



27th Sunday of the Year

6th October 2024

CLONARD MONASTERY

1 CLONARD GARDENS

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ClonardMonastery



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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 £2,915.
Also for your kind donations, online and by post.
The Bishop's collection will be included today

Pope Francis has said in recent days "in this dramatic hour of our history, while the winds of war and the fires of violence continue to devastate entire peoples and nations," the Christian community is reminded of its call to "put itself at the service of humanity". He has asked that Christian Communities dedicate Monday, October 7, as a Day of Prayer and Fasting. We here at Clonard invite you to join us for a time of quiet prayer, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, on Monday morning from 10.00-11.00am.

In preparation for the feast of St Gerard Majella, Wednesday, 16th October, there will be a special triduum.

Mass on:

Monday 14th: 7.00am, 9.30am, & 6.15pm. (with Prayer to St Gerard)

Tuesday 15th: 7.00am, 9.30am & 6.15pm (with Prayer to St Gerard)

Wednesday 16th: 7.00am, 9.30am & 6.15pm (with Prayer to St Gerard)



This Sunday's Scripture Readings:

Genesis 2:18-24 - God intends man and woman to become one flesh

Hebrews 2:9-11 - Jesus became fully our brother and a saviour for all

Mark 10:2-16 - What God has joined together.....

Keeping marriage alive

In today's Gospel Christ invites us to reflect on the ideal of permanence of marriage and on the value of lifelong commitment. His words on the indissolubility of marriage set an ideal that is especially difficult for our times, when we are so much influenced by a libertarian ideology that prizes *personal fulfilment* above all else.

Marriage is built on basic, life-giving human instincts and can survive even in a time of radical social change. Families who have kept fidelity over the years show that love *can* weather the storms which even the best of relationships cannot always avoid. But the instability of family life today, and the large number of marital separations, needs to be prayed about. At the same time, as pope Francis has said so warmly, our Church must show due regard for people who are in new unions after their first has broken up, for whatever reason. It is not enough just to propose an ideal of marriage based on fidelity; the problems of tense marriage relationships are not solved by constant preaching, no matter how well-meant.

There are many reasons why a marriage might fail. Possibly the parties were not emotionally mature at the time they married, nor fully free in giving their marriage consent. For one reason or another, people can come to feel that their marriage was an unfortunate mistake. In helping to prepare couples for marriage, trying to foster their growth in married love, and even when declaring certain marriages to be null and void, those involved must try to combine their ideal of marriage with an appreciation of love between the sexes and with understanding and compassion for those today who find difficulty in living up to the challenges of Christian marriage.

We pray for the Synod of Bishops now taking place in Rome, that they may be open to new insights on how to care for marriage and the family today, and advise the Pope on what steps the Church can and should take, to be a more welcoming place for those whose marriages have proved unsustainable, but who wish to continue as faithful friends of Christ.

Monthly Prayer Walk - Monday 7th October at 7.30pm, Shalom House, Cliftonville Rd BT14 6JX. All welcome.



St Bernadette Relic Pilgrimage. A relic of St Bernadette will come to St Mary's, Chapel Lane, on 15th & 16th October. This special once in a lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people to experience the gifts of Lourdes at home.

Visit www.downandconnor.org/stbernadette for more information

Our Lady's Rosary Festival. 5th - 13th October, , Devotions and St. Michael's Camino, Ends with the 21st Annual Rosary Procession. For more information on each event, please visit belfastrosaryfestival.com or call /07955386288.