

Parish of Hannahstown - St Joseph's & St Peter's
West Belfast Pastoral Community
10th February 2019 – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Imagine you were Peter that day on the shores of the Lake of Gennesaret. He was probably exhausted after fishing all night and fed up that he and his companions had not caught any fish despite all their efforts. Peter had begun to wash the nets in preparation for the next night's work, silently hoping that it would be more successful. Then Jesus appears on the scene, gets into Peter's boat and asks to sail out a little from the shore. Perhaps Peter had planned to go home and get some rest before another night's fishing. He may have been irritated by Jesus' request but said nothing.

Then, having taught the crowds, Jesus asks Peter to go fishing again. What was Peter's reaction? A brief moment of honest frustration followed by agreement to the request, even though he thought it was a pointless exercise. He decides to give it a chance because Jesus asked him. He put his trust in Jesus, and what a reward he received in return! Peter experienced the power and greatness of the Lord in a personal and intense way. His relationship with Jesus changed dramatically. Confronted by the enormity of what had just happened and what he saw as his own inadequacies, he tells Jesus he is not worthy to be his follower; but Jesus reassures and empowers him with those wonderful words: "Do not be afraid." At that decisive moment, he and the others left everything behind and followed him.

There are times in our lives when things get on top of us, when things don't go according to plan despite our best efforts. There are times when, like Peter, we can get frustrated, disillusioned and overwhelmed by all that life throws at us. When we are down in ourselves, feeling burnt-out, upset, annoyed by the circumstances sometimes outside our control, we should take comfort in Christ's reassuring advice, "Do not be afraid." He is walking alongside us on our journey. We should put our trust in Him, reach out to Him in prayer, and experience a God who is very close to us, if we allow him into our lives. Are we brave enough to take that risk and see where it leads us?

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PRAYER INTENTIONS:

We extend our sympathies to the families of those who died recently and those whose month's mind and anniversary occur at this time.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Gavin Mawhinney RIP

ANNIVERSARIES: Eileen O'Hara, Frankie O'Hara, Mary Martin Armstrong, Susan Armstrong, Arthur Mulholland, Carrie Johnston, Tony Edwards, Carmella & Joseph DeLellis, Rose Douglas, Marion DeLellis, Catherine & John Larkin RIP

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAL: Michael Campbell RIP

16th/17th	6.00pm (Vigil)	10.00am	11.30am
FEBRUARY	St Joseph's	St Peter's	St Joseph's
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Siobhan Marken Peggy Kerr	Paul Murray	Rita Goldsmith Seamus Armstrong
MINISTER OF THE WORD	Marie Gough	Patricia O'Hagan	Rachel Connolly

TOCCATA IS IN BELFAST – Saturday 23rd February 2019 at 8.00pm at Christ the Redeemer Church, Belfast. The internationally acclaimed – Toccata Musical Productions was founded in 2005 to help the Tsunami victims. Living up to the title “cultural Ambassadors of UK”, Toccata has enthralled music lovers with the world class productions. Performing music from genres like gospel, country, pop, rock and opera, it has touched lives in over 15 countries by raising funds through music concerts. Toccata was awarded the Golden Rule Award” by the United Nations, for its services to humanity. www.toccatamusicalproductions.com. Tickets cost £10.00, contact 02890 309011.

CANDLELIGHT ROSARY PROCESSION – Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. There will be a candlelight rosary procession to The Grotto, St. Mary's Church, Chapel Lane, Belfast on Monday 11th February, at 8pm to pray for the sick on this feast and Word Day of the Sick. The procession commences at the same time as the torchlight procession to the Grotto in Lourdes. All welcome. Procession candles available from 7.45pm

LAMH DHEARG GAC – Coaching sessions have resumed. If you would like your children to get involved in Gaelic Games contact the relevant coach listed below and they will let you know the times and venues for each code and age group.

<p>HURLING</p> <p>5-8 year olds Gavin Quinn 07900694053</p> <p>Under 9's Sean McLaren 07769 180751</p>	<p>CAMOGIE</p> <p>5-8 year olds Fionnuala Crilly 07802566622</p> <p>U9 & U10 Fionnuala Crilly</p>	<p>FUNDAMENTALS</p> <p>Sat mornings 10.30am in Hannahstown Hall (beside church)</p> <p>Stevie Bunting 07568 592421</p>
<p>FOOTBALL</p> <p>5-8 year olds Stevie Bunting 07568 592421</p> <p>U9 & U10 Peter Martin McGuigan 07790 557096</p>	<p>GIRLS FOOTBALL</p> <p>5-8 year olds Grainne Herron 07780 230354</p> <p>U9 & U10 Grainne Herron</p>	<p>HANDBALL (also played)</p> <p>If your child is at Ballymacward PS, speak to club/school representatives Jenny Annett 07812118347 or Christine Fenton 07936002767</p>

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE – The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Beginning Experience is offering “a weekend away for a lifetime of change” at Drumalis, Larne, Friday 22nd – Sunday 24th February 2019. To find out more, contact Phil: 02890 207645 or Marie 07896119669. Support group continues Wednesday evenings at 8pm in St Bride’s Hall, Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast.

ANAM CARA BELFAST – The organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Bereavement Information Evening Wednesday 13th February at 7.20pm in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Milltown Road, Belfast BT8 7XP. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. As Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers for teas, coffees, etc, please RSVP to info:anamcara.ie before Tuesday 12th February or call 02895 213120.