



24th Sunday of the Year

15th September 2024

CLONARD MONASTERY
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MASS TIMES AT CLONARD

Public Mass & Masses via Webcam

Sunday (Vigil Sat- 7.30pm), 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, and 12.30pm.
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri.
7.00am, 9.30am and 6.15pm.
Thursday (Novena) 7.00am, 9.30am, 6.15pm and 8.00pm.
Saturday 7.00am, 9.30am & 12.00 Noon.



We thank you for last week's Collection which came to £2,327.
Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

Children's Liturgy at Clonard

We are delighted to announce the return of Children's Liturgy this weekend at the 12.30pm mass. During the mass, children from age 6 will be invited to the sacristy to explore the readings and theme of the mass in an accessible way. If you would like your child or children to take part, please pick up a Registration form at Reception or at the back of the Church. It is not necessary to attend every Sunday, but registration is essential.



From Ceasefires to Circles of Change - a service marking the 30th anniversary of the Ceasefires. Sunday, 22nd September at 7pm in Clonard. Guest speaker Tim Magowan. All welcome. Organised by the Clonard/Fitzroy Fellowship.



This Sunday's Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 50.:5-9 — The suffering servant did not rebel or turn aside.
James 2:14-18 — Faith without good works is dead. Morals in the Christian life.
Mark 8:27-35— Though Peter believes in Jesus, he resists the idea of sacrifice.

Reflection

Today's Gospel reading is the central turning point of the Gospel of Mark. Thus far in the story Jesus has appeared as a healer and exorcist, a wonder-worker, displaying an "authority" that throws the Pharisees, upholders of a conventional orthodoxy, into disarray. Now Jesus turns to his disciples, and to us, the readers of the Gospel, with the question: "Who do you say that I am?" Jesus perhaps wants to learn how people see him and define him. Perhaps he also wants to clarify his own identity and is asking the disciples' help in defining his role. Peter's perception that the authority of Jesus can only be that of the expected Messiah earns him a blessing in Matthew's version of this story, and also a title: "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church." In Mark's story the dramatic revelation of Jesus's identity is quickly surpassed by the command of secrecy, followed by the first of the three passion predictions, and the rebuke to Peter for "setting his mind not on divine things but on human things." In his resistance to the message of self-denial and the cross, Peter speaks on behalf of all of us. Jesus is not the kind of Messiah that any of us would have chosen. But God chose a weak and suffering man to be the saviour of weak and suffering humanity. For the rest of the Gospel, Jesus is oriented to Jerusalem and his journey is marked by two further passion predictions. His identity as Messiah remains hidden. This fact is often referred to as the "Messianic Secret." This theme of the "Messianic secret" has fascinated students of Mark's Gospel down through the centuries. Perhaps it suggests that the title of "Messiah" does not fully suit the singular event of Jesus, and that indeed any title will not quite fit. Jesus is more question than answer, a divine question opened up at the heart of human history. No matter how securely we define the nature of Christ, in biblical study and in doctrinal formulations, he will always remain one who questions us. Who do we say that he is? He is the Crucified and Risen One, who will come in glory. But where do we find him today? In fact Christ is crucified all around us, and the power of his resurrection is at work everywhere as well.

Living in Hope –

An Invitation to celebrate the Season of Creation on September 21st *A day of encouragement, a chance to renew a love of life and a sense of hope in a better future with God, caring for our children, caring for creation. Story and song, space for quiet prayer and space for conversation. All gently led by Breige O'Hare.*



The day begins at 11am and finishes at 3.30pm. Please bring a packed lunch - tea and coffee / refreshments will be provided. Booking essential, please call in to Clonard Reception or phone 028 9044 5950 to reserve a place.

The Belfast City Half Marathon will take place **next Sunday, 22nd September** **No change to Mass Times.** The Falls Road, Grosvenor Road junction will be closed between 9am and 1pm. Access to Clonard through **Springfield Road** only.