

Our spiritual, sacramental and pastoral life in St. Brendan's.

Response to the Psalm: "This poor man called; the Lord has heard him."

The hymn numbers for Mass are displayed on the two Boards. Please join the community in participating fully in singing the hymns chosen for today and each Sunday.

Living the Extraordinary Mission:

- **Pope Francis has called on all Catholics** to renew their commitment to bring the Gospel to those who do not know Jesus Christ. *We are called to respond in this parish.*
- **Bishop Toal has directed that in July and August 2020** there will be one Mass on Sunday in this parish.
- **On Thursday Fr. Ness will attend a meeting** arranged by the bishop with the priests of our Deanery - [the Central Deanery with Fr. Gerry Bogan as Dean]. **Fr. Ness will ask the bishop at this meeting** to reconsider this direction in the light of *the Mission* given to him to work with the parishioners to build up the Sunday worshipping community in St. Brendan's for the spiritual benefit of all families here.
- **The two Masses here on a Sunday are quite distinct.** It will be a deep regret and will delay if not obstruct our fulfilling together the Mission the bishop has given to us should we dispense with one of the two celebrations of Mass. Yet, we will respect and obey his decision.
- **Fr. Ness wants all parishioners to feel welcome**, to know that there no favourite families and no favourite people and that all information about the parish is shared with everyone at the earliest possible time. **Everyone is invited to feel that they belong here and that they can contribute in very many ways to the life of the community.** Many people do contribute but that list is never closed.
- **Fr. Brown has asked** that we publish verbatim his letter - so here it is: THANK YOU: I would like to express my sincere thanks for the beautiful Mass Card and very generous gift presented to me in your Church Hall last Friday - [18th October]. Your prayers and generosity are greatly appreciated. It was wonderful to meet up with so many of you at what was a most enjoyable evening. Holy Mass will be offered [by me] for your intentions. God bless you. **Fr. Brown.**
- **All Families** have been invited to take a full and committed part in the Sacramental preparation offered for their children each week. *Not all families have responded.* This is a great concern to Fr. Ness in his ministry among us. **Please pray that by the power of Jesus this response will be perfected here.**
- **It is said the Church should** change from a "Conveyor belt" approach to the sacramental preparation of children and young people. We look for participation and a sense of genuine commitment from families. **On page 3 we promote how we will renew** our engagement with all families before Christmas Day.
- **Bishop Toal wishes to see** all preparation for **Sacraments** improved throughout the Diocese. We try to show to all the families who celebrate Sacraments in this parish the excitement of the encounter with Jesus which we experience and try to live out in this community. **"We don't look at the Sacraments, especially Mass on Sunday as an obligation to be fulfilled" but an intimate joy to be encountered among life-long friends - words said by John and Patricia Milligan when they received a special blessing last Wednesday morning to celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary.**
- **The two Masses celebrated here each Sunday** are central to how we fulfil our mission **among the many families** of St. Brendan's Parish. Last Sunday at the 4.30 Mass Fr. Ness invited anyone who didn't want to be at Mass to leave because Jesus wouldn't want to force himself on anyone. No one left. Today we welcome the Holy Ghost Fathers - the Spiritans - once again to provide for the parish spiritually in FR. Ness' absence with his son's family. His next absence is from 18th to 22nd November to visit his daughter and her family before Christmas.
- **Soon we will end this Liturgical Year.** Week after week the Readings until 18th December will focus on the end times. Please pay heed to **God's Word about the one thing** which Jesus warns Martha is needed in our life. **Please listen attentively to these Readings and respond, led by God's Holy Spirit.**

PARISH AND PARISHIONERS.

On Tuesday: Fr. Ness will be at OLHS all day. There will be a Liturgy of the Word in the parish with distribution of Holy Communion in accordance with our model now well set in place. Booklets are available for this liturgy so that all can participate fully.

Each Wednesday at Mass in our Hall we celebrate the combination of **the sacred and the human** by sharing tea and coffee and hospitality immediately after Mass. This also brings an appreciated flow of funds which helps to provide for the social needs of the parish. It is the largest attendance at Mass midweek in this parish. **The combination of the sacred and the human** speaks of the presence of God in a very real and sacred way among us here, as his people.

This Friday is the Solemn Feast of All Saints and a Holyday of Obligation: the school children will be brought to morning Mass by Mrs. Oates and Fr. Ness will celebrate two Masses in OLHS for that community. The Parish community Mass will be at 9.30AM - led by the children - and also at 7pm.

This Saturday is All Souls Day: we will celebrate Mass at 9.30 for all those dear to us in this parish who have died. **We will celebrate this Mass on Saturday in the main part of the church and central altar, hoping for many families to be present to offer prayers for loved ones who have died over years.**

The November Lists are available for families to record the names of those whom they wish remembered in the prayer intentions included by Fr. Ness at all the Masses he will celebrate this month.

On Sunday we will celebrate the baptism of the Clarke family's twin infants - Ruby and Freddie. Later in the month we will celebrate the baptism of two other children from our community and thereafter, other than for a pressing need, no baptisms will be celebrated until after Christmas Day.

Last Tuesday evening the Caritas students of St Aidan's High School and Our Lady's High School organised and led Mass in St. Patrick's church to celebrate the feast day of Pope St John Paul II. Fr. Hamilton presided. He has been appointed assistant chaplain at St. Aiden's HS, serving there with Fr. O'Connor.

Wednesday evening Faith development at 7pm: Fr. Ness will resume the inter active teaching of the Gospels with the Gospel of Luke and next week with the magnificent Gospel of John. The topics stand alone and so anyone interested can come to the church at 7pm in any week and still take a full part.

The Pope has set Sunday 26th January as a special day at Mass for all priests to bring to the attention of the congregations throughout the world that **The Church desperately needs/wants to improve the level of knowledge people have of their faith and especially of Sacred Scripture.**

- **The Children's Liturgy programme** will be adapted from 1st December to help the children focus on Advent and the real story of Christmas and the birth of Jesus. All families are invited to take part but the children in P3 and P4 who have enrolled for the Sacraments in 2020 will receive a special card to let their parents or carers chart their participation each Sunday. Fr. Ness will meet with the families in January to receive back the completed cards and to plan for the Big Hug and the Faith Friends programmes which will start immediately.
- We will give out at **the Children's Liturgy, the Parish's Advent Book for Children plus either the My Day by Day Advent booklet for Infants or the Junior booklet for older children.**
- **We will open a parish spiritual library in 2020** paid for from outwith the Parish and located in the Children's Liturgy Room. We need to urgently concentrate on deepening the spiritual formation of parishioners both young and old.
- **In honour of Our Lady, the Rosary** has been recited at the beginning of the Holy Hour at 7pm each Thursday followed by silent prayer and Benediction on each Thursday this month.
- **St. Margaret's Church of Scotland parish:** Fr. Ness agreed with **our fellow Christians** to join with them at 2pm on Sunday 24th November to celebrate the Feasts of St. Margaret and St. Andrew. They will join us at 6pm on 15th December in a Christmas Carol Service.
- **To be kept up to date** please fill in the form available from Pass keepers which asks only your family name and mobile number for text messages to be sent to you.

PRAYER INTENTION REQUESTS FROM PARISHIONERS

those whose Anniversary or Month Mind remembrance occurs about now: Gerard Lynch.
and those who have died recently: Megan Brannan [24] Motherwell;

other family members named for remembrance in prayer today will be shown here next week.

In the Stall: Pope Francis' *A-Z Living for Christ* and the *My Day by Day* booklets for November; the *Magnificat* booklet is also available, as is the *Sacred Heart Messenger* booklet which contains very good articles on faith, prayer and practice, with something suitable for all ages. *Please give thought and find time to deepen your knowledge of our faith and so help it to grow, - this is so necessary in the Church of today.*

Looking forward: Dates for November and December:

Next Sunday Hallowe'en Party in our Hall starting immediately after Mass. You can come ready in fancy dress to Mass and this party will be the November First Sunday of the month celebration and so parents can stay and watch and share conversation and hospitality.

Next Sunday also is the Annual Mass Attendance Census for Motherwell Diocese.

10th November extended preparation for the children to lead morning Mass on 17th November. All children but especially all in P3 and P4 preparing for Sacraments are invited and expected to take part.

17th November - Mass led by the children in Liturgy of the Word and in music. All children in P3 and P4 preparing for Sacraments are invited and expected to take part. **ALSO** - World *Day of the Poor*.

23rd November - SATURDAY at 10AM - the *Annual Memorial Mass*. Please give names to Fr. Ness of family members to be included who have died this year even if the funeral was celebrated outwith this parish. *Saturday morning rather than Thursday evening for this Mass is the preferred option of many parishioners.*

24th November - Feast of Christ the King and the last day of the Church's year **also Education Sunday** with participation from OLHS staff and students.

1st December - **First** Sunday in Advent and New Year's Day of the Church. Blessing of the Advent candles and wreath and blessing and sprinkling of the Advent Water and distribution of Advent Calendars and resources.

8th December - **Solemn** Feast of the Immaculate Conception - extended preparation for the children to lead morning Mass on 15th December. All children but especially all in P3 and P4 preparing for Sacraments are invited and expected to take part

15th December - Mass led by the children in Liturgy of the Word and in music. All children in P3 and P4 preparing for Sacraments are invited and expected to take part **ALSO at 6PM** Christmas Carol Service in St. Brendan's jointly with the congregation from St. Margaret's Church of Scotland.

18th December - **beginning of the Octave of Christmas and permitted singing of *Come O Divine Messiah* and on 22nd December a Christmas Party for the children starting immediately after morning Mass.**

Other matters of importance

Monday Club meets in our Hall from 1.30 to 4pm. It is open to all and provides musical entertainment, raffle and bingo games with fundraising for worthwhile causes as recently for McMillan Nurses. This brought support and fellowship with the wider community in Muirhouse, all to great effect for the Charity. Deo Gratias.

Netherton Court Care Home: in the absence of Fr. Ness yesterday, Elspeth, Margaret and Elizabeth led this liturgy with the residents in the model he has established, and they have witnessed. The absence of a priest must not mean the cancellation of these important celebrations in our parish. ***Do you agree that this is very important about St. Brendan's? Will you do something to assist in this provision in our parish?***

Food Hygiene training has been arranged for 11AM on Wednesday 13th November in the Hall immediately after the Morning Coffee and Tea has been served. Increased use of the Hall by the Parish and others makes it prudent that we obtain the Certificate of Training. Please let Pauline Douglas know so that a place can be reserved on the course for you. The same training will be offered separately for the Sunday Hospitality Group.

St. Brendan's the Navigator Parish

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30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 27th October 2019.

Living the Extraordinary Mission Month - an initiative of Pope Francis.

Today on leaving the church each family is asked to take and read the double-sided Prayer leaflet on *All Saints Day* and *All Souls Day* which will be distributed. Our focus has turned to deepening the spiritual life of each parishioner and to offer you resources to help you do this. All families are asked to make themselves aware of and to act upon the content of the leaflet.

Mass times: Sunday at 10.30AM [with Children's Liturgy] and at 4.30PM and: Monday to Saturday at 9.30AM.

Holy Hour: at 7pm on Thursday with the final October Devotions - Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, closing with Salve Regina [sung]