be one thing but end up being another. Then instead of owning up to our weaknesses we pretend to be something that we're not and then want praise and admiration into the bargain! Today Jesus gives us an all-important strategy for avoiding the hypocrisy trap. Stay humble! If we can develop a genuine motivation to look to the interests of others we are less likely to crave personal glory.



PARISH NEWS

NOVEMBER, MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS: Sheets are available at the back of church for you to write the names of those of your loved ones who have died. These sheets will be placed in the Book of Remembrance placed in front of the altar and Mass will be celebrated for those named in the book during the month of November.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: The next course for parents wishing to have their infants baptised will take place on Tuesdays 7th & 14th November at 7.00pm in St John the Evangelist Church, Duncan Terrace, Angel. You should attend both sessions please.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE AND BAZAAR: Tickets for our Christmas Raffle are now available. We urge you please to take books of tickets to sell to friends, family and colleagues. You can sign these out after Mass and bring in the returns as soon as possible. Prizes include £50.00 cash and a Christmas hamper. Each ticket is £1.00. Tickets are packaged in books of five. We are awaiting responses about other prizes. If you are willing to request prizes from a store or business, please take a letter from Father Séamus with you. (on table by organ). Please start bringing suitable raffle and tombola prizes (especially bottles!) and good used items for resale. If you need help bring items to church, contact John on 07914667780 or email jdurant@yahoo.co.uk. He can pick up articles on Friday afternoons or Saturdays around 11:00 a.m. Today after the 11:00 Mass there is a meeting for all who are willing to help on the day.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Next Sunday, 12 November at 9:45 is the first class for the children. Please pick up your children at 10:45 and accompany them to the 11:00 Mass. There is a Parents meeting here on the 16th November.

REAL ADVENT CALENDARS: If you wish to order one, please pick up an order form at the front of church and return it with £4.00 by the 12 November (next weekend).

CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND CRAFT: 11 – 12 November is the next session for this group. Children come to the hall promptly at 2:00 on Saturday and finish at 4:00 p.m. in church. If any still wish to join, there are parent forms in the stand by the door.

FINANCE COMMITTEE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY: On Tuesday, 14 November at 7:00 p.m. there is a Finance Committee Meeting to examine Health and Safety issues. If there is someone with experience in health and safety who is willing to assist in reviewing H&S in the parish, please come along to the meeting.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes £388.37 loose plate £236.12 CAFOD £336.21
Thank you for your generosity.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Raymond Willoughby, Michael Moran & Betty Vos (Robin's mother) **who died recently and for all those whose anniversaries are about this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.**

HEALING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: especially Doreen Clayton, Tom Hunt, Sophia O'Donnell, Monica Smith (O'Leary), Cassie Robinson, Tessa Charlton, Michael Hehir, Emmanuel Tala, Mary Wallace, Nina & Jocelyn Hillgarth, Filomena Barbo, Colin Harris, Peggy Walsh, Nora Moran, Maria Carrano, May Cullen., Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach, Albert Boateng, Anne & Thomas Griffin, Freddie Mudd, Margaret Cross, Catherine Barnes, Ellen Hunt & Hazel Hoyte.

MASSES THIS WEEK:

DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 5 th November	THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p.149)</i>	8.30am 11.00am	Edward & Margaret Fallon RIP Linda Sciortino RIP (Anniv.)
Monday 6 th November	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Holy Souls
Tuesday 7 th November	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 8 th Nov.	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Dena Adams RIP
Saturday 11 th Nov.	<i>St Martin of Tours</i>	10.30am	Holy Souls
Sunday 12 th November	THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p.152)</i>	8.30am 11.00am	Bridie Rynne RIP All our Parishioners Living & Dead

Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 10.30am, Sunday 8.30am & 11.00am

Confessions: Sunday 8am-8.20am: 10.30am – 10.50am

Weekday Mass at St John the Evangelist Monday - Friday at 10.00am – All welcome

Confessions at St John's on Saturday 10.30-11.15am and 5.15-5.45pm