

Parish of Hannahstown - St Joseph's & St Peter's Baptism of the Lord – 10th January 2021

Reflection for the Baptism of the Lord

In all the gospels the baptism of Jesus marks the beginning of his public ministry and the focus is on Jesus' identity as he sets out to proclaim the kingdom of God. In Mark's account of the event it is clear that what takes place is for Jesus' sake, as we are told it is he (and not the crowds) who sees the Spirit descend in form of the dove and the voice from heaven is addressed to as it proclaims: 'You are my beloved Son.' The evangelist would have us understand that, as Jesus sets out on his mission, he does with a sense of who he is before God. It is precisely this that allows him to be faithful to his task to the very end. Today's feast is an invitation to reflect on our own baptism. We too have been baptised with the Holy Spirit, the same Spirit that empowered Jesus to proclaim the kingdom and to endure the sufferings that lay before him. In our baptism the Spirit proclaims to each of us that we are God's beloved and challenges us to be true to ourselves and to our God as we try to live according to the values of the kingdom that Jesus preached.



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THE PARISH OF HANNAHSTOWN WELCOMES INTO THEIR FAITH COMMUNITY – GRACE MARY DORNAN WHO WAS BAPTISED IN THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

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: Sadie Mackle RIP

ANNIVERSARIES: Margaret Campbell and her son Jim, Mary Maguire, Kathryn Middleton, Carol Quinn, Liam Quinn, Deirdre Sinclair RIP

MASS TIMES: St Joseph's Church – Monday, Wednesday & Friday @ 9.15am. Vigil Mass Saturday @ 6pm. Sunday @ 11.30am. St Peter's Church – Tuesday @ 9.15am & Sunday @ 10am.

LOCKDOWN

Suspension of Public Mass from midnight Thursday 7th January until Saturday 6th February 2021

All the Masses from St. Joseph's Church, Hannahstown and St. Peter's Church, The Rock, will continued to be streamed on the webcam.

These can be viewed on-line:

St. Joseph's Church - www.churchmedia.tv/camera/st-josephs-church

St. Peter's Church - www.churchmedia.tv/camera/st-peters-church-2

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN THE PARISH – Eucharistic Adoration has been suspended until further notice.

WEEKLY OFFERING COLLECTION: £862.50

MONTHLY OFFERING COLLECTION: £605.30

I would like to express my gratitude for your generosity and continued support of the Parish during these difficult times. It's much appreciated

PRAYING THE MASS VIA TECHNOLOGY – During this period of lockdown and with the suspension of Public Masses many parishioners will be joining in via the live broadcasts of Sunday and weekday Mass. If you are going to participate this way I would like to make these suggestions so as to help you pray the Mass:

- Dress as you would for Mass.
- Have your technology ready and be on time.
- Turn off any other form of technology (eg. phones/television) that might distract you during the Mass.
- If possible, join in the Mass as a family and have a member light a candle before Mass begins, perhaps beside a cross or another sacred image.
- Share in the responses, prayers, and gestures of the Mass. Missalette is available on the Parish website.
- Stand for the Gospel and the Our Father; kneel as appropriate if you can.
- At the time of Holy Communion, make an act of spiritual communion (see prayer below).
- And finally, when Mass is ended go in peace from this prayer to live what you have prayed.



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were
already there and unite myself
wholly to You. Never permit me
to be separated from You.

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE - CATHOLIC ENGAGED

ENCOUNTER. A 'Zoom' online Marriage Preparation course is planned for 27-28 March 2021. This 2-day course is a positive way of preparing for Marriage where you will discover how you can enrich your future relationship. Information/Booking: marriageencounter.ie or 028276 38512.

4 Corners Festival Belfast

This inter-denominational arts festival aimed at promoting reconciliation runs from **January 31 to February 7.**

Because of the pandemic it is a purely on-line project with all events being available in the comfort of your home via “live” video streaming services such as Facebook and YouTube.

The theme is Breathe...The Hebrew word Ruach means ‘breath’ or ‘spirit’ – the source of life. And the festival aims to breathe hope and creativity into Belfast and further afield at a very difficult time.

The keynote speaker is Prof John Paul Lederach, the internationally renowned author and conflict transformation expert from the University of Notre Dame in the United States.

Morning and Night Prayer will be streamed throughout the festival. Night Prayer will be led by Jim Deeds, a pastoral worker in Down and Connor and his colleague, Paula McKeown, director of the diocesan Living Church Office will facilitate a workshop on resilience.

There will be discussions on topics such as domestic abuse and racism and one of the moderators will be Seamus McKee.

Due to the lack of social contact the organisers cannot spread word about the festival as they normally do and must rely heavily on social media. So, they would appreciate if you could follow them on Facebook and Twitter and share their posts whenever you can.

The Festival was co-founded in 2012 by Falls Road priest, Fr Martin Magill and Presbyterian minister, Rev Steve Stockman.