

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

**Response to the Psalm: “O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.”**

***The hymn numbers for Mass are displayed on the two Hymn Boards, please join in the singing at both Masses today.***

***The Entrance Hymn is printed on the insert to today’s bulletin - Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?***

***Today we welcome Sam Kidd who is a sixth year student at OLHS. Sam will take part in various forms of ministry in the Parish under the Caritas Award Scheme. He plays guitar in the School Band and is studying Advanced Higher Music in this instrument. We hope that he will unite on guitar with Jamie and lead us in hymns while Gordon is on holiday and also develop hymns with the children as part of the Children’s Liturgy.***

**Sound bites for our encouragement and inspiration.**

***We congratulate Daniel Kennedy our newly appointed Eucharistic Minister and his fiancée Samantha who were both at Mass here last Sunday morning, on their engagement and on setting the date for their wedding here.***

***Theresa Ledwith has agreed to serve the morning Mass community as a Eucharistic Minister. This is good news for Theresa has been a member of the community for a very long time and as she put it “worked in the chapel house but never thought myself worthy of serving in the sacred ministries.” The only question that Peter was asked by Jesus was: “do you love me?” and not “are you worthy?”***

***Sean and Alison came last Sunday with their son Daniel Ross Kearney to meet with Fr. Ness to begin the preparation for baptism. On Monday Celine and John Paul Clarke came to ask for baptism of their twin children, Ruby Celine and Freddie Thomas John Clarke. Yesterday Rio George Walker was baptized. Very sadly the baptism of Leo Thomas Griffen also scheduled for yesterday had to be postponed to another day. We offer our sympathy and prayers to his mum and dad, Emma Louise and Christopher in these circumstances. One parishioner has offered to help Fr. Ness in meeting the families and explaining what it means to her to be part of our faith community in St. Brendan’s.***

***If you also want to be kept up to date with all that’s going on or is planned, please complete the form we offer to all. If you feel you belong here, we ask only your family name, whether you have children or young people at either school. We also ask for your mobile number for text messaging to you. The pass keepers have the forms to give out and receive back.***

**The Holy Ghost [Spiritans] Fathers: will b bb look after the parish from Wednesday of this week for nine days - until the following Friday. They will also celebrate Mass in OLHS on Friday and Tuesday during this period. Fr. Pat Gaffney isn’t well enough to carry out this supply and so Fr. John will take his place. Any family who needs the assistance of the priest, such as for a funeral, are asked to come to meet with Fr. John after morning Mass to make the necessary arrangements.**

**Fr. Krzysztof has asked that we promote the Autumn Fair which will take place in Shieldmuir Parochial Hall next Saturday - 14<sup>th</sup> September from 1pm. We are happy to do this.**

**The pupils of St. Brendan’s PS: last week Fr. Ness visited the children in P1, P1/2, P3, P4 and P6 classes and was very happy to be welcomed there. He engaged in open conversation and question and answer sessions with them which proved a costly business. Among many answers to hard questions for any age group was one given by Ailah Paterson. *Grateful thanks are offered to all parishioners who give a generous welcome and equally generous support to the children.***

**PARISH AND PARISHIONERS**

Mass without music or hymns will be celebrated on Monday of each week as Fr. Ness is now committed each Tuesday to OLHS.

Last Tuesday the Liturgy of the Word with distribution of Holy Communion was presented by several parishioners in the absence of a priest. This level of participation by lay persons in providing this liturgy is truly evidence of a mature worshipping community in St. Brendan’s.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL WHO FEEL THEY BELONG TO THIS PARISH.**

- Fr. Ness will meet with Mr. Cardle at OLHS to plan how best to fulfill the instructions of the bishop that chaplains should commit at least 12 to 14 hours each week to the Secondary School in their charge and should involve themselves as fully as possible in all aspects of its life. Bishop Toal repeated this at the Patronal Feast Day Mass last Friday in OLHS. Fr. Ness still wishes to give the help which the children of the Primary School need from the priest of the parish. He has discussed with Mrs Oates how this can be done. She wishes to preserve the very close relationship built up between the parish priest and the school. This will need cooperation from the whole parish community.
- 26 children from P6 in St. Brendan’s Primary School have enrolled this month for the Pope Francis Award, which spans two years. It is the primary school equivalent to the Caritas Award Scheme for sixth year students. On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September both Masses in the Parish will mark this enrolment and prayers will be offered to encourage the children to be fully engaged in the parish and with parishioners.
- Fr. Ness’s son and daughter in law are present with Rebecca, their daughter at morning Mass today. They have asked him to make time for them over the next two months. They are real people with real hopes and needs. They know that during Advent and over Christmas and into 2020 they will not be able to see him because of his ministry here and in the schools. Responding as a father to them and to his daughter and her family will mean he will be absent from the parish in late October and early November.
- On Tuesday Fr. Ness will leave on a Retreat lasting until 19<sup>th</sup> September. It will be held in the Jesuit Retreat Centre in Clontarff, Dublin. It is a time of complete silence when there is no contact with the outside world, other than in an emergency. His mobile ‘phone is always open to his children. It is a period for thinking back over the last year from the 2018 August Retreat and especially for thinking about ministry in this parish since 1<sup>st</sup> February this year. He will be guided each day by a Spiritual Director who may be a lay person. On 19<sup>th</sup> September he will end this Retreat with great reluctance.
- Today, before he leaves, Fr. Ness will meet parents with children at St. Brendan’s PS to describe the spiritual preparation of their children for the Sacraments of the Church. This parish community will play a large part in this preparation process. Leaders from the Children’s Liturgy Team will be with Fr. Ness today. **Parents with children in P1, P3 and P4 have a special interest in this meeting in the church at 2pm today but all parents are very welcome.**

**Request to celebrate First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion:** families who have not yet obtained and completed a form of Request for their child should obtain this at today’s meeting in the church from the Children’s Liturgy Team. Sixteen [First Reconciliation] and twenty [First Holy Communion] forms have been given out so far. Mrs. Oates believes that the number of families who wish their children to celebrate these Sacraments far exceeds these numbers.

### **PRAYER INTENTION REQUESTS FROM PARISHIONERS**

**those whose Anniversary or Month Mind remembrance occurs about now:** Gerard McLaughlin; Betty Ford; Margaret Rose Kane; Alice Ledwith; John McConnell.

**and those who have died recently:** Tom Barr; Maureen Main; Michael Fox; Ester McGarrity;

**In the Stall:** in addition to *A-Z Living for Christ* cost [£2.50] and the **My Day by Day** booklets for **September, there are 20 complimentary copies** of the *Magnificat booklet* for the month of September. It is a marvelous spiritual publication, a stage beyond *My Day by Day*. Please take the complimentary copy as a great resource for private prayer.

### **Looking back and looking forward:**

**Carfin Grotto:** Fr. McGachey was admitted to WGH yesterday and will remain there for a few days for investigations to be conducted. **We were to celebrate Mass in the Glass Chapel tomorrow and lead Evening Prayer, but these have both been cancelled because of this illness of Fr. McGachey.**

Fr. Stephen Reilly has celebrated Mass this weekend in place of Fr. McGachey.

*Souvenir books recording the visit of the Relics of St. Therese to Scotland are available at our Stall [£5].*

*The proceeds from the books will help meet the expense of bringing the relics to Scotland.*

### **The Children's Liturgy:**

***Participation at Mass on Sunday by families with children of school age:*** we want every Mass in this parish to be a welcome for every person. Many families recognize the goodness of this in their spiritual life. They have written to Fr. Ness to say this. We must try to bring all the families within our parish into a sense of encounter with Jesus Christ which Roman Catholics celebrate best of all at Sunday Mass.

**Something for all children of the Parish:** Hallowe'en Party in our Hall on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November immediately after Mass. You can come in fancy dress to Mass that morning. **Keep the date free, children.** There is no charge for this nor for the Christmas Party planned for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

**The other side of the spectrum of life:** Fr. Ness led a short liturgy at Netherton Court Care Home last Saturday and again yesterday. He then distributed Holy Communion. Elspeth and Margaret helped to assemble and care for the residents who attended on both days. He will welcome help each Saturday pm from anyone who feels able to offer this. Fr. Ness will celebrate Mass there at 2.15 on the first Monday of each month and will welcome the assistance or even just the presence of parishioners at this Mass. **We will set a date early in October for a Mass for the Sick and Housebound to which all will be welcome for Holy Anointing.**

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults plus ongoing religious formation:** begins on 25<sup>th</sup> **September** and each Wednesday evening from 7.30 until 9pm to learn more about Catholicism in faith and practice, Scripture and church history. **Please inform Fr. Ness if you wish or anyone in your family wishes to enter the RCIA programme leading into 2020.** The Inquiry evening is 25<sup>th</sup> **September.**

**Parish Web site:** we will open our web site shortly. If you have items on parish history to be posted on this site, please lend it to Fr Ness or email scanned copies to him at ojness@hotmail.com.

### **St. Brendan's the Navigator Parish**

**51 Barons Road Motherwell. ML1 2NB.**

**[01698] 264448**

**Twitter: stbrendanrcdom.  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/saintbrenrc](http://www.facebook.com/saintbrenrc)**



***Today a second collection will be taken up after Holy Communion. This collection is for Peter's Pence. It was postponed until today from the beginning of July to allow for the holiday period. Next Sunday a second collection will be taken up to help the Diocese meet the training costs for seminarians who are in formation either at the Scots College in Rome or at Oscott Seminary in Birmingham.***

**Twenty third Sunday in the Ordinary Season – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2019.**

**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 each week, ending with Evening Prayer.**